



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
Church of Hamilton

## Order of Service May 10, 2026

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

*I am your servant, Lord; I serve you just as my mother did; you have freed me from my chains.”*  
- Psalm 116:16

\* **Call to Worship:** Isaiah 66:1-2, 12-13 ..... Chrysa Bliati

Leader: This is what the Lord says: “Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. Where is the house you will build for me? Where will my resting place be?”

**People: Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?” declares the Lord.**

Leader: For this is what the Lord says: “I will extend peace to her like a river, and the wealth of nations like a flooding stream; you will nurse and be carried on her arm and dandled on her knees.

**Unison: As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem.”**

\* **Hymn:** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

\* **Invocation** ..... Pastor Matt Schubert

\* **Song of Response:** ..... In Christ Alone

In Christ alone, my hope is found  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease  
My Comforter, my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

No guilt in life, no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell, no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

**Word Milestone** ..... Chrysa Bliati

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 20:19-26 .....John Rendall

19 The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived that he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people. 20 So they watched him and sent spies, who pretended to be sincere, that they might catch him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the authority and jurisdiction of the governor. 21 So they asked him, "Teacher, we know that you speak and teach rightly, and show no partiality, but truly teach the way of God. 22 Is it lawful for us to give tribute to Caesar, or not?" 23 But he perceived their craftiness, and said to them, 24 "Show me a denarius. Whose likeness and inscription does it have?" They said, "Caesar's." 25 He said to them, "Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." 26 And they were not able in the presence of the people to catch him in what he said, but marveling at his answer they became silent.

\* **Song of Worship** ..... Goodness of God

**Pastoral Prayer** ..... Pastor Kevin Baird

**Musical Offering:** *Jesus, the Lord, My Savoir* ..... Grace Bigus, PJ Holladay, Meg van Ruth

\* **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:** "*A Trap for Jesus*" .....Pastor Oli van Ruth  
Luke 20:19-26

• **Hymn:** When We Walk with the Lord (verses 1,4 and 5)

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

**Postlude**

# 43 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

*For then shalt thou have thy delight in the Almighty. Job 22:26*

Joachim Neander, 1680  
Trans. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863

LOBE DEN HERREN 14 14 4 7 8  
*Stralsund Gesangbuch, 1665*

1. Praise to the Lord, the Al-might - y, the King of cre - a -  
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly reign-  
3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de - fend  
4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore

tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and sal-  
eth, Shel - ters thee un - der His wings, yea, so gen - tly sus-  
thee; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at-  
Him! All that hath life and breath, come now with prais - es be-

va - tion! All ye who hear, Now to His tem - ple draw  
tain - eth! Hast thou not seen How thy de - sires e'er have  
tend thee. Pon - der a - new What the Al - might - y can  
fore Him! Let the A - men Sound from His peo - ple a -

near; Join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
been Grant - ed in what He or - dain - eth?  
do, If with His love He be - friend thee.  
gain: Glad - ly for aye we a - dore Him. A - men.

## Goodness of God

by Bethel Music and Jenn Johnson

I love You, Lord  
Oh, Your mercy never fails me  
All my days, I've been held in Your hands  
From the moment that I wake up  
Until I lay my head  
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

### *Refrain*

*'Cause all my life You have been faithful  
And all my life You have been so, so good  
With every breath that I am able  
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

I love Your voice  
You have led me through the fire  
And in darkest night You are close like no other  
I've known You as a Father  
I've known You as a Friend  
And I have lived in the goodness of God

### *Refrain*

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me  
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me  
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now  
I give You everything  
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me (Repeat)

### *Refrain*

*Offertory*

**Jesus, the Lord, My Savior**

by William Gadsby and Sandra McCracken

Jesus, the Lord, my Savior is,  
My Shepherd, and my God;  
My light, my strength, my joy, my bliss;  
And I His grace record.

Whate'er I need in Jesus dwells,  
And there it dwells for me;  
'Tis Christ my earthen vessel fills  
With treasures rich and free.

*Chorus*

*Mercy and truth and righteousness,  
And peace, most richly meet  
In Jesus Christ, the King of grace,  
In Whom I stand complete.*

As through the wilderness I roam,  
His mercies Ill proclaim;  
And when I safely reach my home,  
I'll still adore His name.

Worthy the Lamb, shall be my song,  
For He for me was slain;  
And me with all the heavenly throng  
Shall join, and say, Amen.

Sing verses 1, 4 and 5

# 318 When We Walk with the Lord

*If ye continue in My word, then are ye My disciples indeed. John 8:31*

John H. Sammis, 1887

TRUST AND OBEY 6 6 9 D. Ref.

Daniel B. Towner, 1887

\* 1. When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word,  
 2. Not a shadow can rise, not a cloud in the skies,  
 3. Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,  
 \* 4. But we never can prove the delights of His love  
 \* 5. Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet,

\* What a glory He sheds on our way! While we do His good  
 But His smile quickly drives it away; Not a doubt nor a  
 But our toil He doth richly repay; Not a grief nor a  
 \* Un - til all on the altar we lay; For the favor He  
 \* Or we'll walk by His side in the way; What He says we will

\* will He abide with us still, And with all who will  
 fear, not a sigh nor a tear, Can abide while we  
 loss, not a frown nor a cross, But is blest if we  
 \* shows and the joy He bestows Are for them who will  
 \* do, where He sends we will go— Nev - er fear, on - ly

*Refrain*

trust and o - bey. Trust and o - bey, for there's no oth - er

way To be hap - py in Je - sus, But to trust and o - bey.



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 10, 2026

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

Signup for events



## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Today - Community Conversation, 9:45 am
- Today - LifeShare Baby Bottle Fundraiser begins!
- May 11 - Pilgrim's Pint, 7:00 pm
- May 16 - Devote Yourself to the Public Reading of Scripture, 9:00 am
- May 29 - Women's Ministry Hot Potato Food & Fun, 6:30 pm
- May 30 - Front Porch Stories, 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](mailto: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.

## ROSE ON THE PULPIT

The rose on the pulpit this morning is to welcome James Seacord Heppner, born on Saturday, May 2, to Elizabeth and Jonathan Heppner!

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY HOT POTATO FOOD & FUN

The Women's Ministry is hosting a Hot Potato Food & Fun event on Friday, May 29, at 6:30 pm in the Ministry Center. Women of all ages are welcome to enjoy a build-your-own-baked-potato bar and some fun games. Fellowship with us and hear from our newly appointed Women's Ministry Director, Lisa Clay. Please RSVP, so we know how many potatoes to bake. Sign up using the QR code above.

## DEVOTE YOURSELF TO THE PUBLIC READING OF SCRIPTURE

Join us from 9:00 am to noon on Saturday, May 16, in the Meetinghouse Chapel for an engaging program on reading scripture in public. Dr. Jeff Arthurs will teach us how to prepare spiritually, mentally, and emotionally for public reading while sharing biblical insights and best practices. Sign up using the QR code above.

## **PILGRIM'S PINT**

*Prove It: A History of Modern Skepticism & the World It Assumes*

Throughout most of human history, people viewed the world through a frame of reference that was inherently transcendent and metaphysical. The heavens weren't ever that far off. However, today it is not uncommon to hear claims that science and reason will soon replace this frame of reference in the modern mind entirely. Could this be an inevitable outcome of scientific advancement? Or could it be that this naturalistic frame of reference actually shrinks what we can understand about the reality of our world? Or, better yet, perhaps modern skeptics have more in common with their religious forebears than one might think. Join us on Monday, May 11, at the Post (16 Bay Road, Hamilton), as Rev. Chip Copp dives into the relatively recent phenomenon of modern skepticism. Sign up using the QR code above.

## **FRONT PORCH STORIES**

Join us for Season 6, Episode 2 of Front Porch Stories! It's a night of live and true stories from people like you, on Saturday, May 30, at 7:00 pm in the Barn. Enjoy coffee, dessert, and connecting with friends. \$5 suggested donation at the door. Intended for adults and children 13+. RSVP using the QR code above.

## **LIFESHARE BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER**

The LifeShare group at FCCH is sponsoring their annual Baby Bottle Fundraiser to benefit Your Options Medical! This ministry provides free life-affirming pregnancy confirmation services and ongoing help and support to women and couples facing an unplanned pregnancy. Beginning today, take home a baby bottle or donation envelope from Fellowship Foyer to fill with coins, cash, or checks made out to YOUR OPTIONS MEDICAL. To donate online, use the QR code provided. Return your baby bottle by Father's Day, June 21.



## **LIFE AFTER FIFTY UPDATE**

Our Life After Fifty retreat in April was a wonderful time of relaxation, meaningful teaching from Dr. Sean McDonough, and rich fellowship in a beautiful mountain setting. It was a time to refresh mind, body, and spirit, and form new friendships. If you'd like to join us next year, mark your calendar for April 23-25, 2027, at the White Mountain Resort in North Conway, with Dr. McDonough returning as our speaker.

## **SPIRITUAL HERITAGE TOUR IS BACK!**

Dr. David Horn will be hosting a Spiritual Heritage tour on Saturday, July 11, from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm. Our journey will begin at our church, visit several historic sites in Ipswich and Newburyport, and conclude at Pulpit Rock in Rowley. Many of you may have seen the recent film, *A Great Awakening*, which highlights the lives of George Whitefield and Benjamin Franklin. The tour will explore themes from that era, including the Great Awakening (especially its impact on the North Shore of Boston), colonial congregational life, and Puritanism—with even a brief visit from George Whitefield himself! Sign up using the QR code on the front page.

## **GRIEFSHARE**

GriefShare 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 at (978) 375-6329. To register for the group, visit [GriefShare.org](http://GriefShare.org) and search for First Congregational Church of Hamilton.

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

You're 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](mailto:redrobindavis@gmail.com).

## **OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE**

- **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](mailto: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](mailto:cbliati@fcchamilton.org) to help.

## **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

VBS will take place July 13–17, from 9:00 am to noon, for children from preschool through entering grade 5. Registration is open! We're 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.
  - The time of year to recognize our high school seniors is here. Our congregation will have a chance to meet some of our seniors during our Commissioning Milestone on Sunday, May 17, during the 11:00 am service. If you are a senior, please email your photo and bio to [info@fcchamilton.org](mailto:info@fcchamilton.org) as soon as possible.
  - Senior Dessert for graduating seniors and their parents is on Sunday, May 31, at 6:00 pm. The Ting Family will be hosting. Sign up using the QR code on the front.
- **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.

## **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 email the church office at [info@fcchamilton.org](mailto:info@fcchamilton.org).*

*If you signed up and are not receiving it, 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 Wednesday at noon. Thank you!***