



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
Church of Hamilton

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

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

PREPARING OUR HEARTS

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Oli van Ruth

Preparing Our Hearts

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen." - 2 Peter 3:18

*** Call to Worship:** Psalm 105:1-4

Susan Gross (8:30), Margot Rox (11:00)

Leader: Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done.

People: **Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.**

Leader: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Unison: ***Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.***

COMING WITH PRAISE

* Hymn: There is One Gospel

There is one Gospel on which I stand
For all eternity
It is my story, my Father's plan
The Son has rescued me
Oh what a Gospel, Oh what a peace
My highest joy and my deepest need
Now and forever He is my light
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

There is one Gospel to which I cling
All else I count as loss
For there, where justice and mercy meet
He saved me on the cross
No more I boast in what I can bring
No more I carry the weight of sin
For He has brought me from death to life
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

There is one Gospel where hope is found
The empty tomb still speaks
For death could not keep my Savior down
He lives and I am free
Now on my Savior, I fix my eyes
My life is His and His hope is mine!
For He has promised I, too, will rise
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

And in this Gospel the church is one
We do not walk alone
We have His Spirit as we press on
To lead us safely home
And when in glory still I will sing
Of this old story that rescued me
Praise to my Savior, the King of life
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

* Invocation, Confession of Sin, and Assurance of Pardon

Pastor Oli van Ruth

* Song of Response: Shout to the Lord

My Jesus my Savior
Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love
My comfort my shelter
Tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath
All that I am never cease to worship you

Shout to the Lord
All the earth let us sing
Power and majesty praise to the King
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your Name
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the
Promise I found in You

Children's Message

Craig Story

Please accompany children forward for the message, then take the elevator to the lower-level classroom to check into Little People's Church (ages 4 to grade 1)

DRAWING NEAR FOR PRAYER

* Song of Praise: Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end to all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb
My perfect, spotless Righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself, I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Matt Schuberth

Offering: *Oh Great God (Sovereign Grace)*

Worship Band

<i>O great God of highest heaven</i>	<i>Help me now to live a life</i>
<i>Occupy my lowly heart</i>	<i>That's dependent on Your grace</i>
<i>Own it all and reign supreme</i>	<i>Keep my heart and guard my soul</i>
<i>Conquer every rebel power</i>	<i>From the evils that I face</i>
<i>Let no vice or sin remain</i>	<i>You are worthy to be praised</i>
<i>That resists Your holy war</i>	<i>With my every thought and deed</i>
<i>You have loved and purchased me</i>	<i>O great God of highest heaven</i>
	<i>Glorify Your Name through me</i>
<i>Make me Yours forevermore</i>	
<i>I was blinded by my sin</i>	
<i>Had no ears to hear Your voice</i>	
<i>Did not know Your love within</i>	
<i>Had no taste for heaven's joys</i>	
<i>Then Your Spirit gave me life</i>	
<i>Opened up Your Word to me</i>	
<i>Through the gospel of Your Son</i>	
<i>Gave me endless hope and peace</i>	

* 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: Matthew 13:1-9

Susan Gross (8:30), Margot Rox (11:00)

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. Whoever has ears, let them hear."

Sermon: *"This is our Story: Growing in the Gospel"*

Pastor Kevin Baird

Hebrews 13:20-21

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn #40: To God Be The Glory

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

Refrain

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.

Pastor Kevin Baird

Our Ministry Leaders will be available at the front for prayer after the service:

Susan Gross (8:30) and Margot Rox (11:00), Elder
Jean Ayles (8:30) and Kornilios Lazaridis (11:00), Deacons

Hebrews 13:20-21

20 Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, **21** equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

[illegible]

Announcements

Signup for events



- **The Chosen Watch Party:** Come watch Season 3 of *The Chosen* on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 pm at the home of Jack and Robin Davis (57 Lois Street, Hamilton) beginning Tuesday, September 29. Contact Robin with questions at (978) 578-5002.
- **Women's Ministry Fall, Flannel, Fires, & Fellowship:** Women of all ages are invited to an evening of fellowship on Friday, October 2, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Enjoy a quintessential New England fall evening of s'mores, cider, and being together. Sign up using the QR code.
- **Pilgrim's Pint:** Join us on Monday, October 5, as Dr. Glenn Butner examines the causes that have made our modern world less religious and suggests a remedy for how we can think about God's presence. Meet at the Post (16 Bay Road, S. Hamilton) at 7:00 pm. Sign up using the QR code above.
- **Church Family Game Night:** The Children's Ministry is hosting an evening of fun with board games and pizza dinner on Saturday, October 10, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. All ages are welcome to join us for a fun evening together. Bring your favorite game to play with others or use ours! Sign up using the QR code above.
- **Missions Sunday:** Our Annual Missions Sunday is October 18. We'll welcome guest preacher Jonathan Lugo, pastor of Iglesia Cristiana Centrados en el Evangelio in Central Falls, RI the church where our high school Summer Serve team volunteered. During the 9:45 am Sunday school hour, adults are invited to a presentation with Joel Harlow who will share from his experience as a Bible translator with Wycliffe. The day will conclude with a Missions Dinner at 5:00 pm, catered by Tom and Michelle Pepin, featuring presentations from several missionaries supported by FCCCH. Childcare is available for children through 5th grade. Sign up to attend the dinner using the QR code.

Upcoming Events | *For details, scan the QR code above.*

September

29 **The Chosen Watch Party** | 7:00 pm, The Davis Home, Hamilton

October

2 **Women's Fall Kickoff** | 6:30 to 8:30 pm, Ministry Center Lawn

5 **Pilgrim's Pint** | 7:00 to 8:00 pm, Post restaurant, South Hamilton

6 **Missions Prayer** | 7:45 to 8:30 am, Ministry Center Room 22 (all are welcome to join)

10 **Family Board Game Night** | 5:00 to 7:00 pm, Ministry Center Heritage Hall

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 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 ages 4 through grade 1. 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.

Sermon Notes for children are available at the Welcome Desk.

Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 am

- Infants, preschool, and kindergarten-age children gather in the Meetinghouse.
- Elementary-age meet in the lower level of the Ministry Center.
- Middle schoolers meet in the Ministry Center, Room 11.
- High schoolers meet in the Barn.
- Adults
 - *Economics and the Bible* with Dr. Sean McDonough, Dr. Glenn Butner, Dr. Robert Gough, Jr., Chapel
 - *The Church, The Spirit, and Union with Christ* with Dr. Jack Davis, MC Room 22
 - *Forgiveness* with Dr. Eckhard Schnabel, MC Room 21
 - *Exploring Your Marriage* with Priscilla Masterson, NP; Pastor Kevin Baird, Dr. David Horn, MC Room 23/24

For large-print Bibles, please see an usher.

If you need prayer after the service, an Elder and Deacon is available to pray with you at the front.

Join us for coffee and tea after both services in Fellowship Foyer.



Scan to let us know you visited!

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*

630 Bay Road, South Hamilton, MA 01982
P.O. Box 213 Hamilton, MA 01936
978-468-1940 info@fcchamilton.org
fcchamilton.org