



*Rejoicing in God
Growing in the Gospel
Pointing people to Jesus*

August 2, 2026

Welcome to First Congregational Church of Hamilton. For many years, people have gathered here to rejoice in the gift of life, hope, and comfort we have through Jesus Christ. We hope as you gather with us today, you will encounter his beauty, mercy, and wisdom for your life, no matter who you are or what you're going through.

New To Our Church?

Welcome! We're glad you chose to join us this morning! If you have questions, please ask an usher.

For families, we have the Nursery and Little People's Church (LPC) during the 10:00 am worship service.

- **Nursery:** Check-in/ drop-off starts at 9:50 am in the Meetinghouse.
- **LPC:** Check in on arrival at the Ministry Center entrance. Following the Children's Message, children ages 4 to 7 will be escorted by adult leaders to the LPC room (Meetinghouse-lower level).
- **Moms' Alcove** in room 11 is available for nursing moms.
- **Sermon Notes** for children are available at the Welcome Desk.

First time here? Use the QR code on the back to let us know you visited.

For large-print Bibles, please see an usher.

If you need of prayer after the service, meet with an Elder and Deacon at the platform in the front.

Join us for iced tea, lemonade, and popsicles outside on the lawn after the service.

PREPARING OUR HEARTS

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Oli van Ruth

Preparing Our Hearts

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." - Matthew 28:19-20

* Call to Worship: Psalm 96:1-5

John Rendall

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

People: **Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.**

Leader: Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

People: **For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods.**

Unison: ***For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.***

COMING WITH PRAISE

* **Hymn:** Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

* **Invocation**

Pastor Matt Schuberth

* **Song of Response:** Amazing Love

Children's Message

Mary Bigus

Please accompany children forward for the message, then exit to the hallway where children (ages 4 to 7) will be escorted across the parking lot to Little People's Church.

Scripture Reading: Acts 2:1-13

John Rendall

DRAWING NEAR FOR PRAYER

Prayer for Our Church Family

John Rendall

Musical Offering: *Amazing Grace*

Yuka Langlais

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

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Sermon: *"Captivating Stories. Part 3: Quest for Comfort"*
Acts 2:1-13

Pastor Oli van Ruth

* **Song of Praise:** Let the Nations Be Glad

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

* **Apostles Creed**

Pastor Matt Schuberth

Prayer of Renewal

Celebrating the Lord's Supper

Pastor Oli van Ruth

* **Song of Worship:** Be Thou My Vision

* **Call to Prayer and Benediction**

Pastor Oli van Ruth

Postlude

Our Ministry Leaders will be available at the front for prayer after the service:
John Rendall, Elder; Mary Bigus, Deacon

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty 1

They rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty. Rev. 4:8

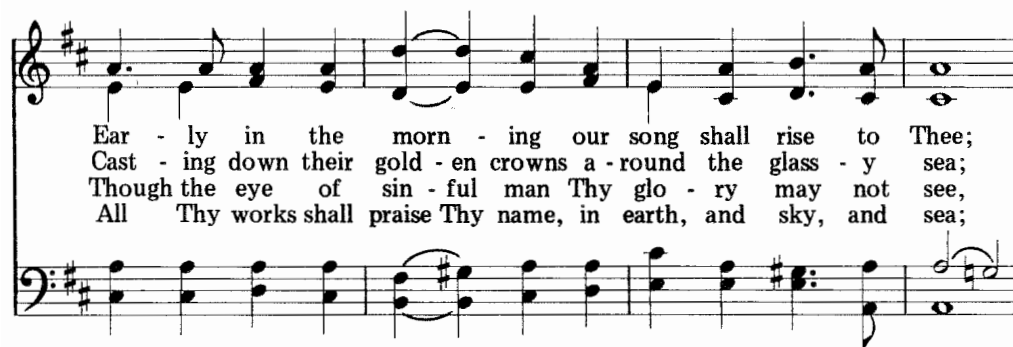
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Reginald Heber, 1826

John B. Dykes, 1861



1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore Thee,
3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide Thee,
4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to Thee;
Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
Though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not see,
All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!
Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore Thee,
On - ly Thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side Thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
Which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
Per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pu - ri - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty! A-men.

THE TRINITY

Amazing Love

by Chris Tomlin

I'm forgiven
because you were forsaken
and I'm accepted
you were condemned
I'm alive and well
your spirit is within me
because you died and rose again

Amazing love how can it be
that you my king would die for me
Amazing love I know it's true
that it's my joy to honor you
in all I do
I honor you

Let the Nations Be Glad

by Keith & Kristyn Getty, Matt Boswell, and Matt Papa

Let the glory of the Lord forever be our joy
May redemption be the theme of our song
For by grace we have been saved
And by grace we shall proclaim
To the corners of the earth that Christ is come

Chorus

*Let the nations be glad
Let the peoples rejoice
For salvation belongs to our God
Let the whole earth be filled
With the praises of the Lord
For salvation belongs to our God
Let the nations be glad*

Through the ages gone before
Through the trial and the sword
Many saints and martyrs conquered though
they died
Still we're holding out the cross
Crossing oceans, suffering loss
Shall endure all things to win the crown of life

Chorus

As Your holy church goes forth
In the Holy Spirit's power
With the glories of the gospel to explain
Now we pray Your kingdom come
And we pray Your will be done
For the honor and the glory of Your name

Chorus

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and in
Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary;
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried:
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead:
he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty:
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost: the holy catholic* Church;
the communion of saints: the forgiveness of sins:
the resurrection of the body: and the life everlasting. Amen

**Here the word means universal, such as the universal bond of genuine believers across the world.*

Be Thou My Vision

Translator: Mary E. Byrne (1905) Versifier: Eleanor H. Hull (1912)

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me save that thou art.
Thou my best thought by day and by night;
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my battle shield, my sword for the fight;
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight.
Thou my soul's shelter, be thou my high tow'r;
Raise thou me Heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'ns Sun!
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

SERMON TEXT & NOTES

Acts 2:1-13 (NIV)

1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven.

6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. 7 Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?

9 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome 11 (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" 12 Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

13 Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

Genesis 11:1-9 (ESV)

1 Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. 2 And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. 3 And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. 4 Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth." 5 And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. 6 And the Lord said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. 7 Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." 8 So the Lord dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. 9 Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth. And from there the Lord dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

Announcements

Signup for events



- **Opportunities to Serve:** Volunteer in the nursery /LPC this summer, for our Meals and Rides ministries or campus monitors, or join our AV team. Use the QR code to sign up to serve.
- **Beach Nights:** Wednesdays from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at Singing Beach in Manchester-by-the-Sea. Look for the large red umbrella. Park in town or pay to park in the beach lot. Canceled if raining.
- **Friday Hangs:** Sue & Tyler Gross are hosting the college-age students at their home in Ipswich on Friday, August 7, at 5:30 pm. Join us for a time to hang out, eat, connect, and encourage each other. Register before Wednesday, August 5. Contact Oli if you have questions.
- **Life After Fifty Pool Party:** Join us on Sunday, August 9, at the home of John Clark from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Please bring an appetizer, salad, or dessert to share. All are welcome! Please RSVP to John Clark.
- **Worship at Asbury Grove:** Join us at Asbury Grove on Sunday, August 16, at 4:00 pm to hear Pastor Oli preach during the outdoor vespers service. Asbury Grove is a Christian community in South Hamilton at 15 Lee Park.

August Events | For details, scan the QR code above.

- 2 **Baptism** | 3:00 pm, Gull Pond at Gordon College
- 7 **College-Age Cookout** | 5:30 to 8:30 pm, the Grosses' home in Ipswich
- 9 **Life After Fifty Pool Party** | 2:00 to 5:00 pm, John Clark's home in Ipswich
- 11 **High School Pool Party** | 6:45 pm to 9:45 pm, John Clark's home in Ipswich
- 16 **Vespers Service with Oli van Ruth** | 4:00 pm, Asbury Grove under the pines
- 22 **Summer Something Brunch** | 10:00 am to noon
- 23 **Night of Prayer and Worship** | 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Meetinghouse Sanctuary

Kevin Baird, *Lead Pastor of Care & Outreach*
Oliver van Ruth, *Lead Pastor of Preaching & Teaching*
Matthew Schuberth, *Pastor of Youth & Young Adults*
Chrysa Bliati, *Children's Ministry Director*
Lisa Clay, *Women's Ministry Director*
Cece Gough, *Executive Director*

Hana Lee, *Music Director*
Jay Foss, *Audio-Visual Manager*
Jill VanderWoude, *Administrative Assistant*
Phil Best, *Facilities Manager*
The People of God, *Ministers to the World*

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know you
visited!