



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
Church of Hamilton

## Order of Service March 22, 2026

**Prelude:**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Preparation:**

*“And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”*

*- 2 Corinthians 9:8*

\* **Call to Worship:** Psalm 145:14-18

**Leader:** The Lord upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.

**People:** **The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time.**

**Leader:** You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

**Unison:** *The Lord is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.*

\* **Hymn:** To God Be the Glory

\* **Invocation**

\* **Song of Response:** ..... Lord I Need You

Lord I come, I confess  
Bowing here, I find my rest  
Without You, I fall apart  
You're the one that guides my heart

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You  
Every hour, I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness  
Oh God, how I need You

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more  
Where grace is found is where You are  
And where You are, Lord, I am free  
Holiness is Christ in me

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You  
Every hour, I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness  
Oh God, how I need You (repeat)

My one defense, my righteousness  
Oh God, how I need You

**Children's Message** ..... Lauren Sager

**Scripture Reading** ..... Luke 16:1-13

Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.' "The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I'm not strong enough to dig, and I'm ashamed to beg—I know what I'll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.' "So he called in each one of his master's debtors. He asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' "Nine hundred gallons of olive oil,' he replied. "The manager told him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.' "Then he asked the second, 'And how much do you owe?' "A thousand bushels of wheat,' he replied. "He told him, 'Take your bill and make it eight hundred.'

"The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own? "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

- **Hymn:** All to Jesus I Surrender

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Offertory:** *I'd Rather Have Jesus* ..... Grace Bigus, John Bigus, *dulcimer*

- \* **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost  
Amen

**Sermon:** *"God's Welcome: Home Financing"* ..... Dr. Sean McDonough  
Luke 16:1-13

- **Hymn:** Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

- **Call to Prayer and Benediction**

**Postlude**

# 40 To God Be the Glory

Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name. Psa. 29:2

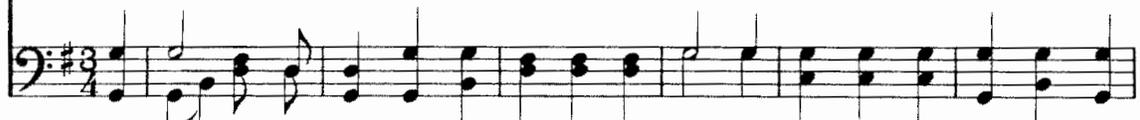
Fanny J. Crosby, 1875

TO GOD BE THE GLORY 11 11 11 11 Ref.

William H. Doane, 1875



1. To God be the glo - ry, great things He hath done, So loved He the world that He
2. O per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood, To ev - ery be - liev - er the
3. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done, And great our re - joic - ing thro'



gave us His Son, Who yield - ed His life an a - tone - ment for sin, And o - pened the  
prom - ise of God; The vil - est of - fend - er who tru - ly be - lieves, That mo - ment from  
Je - sus the Son; But pur - er, and high - er, and great - er will be Our won - der, our



Life - gate that all may go in.

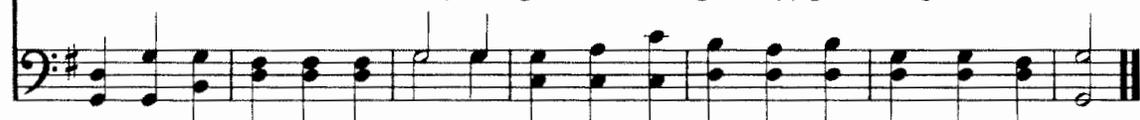
Je - sus a par - don re - ceives. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His  
trans - port, when Je - sus we see.



voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the



Fa - ther thro' Je - sus the Son, And give Him the glo - ry, great things He hath done.



# 373 All to Jesus I Surrender

*Lo, we have left all, and have followed Thee. Mark 10:28*

SURRENDER 8 7 8 7 Ref.

Winfield S. Weedon, 1896

Judson W. VanDeVenter, 1896

1. All to Je - sus I sur-ren - der, All to Him I free - ly give;  
2. All to Je - sus I sur-ren - der, Hum-bly at His feet I bow,  
3. All to Je - sus I sur-ren - der, Make me, Sav - ior, whol - ly Thine;  
4. All to Je - sus I sur-ren - der, Lord, I give my - self to Thee;

I will ev - er love and trust Him, In His pres-ence dai - ly live.  
World - ly pleas-ures all for-sak - en, Take me, Je - sus, take me now.  
May Thy Ho - ly Spir - it fill me, May I know Thy pow'r di - vine.  
Fill me with Thy love and pow - er, Let Thy bless - ing fall on me.

## Refrain

I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all.  
I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all.

All to Thee, my bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.

*Offertory*  
**I'd Rather Have Jesus**

by Rhea F. Miller

I'd rather have Jesus than silver or gold;  
I'd rather be His than have riches untold;  
I'd rather have Jesus than houses or lands.  
I'd rather be led by His nail-pierced hand

*Refrain*

*Than to be the king of a vast domain  
Or be held in sin's dread sway.  
I'd rather have Jesus than anything  
this world affords today.*

I'd rather have Jesus than men's applause;  
I'd rather be faithful to His dear cause;  
I'd rather have Jesus than world-wide fame.  
I'd rather be true to His holy name [*Refrain*]

He's fairer than lilies of rarest bloom'  
He's sweeter than honey from out the comb;  
He's all that my hungering spirit needs.  
I'd rather have Jesus and let Him lead [*Refrain*]

# 209 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

*Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. Psa. 87:3*

AUSTRIAN HYMN 8787D.

John Newton, 1779

Franz Joseph Haydn, 1797



1. Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God;  
2. See the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, Spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,  
3. Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, See the cloud and fire ap - pear  
4. Sav - ior, if of Zi - on's cit - y, I through grace a mem - ber am,



He whose word can - not be bro - ken Formed thee for His own a - bode;  
Well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters, And all fear of want re - move:  
For a glo - ry and a cov - ering, Show - ing that the Lord is near!  
Let the world de - ride or pit - y, I will glo - ry in Thy name;



On the Rock of A - ges found - ed, What can shake thy sure re - pose?  
Who can faint, while such a riv - er Ev - er will their thirst as - suage?  
Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner Light by night and shade by day;  
Fad - ing is the world's best pleas - ure, All its boast - ed pomp and show;



With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, Thou mayst smile at all thy foes.  
Grace which, like the Lord, the Giv - er, Nev - er fails from age to age.  
Safe they feed up - on the man - na Which He gives them when they pray.  
Sol - id joys and last - ing treas - ure None but Zi - on's chil - dren know. A - men.



*This tune in a lower key. No. 464*

THE CHURCH: ITS NATURE AND FELLOWSHIP





FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 22, 2026

**Our mission** is to rejoice in God, grow in the gospel, and point people to Jesus.

Signup for events



## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Today - Communion Milestone, 9:45 am
- March 24 - High School Worship Night, 7:00 pm
- March 25 - Night of Prayer, 7:00 pm
- March 25 - Middle School Laser Tag Night, 7:00 pm
- March 29 - Palm Sunday, 8:30 am and 11:00 am
- April 2 - Maundy Thursday, 7:00 pm
- April 3 - Good Friday, 1:00 pm
- April 5 - Easter Sunrise Service, 6:15 am, GCTS parking lot
- April 5 - Easter Worship Service, 10:00 am, A.J. Memorial Chapel at Gordon College

## NEW TO OUR CHURCH?

**Welcome!** We are glad you chose to join us this morning! If you have questions please ask an usher.

**For families we provide children's church.** During our 8:30 am service, our supervised Nursery is for infants through age 3, and our Little People's Church (LPC) program is for children age 4 through 1st grade. LPC meets following the Children's Message. During the 11:00 am service, the Nursery room is staffed as a combined space for infants and toddlers.

### Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 am

- Infants, preschool and kindergarten age children gather in the Meetinghouse
- Elementary age children meet in the lower level of the Ministry Center
- Middle schoolers meet in the Ministry Center, Room 11
- High schoolers meet in the Barn
- Adult classes
  - *Becoming a Sanctuary* with Yuka Langlais and Lisa Clay, Meetinghouse Chapel
  - *So Great a Salvation* with Dr. Jack Davis, MC Room 21
  - *Loving God with Head, Heart, and Hands* with Dr. Kerilyn Harkaway-Krieger, MC Room 23/24
  - *Understanding 1st & 2nd Corinthians* with Dr. Eckhardt Schnabel, MC Room 22

Download our app



**Additional resources:** We have the Deacons fund, prayer chain, helping hands ministry, meals ministry, pastoral counseling, and other resources to help. Contact us at [info@fcchamilton.org](mailto:info@fcchamilton.org).

**Hearing-Assist Devices and Large-Print Bibles:** We have hearing-assist devices that help reduce ambient noise when

## NIGHT OF PRAYER

We can't do it. You and I are powerless. We can't pull ourselves out of the pit of sin. Nor can we drag others out, no matter how fantastic our Easter service is...but our God can! And he invites us to pray. Jesus said "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." Paul said, "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving." So let us come together this Wednesday, March 25, from 7:00 to 8:00 pm, as we humbly come before God and seek his renewal, his power, and his purposes. We will also use this opportunity to pray specifically that visitors attending our Easter services will hear and respond to the gospel.

## EASTER CHOIR INVITATION

Consider joining the Easter Choir this year. It is truly a blessing and a joy to lift our voices together in praise as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. We strongly encourage your attendance at Thursday rehearsals on March 19 and 26 (7:15 to 8:15 pm), so we can prepare well together. Required rehearsals are April 2 after the Maundy Thursday Service and Saturday, April 4, at 9:00 am.

## **EASTER NURSERY**

We have a wonderful opportunity to serve families in our church by volunteering in the nursery for children 1 – 3 years old during the Easter Sunday service at Gordon Chapel. Help us create space for parents of young children to fully participate in worship. We need three adults and four teenagers to serve as caregivers. Help is also needed on Saturday for setup and on Sunday for breakdown after the service. We also need a vehicle for transport. If you can help in any way, please contact Children's Ministry Director, Chrysa Bliati, at [cbliati@fcchamilton.org](mailto:cbliati@fcchamilton.org).

## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS ADDITION**

We have some great Adult Sunday School classes in session right now. We hope you have been attending and enjoying them. We are excited to announce the return of 1st & 2nd Corinthians. Dr. Eckhardt Schnabel will once again look at the teachings for the church and Christians from Corinthians. The class begins today at 9:45 am in room 22 of the Ministry Center.

## **OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE**

- **Easter Yarn Donation Drive:** Women in Transition needs yarn donations for inmates. These incarcerated women give to others through knitting and crocheting, but are running out of yarn. Please drop your leftover/new yarn in one of our bins by Sunday, March 29. Donation bins are in Fellowship Foyer and the Ministry Center hallway.
- **Diaper Drive:** LifeShare invites you to donate a package of diapers (size 1, 2, or 3) to our Diaper Drive to benefit the parents and babies of Your Options Medical. Collection Sundays are today and next Sunday, March 29. Drop donated diapers in the collection crib in the Meetinghouse hallway.
- **Snack Drive for Beverly Bootstraps:** Our 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders are preparing snack bags to distribute to local families in need through Beverly Bootstraps. We need granola bars, goldfish crackers, Annie's gummy fruit snacks, peanut butter crackers, trail mix, pretzels, and cheese crackers. A collection bin is in Fellowship Foyer through Sunday, April 12.

## **WATCH THE CHOSEN WITH US!**

You are invited to gather and watch the film series *The Chosen* on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 pm, at the home of Jack and Robin Davis (57 Lois Street, Hamilton). David Horn leads the discussion about this historical drama on the life of Jesus Christ as seen through the eyes of those who knew him. Contact Robin Davis with questions, [redrobindavis@gmail.com](mailto:redrobindavis@gmail.com).

## **A CALL FOR POETRY**

*"Poetry is when an emotion has found its thought, and the thought has found words."* - Robert Frost

Join us Saturday, April 11, at 7:00 pm in the Meetinghouse Chapel for an evening of sharing poems and the stories behind them. If you're a poet or have a favorite poem you'd like to share, please contact Bill Devitt, [writetobilldevitt@gmail.com](mailto:writetobilldevitt@gmail.com), or Pastor Kevin, [kbaird@fcchamilton.org](mailto:kbaird@fcchamilton.org). We'll have treats to eat, and all are welcome to come and hear the poems and stories of our poets and poetry readers.

## **LIFE AFTER FIFTY (LAF) GETAWAY WEEKEND**

Join the LAF group for a Spring Getaway Weekend, April 24 – 26, at the White Mountain Resort in North Conway, NH. It's an all-inclusive weekend with deluxe accommodations, meals, and activities! Dr. Sean McDonough is our guest speaker. Cost is \$390/person, double-occupancy or \$619/person, single-occupancy. For reservations, call 800-533-6301 and reference "LAF Club." Reservations should be booked by March 24. Contact John Clark with questions at 978-375-6329.

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

- **Communion Milestone:** Parents and caregivers, along with their third-graders, are invited to the fourth Milestone in the Rites of Passage for Lifelong Faith, called "Communion." Join us for a discussion today, at 9:45 am, in Fellowship Foyer with Pastor Kevin, Pastor Oli, and our deacons to explore communion. Together with your child, you'll learn more and prepare for the right time to partake in this sacred ordinance.
- **Family Movie Night:** Join the Children's Ministry for a fun night of pizza and a movie on Saturday, April 11, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Meet in Heritage Hall to see the movie "Light of the World." \$15 suggested donation per family. We encourage you to invite your friends to watch this exciting movie about the story of Jesus through the eyes of John, his youngest disciple.

## **YOUTH MINISTRY**

- **High School Youth Group** meets Tuesdays from 7:00 to 8:45 pm.
  - **Worship Night:** Our high school students will gather for a special night of worship at youth group this Tuesday, March 24, at 7:00 pm, as we prepare for Holy Week.
- **Middle School Youth Group** meets Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.
  - **Laser Tag Night:** Our middle school students will have youth group at LaserMaxx Danvers this Wednesday, March 25, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm! Cost is \$15. Sign up using the QR code on the front page.

## **COLLEGE-AGE MINISTRY**

Our College-Age Group meets on Friday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the van Ruths' home in Hamilton. This season, we'll discover the compelling, beautiful, counter-cultural manner of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount. Use the QR code on the front page to access the college WhatsApp.

## **YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

Our Young Adults Group meets on Mondays at 7:00 pm. For more information, contact Pastor Matt at [mschuberth@fcchamilton.org](mailto:mschuberth@fcchamilton.org).

*If you would like to receive our weekly email, sign up at [fcchamilton.org](http://fcchamilton.org), or the church office, [info@fcchamilton.org](mailto:info@fcchamilton.org).  
If you signed up and are not receiving them, check your spam folder and add [info@fcchamilton.org](mailto:info@fcchamilton.org) to your address book.  
**All submissions for the announcements must be received in the church office by Wednesdays at noon. Thank you!***