



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
Church of Hamilton

Order of Service April 12, 2026

Prelude:

Welcome and Announcements

*“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing
with the glory that will be revealed in us.*

- Romans 8:18

- * **Call to Worship:** Psalm 27:1, 13-14 Pastor Matt Schubert

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?

People: The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?

Leader: I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Unison: Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

- * **Hymn:** A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

- * **Invocation** Pastor Matt Schubert

- * **Song of Response:** Because He Lives

God sent His son,
They called Him, Jesus;
He came to love,
Heal and forgive;
He lived and died
To buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there
To prove my Savior lives!

Chorus
Because He lives,
I can face tomorrow!
Because He lives,
All fear is gone.
Because I know
He holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because He lives!

And then one day,
I'll cross the river,
I'll fight life's final
War with pain;
And then, as death
Gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory
And I'll know He lives!

Chorus

- Children’s Message** Mary Bigus

- Ministry Highlight** Lisa Clay

- Pastoral Prayer** Pastor Kevin Baird

- Musical Offering** My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Congregation invited to sing verses 1 and 3

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:7-18 Cece Gough

* **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: *“Walking in the Resurrected Life”*..... Pastor Oli van Ruth
2 Corinthians 4:7-18

• **Song of Worship** Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

• **Call to Prayer and Benediction** Pastor Oli van Ruth

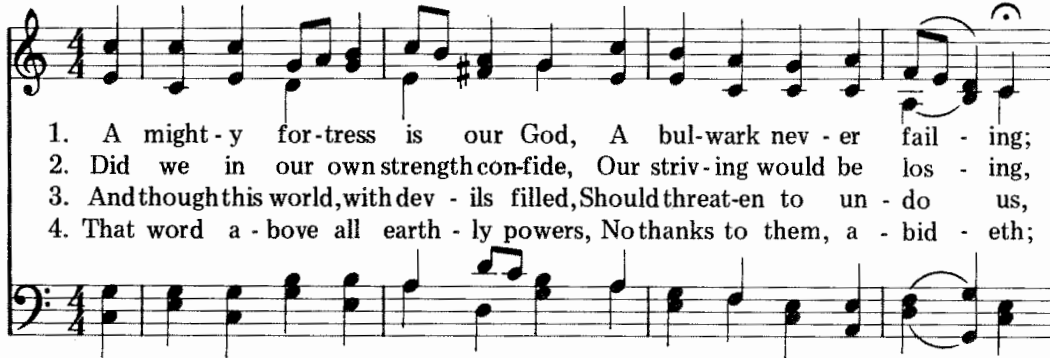
Postlude

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God 11

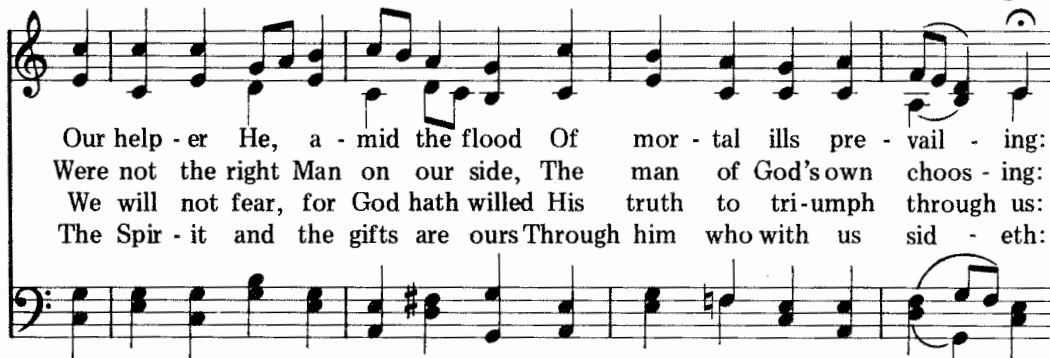
God is our refuge and strength. Psa. 46:1

Psalm 46
Martin Luther, 1529
Trans. by Frederick H. Hedge, 1852

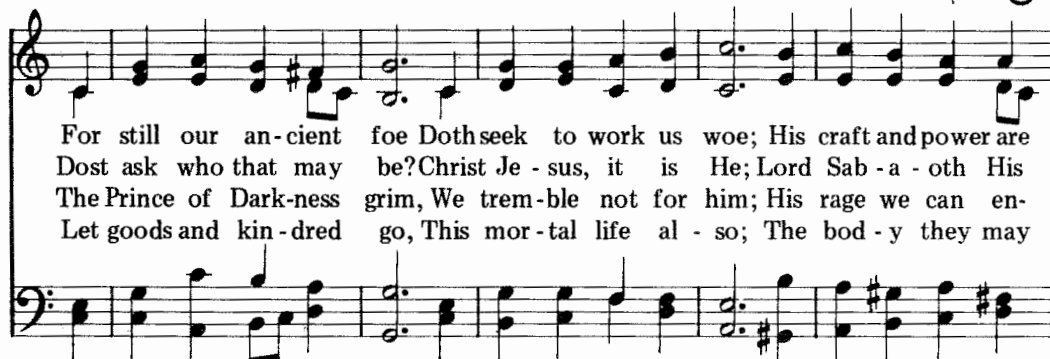
EIN' FESTE BURG 8 7 8 7 6 6 6 6 7
Martin Luther, 1529



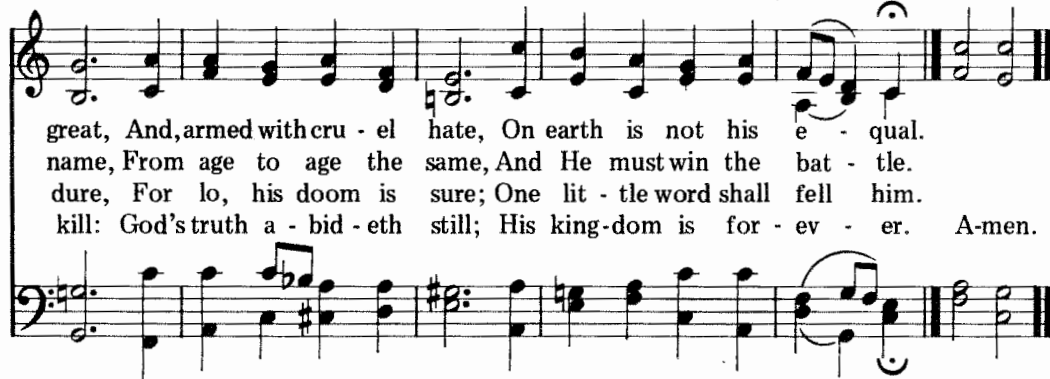
1. A might - y for - tress is our God, A bul - wark nev - er fail - ing;
2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, Our striv - ing would be los - ing,
3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, Should threat - en to un - do us,
4. That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, No thanks to them, a - bid - eth;



Our help - er He, a - mid the flood Of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing:
Were not the right Man on our side, The man of God's own choos - ing:
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to tri - umph through us:
The Spir - it and the gifts are ours Through him who with us sid - eth:



For still our an - cient foe Doth seek to work us woe; His craft and power are
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is He; Lord Sab - a - oth His
The Prince of Dark - ness grim, We trem - ble not for him; His rage we can en -
Let goods and kin - dred go, This mor - tal life al - so; The bod - y they may



great, And, armed with cru - el hate, On earth is not his e - qual.
name, From age to age the same, And He must win the bat - tle.
dure, For lo, his doom is sure; One lit - tle word shall fell him.
kill: God's truth a - bid - eth still; His king - dom is for - ev - er. A - men.

GOD THE FATHER: HIS PRAISE

Musical Offering

Congregation invited to sing verses 1 and 3

My Faith Looks Up to Thee 366

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith. Heb. 12:2

Ray Palmer, 1830

OLIVET 6 6 4 6 6 6 4

Lowell Mason, 1832

* 1. My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2. May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart,
* 3. While life's dark maze I tread, And griefs a - round me spread,
4. When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream

* Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, Take all my
My zeal in - spire; As Thou hast died for me, O may my
* Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's
Shall o'er me roll; Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -

* guilt a - way, O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!
love to Thee Pure, warm, and change-less be, A liv - ing fire!
* tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.
trust re - move; O bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul! A-men.

HOPE AND ASPIRATION

Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

by CityAlight

What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer
There is no more for Heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to His
Oh, how strange and divine, I can sing, "All is mine"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken
For by my side, the Savior, He will stay
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need, His power is displayed

To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley, He will lead
Oh, the night has been won, and I shall overcome
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future's sure, the price, it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus, now and ever is my plea
Oh, the chains are released, I can sing, "I am free"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

With every breath, I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day, I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat
"Yet not I, but through Christ in me"



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
Church of Hamilton

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 12, 2026

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

Signup for events



DATES TO REMEMBER

- Today - Q&A Reception with Lisa Clay, 12:15 pm
- April 19 - Sunday Dessert, 6:30 pm
- April 21 - Missions Prayer, 7:45 am
- April 24 - Community Conversations, 7:00 pm
- April 24-26 - LAF Spring Getaway Weekend
- April 26 - Community Conversations, 9:45 am & 7:00 pm
- April 27 - Mid-Year Congregational Meeting, 7:00 pm

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.

Hearing-Assist Devices and Large-Print Bibles: We have hearing-assist devices that help reduce ambient noise when listening to the sermon in the sanctuary; we also have large-print bibles. Please see an usher for assistance.

Q&A RECEPTION WITH LISA CLAY

We are pleased to present Lisa Clay as a candidate for our Women's Ministry Director position. Lisa will be available to meet and connect with during a Q&A reception today in the Chapel, immediately following the second service.

MID-YEAR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our Mid-Year Congregational Meeting is Monday, April 27, at 7:00 pm in Heritage Hall. We will discuss and vote on several items, including Lisa Clay's candidacy for Women's Ministry Director. We will also hear ministry updates from Pastor Kevin, Pastor Oli, and boards and committees. We hope many of you can join us.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

The elders are hosting Community Conversations as a follow-up to the church survey. The conversations are a place where you can share your thoughts and ideas as we enter a new and exciting season of ministry at FCCH. You do not need to have taken the survey to attend. Choose a date that fits your schedule. We have intentionally scheduled two options during the Sunday School hour for those who might prefer a daytime meeting. Sign up using the QR code above.

SUNDAY DESSERT

We are welcoming those new to our church to a Sunday Dessert on April 19 at 6:30 pm, hosted by Blair and Sarah Villa at their home in Wenham. This gathering is a time to get better acquainted with our church and vice versa! If you know someone new to our church whom you'd like to invite, please contact the church office, info@fcchamilton.org, so we can invite you both.

GRIEFSHARE

GriefShare began a new 13-week session on April 6. The group meets on Mondays at 7:30 pm on Zoom. The group is still accepting members for this session. All who are grieving the loss of a loved one are welcome. The GriefShare group provides a safe, confidential, and Christ-centered place to share and to listen. For further information, please contact John Clark. To register for the group, visit GriefShare.org and search for First Congregational Church of Hamilton.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join us on Saturday, May 2, for the Men's Breakfast in Heritage Hall from 8:00 to 10:30 am. Dr. Glenn Butner will speak on *Bible Ethics: A Toolbox for the Christian Man*. This is a free and catered event. Registration is due by Monday, April 27. Sign up using the QR code above.

OUR FAMILIES THANK YOU!

A big thank-you to the nursery volunteers who helped on Easter Sunday. It was such a gift to care for our babies and toddlers so their parents could fully participate in worship. A special thanks to those who helped set up, break down, and transport all the equipment and gear that babies need!

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

We invite you to join our New Members class, held in two sessions: Sunday, May 3, from 9:45 to 10:45 am, and Wednesday, May 6, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Wigglesworth-Cutler House. Find out what it means to be a member of our FCCH community. Sign up using the QR code on the first page or email info@fcchamilton.org.

THANK YOU FROM LIFESHARE

The Diaper Drive was a great blessing! 1,331 diapers were donated to benefit babies and parents served by Your Options Medical (A Woman's Concern). Additional gifts we received were seven packages of baby wipes, one bottle of baby wash, and five knit blankets. Thank you so much for your loving and generous response!

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 of this historical drama about the life of Jesus Christ, as seen through the eyes of those who knew him. Contact Robin Davis with questions, redrobindavis@gmail.com.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

- **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. Today is the last day to give; collection bins are in Fellowship Foyer and the Ministry Center hallway.
- **AV Team:** Want to help our church with technology? We're looking for volunteers to help with our Sunday Service sound and livestream. No experience needed—training provided! If interested, contact Jay Foss, Director of Sound and Technology, at av@fcchamilton.org.
- **Children's Ministry:** We need volunteers to staff our Nursery during the 11:00 am worship service. We also need one adult helper to work alongside the lead teacher during the Preschool Sunday School class. Contact Chrysa Bliati at cbliati@fcchamilton.org to help.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- Parents of first- and fifth-grade children are invited to attend the Parenting Milestone class on Sunday, May 3, at 9:45 am. Learn more about the upcoming *Word/Invitation* Milestone and workshop practical ways to help children engage with God's Word. You'll also be able to inscribe your child's Bible, which will be presented on Sunday, May 10.
 - **Word Milestone:** First-graders will be presented with a Bible on Sunday, May 10, during our 8:30 am service.
 - **Invitation Milestone:** Fifth-graders will receive a new age-appropriate Bible on Sunday, May 10, during our 11:00 am service.
- **Vacation Bible School** is back this summer, July 13–17, from 9:00 am to noon, for children from preschool through entering grade 5. Registration is now open! We're also looking for volunteers to help make VBS a great experience. Use the QR code on the front page to register a child or sign up to volunteer.

YOUTH MINISTRY

- **High School Youth Group** meets Tuesdays from 7:00 to 8:45 pm.
- **Middle School Youth Group** meets Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.
 - Explore registration is open! Students entering grades 6, 7, and 8 are invited to join us as we explore the North Shore and our faith this July 13–17, from 9:00 am to noon. Register 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.

If you would like to receive our weekly email, sign up at fcchamilton.org or email the church office at info@fcchamilton.org.

If you signed up and are not receiving it, check your spam folder and add info@fcchamilton.org to your address book.

All submissions for the announcements must be received in the church office by Wednesday at noon. Thank you!