



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
Church of Hamilton

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

OCTOBER 11, 2026

PREPARING OUR HEARTS

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Kevin Baird

Preparing Our Hearts

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." - 1 Peter 2:9

* **Call to Worship:** Psalm 145:1, 3-4, 8-9

Jonathan Heppner (8:30), Vicki Best (11:00)

Leader: I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

People: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

Leader: One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.

People: The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.

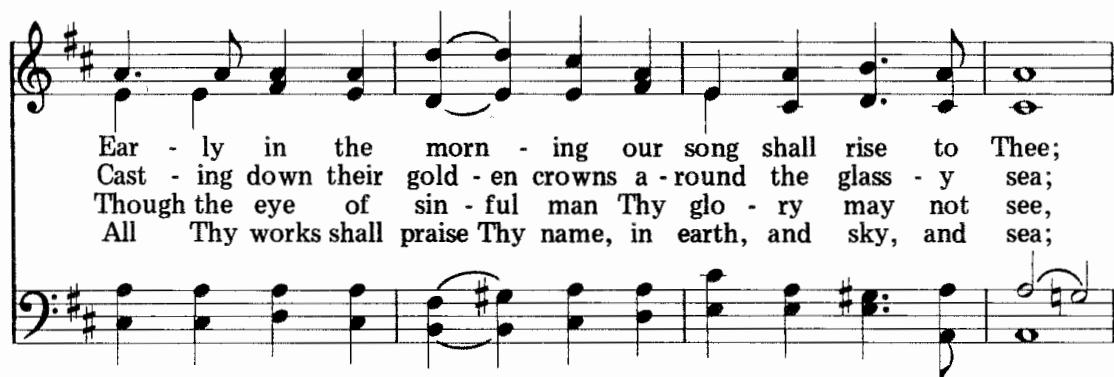
Unison: The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

COMING WITH PRAISE

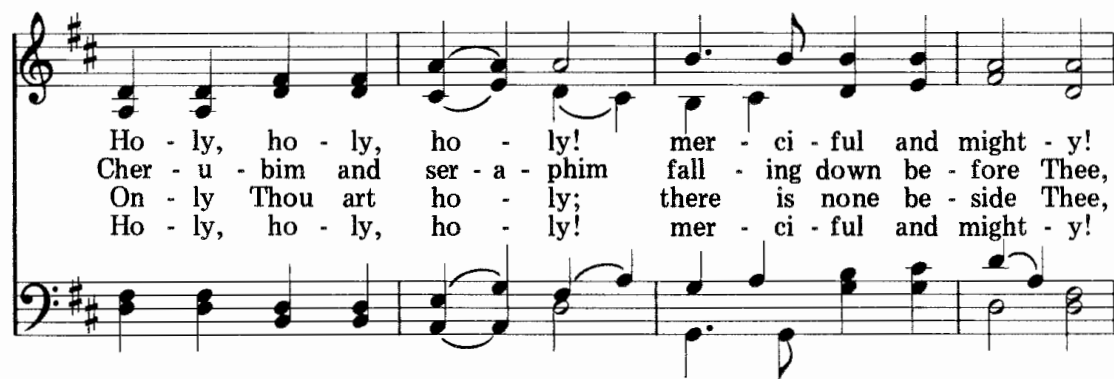
* Hymn #1: Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty



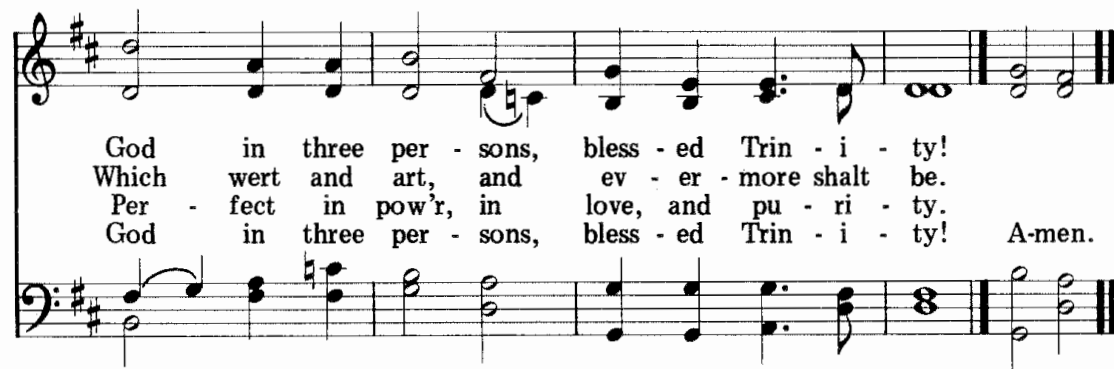
1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore Thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide Thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



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.

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

Pastor Matt Schubert

*** Song of Response: My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less**

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.*

Children's Message

Mary Bigus

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)

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 60:1-7

Jonathan Heppner (8:30), Vicki Best (11:00)

"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

"Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the hip. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the Lord. All Kedar's flocks will be gathered to you, the rams of Nebaioth will serve you; they will be accepted as offerings on my altar, and I will adorn my glorious temple.

DRAWING NEAR FOR PRAYER

*** Song of Worship: Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me**

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 Saviour He will stay
I labour 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 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! (2x)

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me!

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Kevin Baird

Offertory: *It Is Well*

Elena Schonewald

Grander earth has quaked before
Moved by the sound of His voice
And seas that are shaken and stirred
Can be calmed and broken for my regard

Far be it from me to not believe
Even when my eyes can't see
And this mountain that's in front of me
Oh will be thrown into the midst of the sea

Chorus
Through it all, through it all
My eyes are on You
Through it all, through it all, it is well
Through it all, through it all
My eyes are on You
And it is well, with me

So let go my soul and trust in Him
The waves and wind still know His name

It is well with my soul (x3)
It is well, it is well with my soul

Chorus

* 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: *Pointing People to Jesus: Salt and Light"*
Matthew 5:13-16

Pastor Oli van Ruth

RESPONDING GOD'S WORD

* Song of Praise: O Church Arise

O Church, arise, and put your armor on;
Hear the call of Christ our captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth,
We'll stand against the devil's lies.
An army bold, whose battle cry is Love,
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole,
We will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on every side,
We know the outcome is secure.
And Christ will have the prize for which He died:
An inheritance of nations.

Chorus:
Arise, shine for your light has come
Arise, shine for the Risen Son
Lift your eyes, we are His radiant bride
Arise, o church arise!

Come, see the cross, where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This victory march continues till the day
Ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in every stride;
Give grace for every hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old, still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls, and hunger for the day
When with Christ we stand in Glory

Pastor Oli van Ruth

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

Jonathan Heppner (8:30) and Vicki Best (11:00), Elders

Kathy Szatkowski (8:30) and Josiah Coffey (11:00), Deacons

Matthew 5:13-16

14 “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. **15** Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. **16** In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

[illegible]

Announcements

Signup for events



- **Pumpkin Donations:** Donate your leftover smelly pumpkins for our annual high school event, The Great Pumpkin Smash!, on Tuesday, November 3. Leave pumpkins on the Wigglesworth-Cutler House porch.
- **Free Film Viewing - A Great Awakening:** Old South Presbyterian Church in Newburyport is hosting the film, which depicts the true story of an unlikely friendship between evangelist George Whitefield and Benjamin Franklin, on Thursday, October 15, at 7:00 pm. No registration necessary.
- **Missions Sunday:** Our annual Missions Sunday is October 18. Jonathan Lugo, pastor of Iglesia Cristiana Centrados en el Evangelio in Central Falls, RI, the church where our high school Summer Serve team volunteered, will deliver Sunday's message. During the 9:45 am Sunday school hour, adults are invited to a presentation by Joel Harlow, who will share his experience as a Bible translator with Wycliffe. The day concludes with a catered missions dinner at 5:00 pm. Childcare is available for children through 5th grade. Sign up to attend the dinner using the QR code.
- **Installation Service:** Kevin Baird and Oli van Ruth will be installed as co-lead pastors on Sunday, October 25, at 4:00 pm in the Meetinghouse Sanctuary. All are invited to worship, pray, and witness the vows and charges given to our co-pastors to serve the Lord faithfully. Following the service, refreshments will be served in Fellowship Foyer.
- **Opportunities to Serve:** We're seeking campus monitors, greeters, and volunteers to join our audio/visual team. Children's Ministry is looking for adult leaders to serve in Little People's Church at 9:45 am, and we could use more volunteers for our Rides and Meals Ministries. Scan the QR code to serve!
- **Fall New Members Class:** Held in three sessions: Sundays, November 1, 8, and 15, from 9:45 to 10:45 am in the Wigglesworth-Cutler House. Sign up using the QR code above or email info@fcchamilton.org.

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

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| 12 | Alpha Course on Mondays 6:30 to 8:30 pm, Ministry Center, Heritage Hall |
| 18 | Missions Dinner 5:00 to 7:00 pm, Ministry Center, Heritage Hall |
| 20 | Missions Prayer 7:45 to 8:30 am, Ministry Center Room 22 (all are welcome to join) |
| 25 | Newcomers Breakfast 9:45 to 10:45 am, Meetinghouse, First-Floor Classroom |
| 25 | Installation Service 4:00 pm, Meetinghouse Sanctuary |
| 29 | Men's Ministry Dinner 6:00 to 8:30 pm, Ministry Center, Heritage Hall |

New to Our Church?

Welcome! We're glad you could join us this morning! If you have questions, please ask an usher or visit our Welcome Desk downstairs.

For families, we provide children's church. During our 8:30 am service, our supervised Nursery serves infants through age 3, and our Little People's Church (LPC) program serves children ages 4 through grade 1. LPC meets following the Children's Message in the lower level of this building. 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 downstairs at the Welcome Desk.

Sunday School for all ages is at 9:45 am. Classes are found throughout our campus in this building (the Meetinghouse / MH), the Ministry Center (MC), and the Barn. The Barn and Ministry Center are located across the parking lot.

- Infants, preschool, and kindergarten-age children gather in the Meetinghouse downstairs.
- Elementary ages 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 (behind the sanctuary)
 - *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 are 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 Schubert, *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*
John Bigus, *Audio-Visual Manager*
Jill VanderWoude, *Administrative Assistant*
Phil Best, *Facilities Manager*
The People of God, *Ministers to the World*

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