



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

August 23, 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

Cece Gough

Preparing Our Hearts

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." - John 14:27

*** Call to Worship: Psalm 33:1, 3-5**

Pastor Oli van Ruth

Leader: Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him.

People: Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.

Leader: For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.

Unison: The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.

COMING WITH PRAISE

* **Hymn:** Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

* **Invocation, Confession of Sin, and Assurance of Pardon**

Pastor Oli van Ruth

* **Song of Response:** We Fall Down

Children's Message

Craig Story

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

DRAWING NEAR FOR PRAYER

Prayers for Our Church Family

Margot Rox

Musical Offering: *Rising Sun*

Elena Lazaridou Schonewald

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

Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:15-17 (ESV)

Margot Rox

Sermon: *"In Whatever You Do"*

Pastor Matt Schuberth

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* **Song of Worship:** The Power of the Cross

* **Call to Prayer and Benediction**

Pastor Matt Schuberth

Postlude

*Our Ministry Leaders will be available at the front for prayer after the service:
Margot Rox, Elder; Sarah Seiler, Deacon*

25 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

All Thy works shall praise Thee, O Lord . . . Psa. 145:10

HYMN TO JOY 8 7 8 7 D.

Henry Van Dyke, 1907

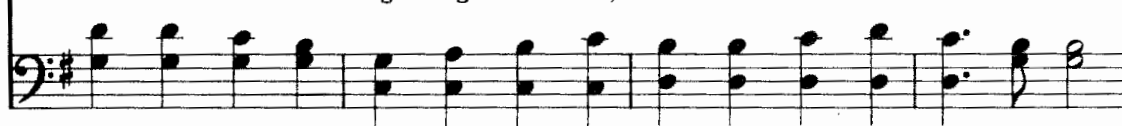
Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824



1. Joy-ful, joy-ful, we a-dore Thee, God of glo-ry, Lord of love;
2. All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re-lect Thy rays,
3. Thou art giv-ing and for-giv-ing, Ev-er bless-ing, ev-er blest,
4. Mor-tals join the might-y cho-rus Which the morn-ing stars be-gan;



Hearts un-fold like flow'rs be-fore Thee, Open-ing to the sun a-bove.
 Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.
 Well-spring of the joy of liv-ing, O-cean-depth of hap-py rest!
 Fa-ther love is reign-ing o'er us, Broth-er love binds man to man.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; Drive the dark of doubt a-way;
 Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, Flow-ery mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
 Thou our Fa-ther, Christ our Broth-er— All who live in love are Thine;
 Ev-er sing-ing, march we on-ward, Vic-tors in the midst of strife;



Giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day!
 Chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain Call us to re-joice in Thee.
 Teach us how to love each oth-er, Lift us to the joy di-vine.
 Joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward In the tri-umph song of life. A-men.



From "The Poems of Henry Van Dyke;" copyright, 1911, by Charles Scribner's Sons, 1939 by Tertius Van Dyke. Reprinted by permission of the publishers.

GOD THE FATHER

We Fall Down

by Chris Tomlin

We fall down	And we cry holy, holy, holy
We lay our crowns	We cry holy, holy, holy
At the feet of Jesus	We cry holy, holy, holy
The greatness of	Is the lamb
Mercy and love	
At the feet of Jesus	

Offertory

Rising Sun

by All Sons & Daughters

Praise Him, all you sinners
Sing oh sing you weary
Oh praise Him all you children of God

We lift high His glory
Shown throughout our stories
We praise Him as the children of God

[Chorus]

*Our great redeemer
Glorious Savior
Your name is higher than the rising sun
Light of the morning
You shine forever
Your name is higher than the rising sun
Your name is higher than the rising sun*

Praise His name forever
Speak it loud and clear now
Oh praise Him all you children of God

Hallelujah name above all
Simply to speak your name is praise
Hallelujah now and always
Forever we lift your name in praise
Hallelujah our God you reign
Simply to speak your name is praise, Lord

[Chorus]

The Power of the Cross

by Stuart Townend, Keith Getty

Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day
Christ on the road to Calvary
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then
Nailed to a cross of wood

*This the power of the cross
Christ became sin for us
Took the blame, bore the wrath
We stand forgiven at the cross*

Oh, to see the pain written on Your face
Bearing the awesome weight of sin
Every bitter thought, every evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow

*This the power of the cross
Christ became sin for us
Took the blame, bore the wrath
We stand forgiven at the cross*

Oh, to see my name written in the wounds
For, through Your suffering, I am free
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live
Won through Your selfless love

*This the power of the cross
Son of God slain for us
What a love, what a cost
We stand forgiven at the cross*

SERMON TEXT & NOTES

Colossians 3:15-17 (ESV)

15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. **16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. **17** And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

[illegible]

Announcements

Signup for events



- **Sunday Scribbles for Kids!** FCCH Children's Ministry highly recommends this interactive journal designed to help children actively listen during Sunday worship services. Use the QR code to find out more about purchasing your own *Sunday Scribbles*.
- **Nursery & LPC Summer Break Schedule:** There will be no Nursery or Little People's Church offered during the worship service on Sunday, August 30, and Sunday, September 6. A breakout space for toddlers, preschool children, and their parents will be available in Room 11, across from the café.
- **The Alpha Course Is Back!** Invite someone to join you on Monday, September 14, at 6:30 pm for dinner (free) and launch night. Week 1: "Is There More to Life Than This?" For invitation cards and volunteer sign-ups, see the table in the hallway or contact Diann Lloyd-Dennis at dldennismn@gmail.com.
- **Women's Bible Studies:** We'll study the book of Romans, using the *N.T. Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guides*. SonLight begins on Tuesday, September 15, at 9:45 am, and NightLight begins on Thursday, September 17, at 7:00 pm. Sign up with the QR code, or in person after the service.
- **Pilgrim's Pint:** We often celebrate the American Revolution as a great triumph of freedom from tyranny, taxation and a corrupt king (or was it his ministers?) But what is freedom for? Join theologian and GCTS professor Dr. Christian Cuthbert as he examines the competing visions of freedom that shaped the emerging republic on Monday, September 14 at 7:00 pm at the Post (16 Bay Road, S. Hamilton). Sign up using the QR code above.

August Events

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| 23 | Night of Prayer and Worship 4:00 to 5:00 pm, Meetinghouse Sanctuary |
| 27 | Children's Ministry Sunday School Volunteers Orientation 6:30 to 8:30 pm, MC Café |
| 30 | Nursery Volunteers Orientation 11:00 am to 12:00 pm, MC Café |
| 30 | Youth Worship Night 5:00 to 7:00 pm, First Congregational Church of Boxford |
| 31 | Alpha Team Training 7:00 to 9:00 pm, MC Café |

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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visited!