



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
Church of Hamilton

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

OCTOBER 25, 2026

PREPARING OUR HEARTS

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Kevin Baird

Preparing Our Hearts

"Our God, will you not judge them? For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you." - 2 Chronicles 20:12

*** Call to Worship:** Psalm 90:1-2, 13-14

Pastor Matt Schuberth

Leader: Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

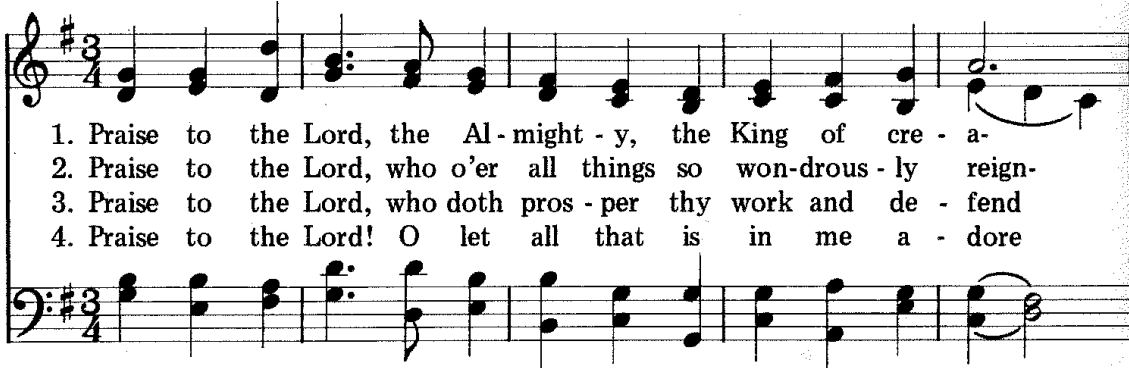
People: Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Leader: Relent, Lord! How long will it be? Have compassion on your servants.

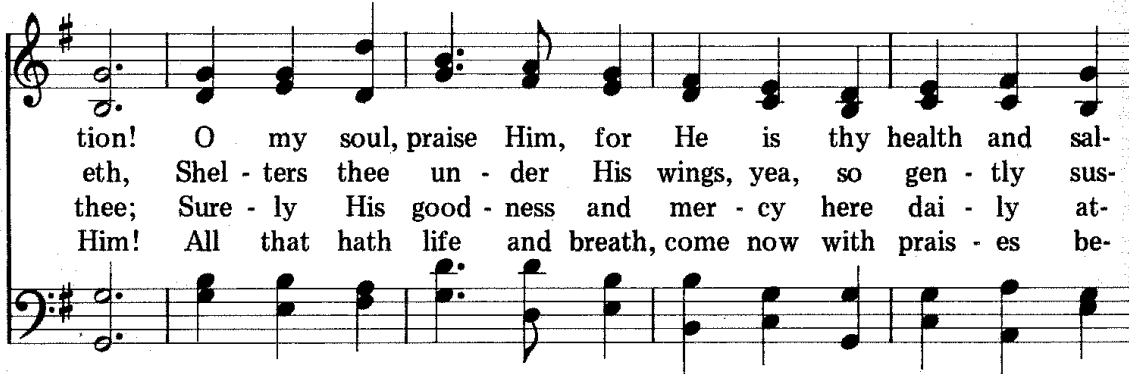
Unison: Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

COMING WITH PRAISE

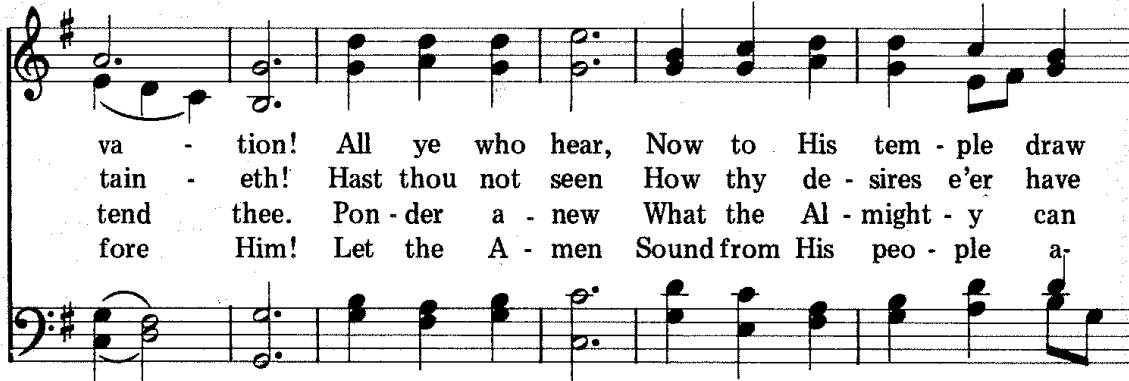
* Hymn: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



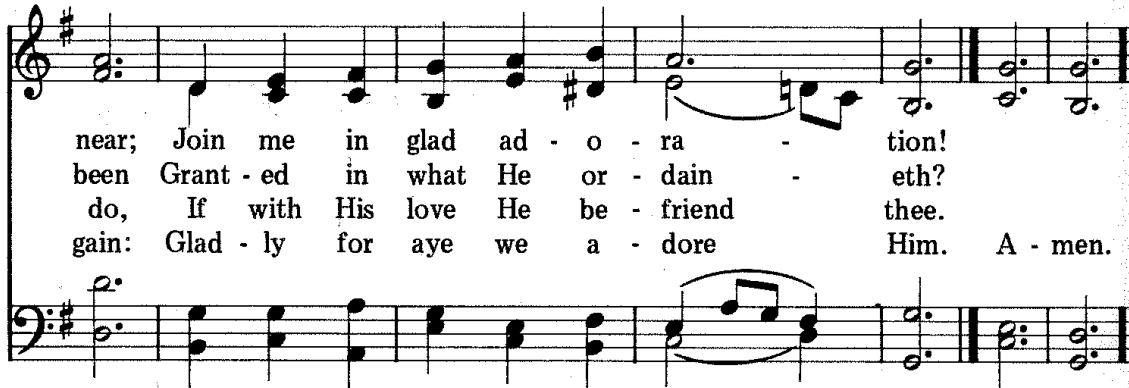
1. Praise to the Lord, the Al-might-y, the King of cre-a-
 2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous-ly reign-
 3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros-per thy work and de-fend
 4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a-dore



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.

* Invocation, Confession of Sin, and Assurance of Pardon

Pastor Kevin Baird

* Hymn: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down;
 2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev - ery trou - bled breast!
 3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, Let us all Thy life re - ceive;
 4. Fin - ish then Thy new cre - a - tion, Pure and spot - less let us be;

Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 Let us all in Thee in - her - it, Let us find the prom - ised rest.
 Sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave:
 Let us see Thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee:

Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art;
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning, Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove,
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in heav'n we take our place,

Vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion; En - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 End of faith, as its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 Pray, and praise Thee with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
 Till we cast our crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise. A - men.

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**Scripture Reading:** Romans 8:18-25

Dr. Sean McDonough (8:30), Margot Rox (11:00)

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Matt Schuberth

Offertory: *Thy Will*

Elena and Trevor Schonewald

I'm so confused
I know I heard You loud and clear
So I followed through
Somehow I ended up here
I don't wanna think
I may never understand
That my broken heart is a part of Your plan
When I try to pray, all I've got is hurt
And these four words

Thy will be done
Thy will be done
Thy will be done

I know You're good
But this don't feel good right now
And I know you think
Of things I could never think about
It's hard to count it all joy
Distracted by the noise
Just trying to make sense
Of all Your promises
Sometimes I gotta stop
Remember that You're God
And I am not
So

Thy will be done
Thy will be done
Thy will be done
Thy will be done like a child on my knees
All that comes to me is
Thy will be done
Thy will be done
Thy will

I know You see me
I know You hear me, Lord
Your plans are for me
Goodness You have in store

So, Thy will be done
Thy will be done

*** 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: Habakkuk 1:1-17 (ESV)

Ray Unang, Dr. Jack Billings (8:30)

Jean Devitt, Ella Forest (11:00)

1 The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw. **2** O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? **3** Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. **4** So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted.

5 "Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told. **6** For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation, who march through the breadth of the earth, to seize dwellings not their own. **7** They are dreaded and fearsome; their justice and dignity go forth from themselves. **8** Their horses are swifter than leopards, more fierce than the evening wolves; their horsemen press proudly on. Their horsemen come from afar; they fly like an eagle swift to devour. **9** They all come for violence, all their faces forward. They gather captives like sand. **10** At kings they scoff, and at rulers they laugh. They laugh at every fortress, for they pile up earth and take it. **11** Then they sweep by like the wind and go on, guilty men, whose own might is their god!"

12 Are you not from everlasting, O Lord my God, my Holy One? We shall not die. O Lord, you have ordained them as a judgment, and you, O Rock, have established them for reproof. **13** You who are of purer eyes than to see evil and cannot look at wrong, why do you idly look at traitors and remain silent when the wicked swallows up the man more righteous than he? **14** You make mankind like the fish of the sea, like crawling things that have no ruler. **15** He brings all of them up with a hook; he drags them out with his net; he gathers them in his dragnet; so he rejoices and is glad. **16** Therefore he sacrifices to his net and makes offerings to his dragnet; for by them he lives in luxury, and his food is rich. **17** Is he then to keep on emptying his net and mercilessly killing nations forever?

Sermon: *Pointing People to Jesus: Salt and Light*

Pastor Oli van Ruth

Matthew 5:13-16

RESPONDING GOD'S WORD

* Hymn: Be Still, My Soul

1. Be still, my soul! the Lord is on thy side; Bear pa-tient-ly the
 2. Be still, my soul! thy God doth un-der-take To guide the fu-ture
 3. Be still, my soul! the hour is has-t'ning on When we shall be for-

cross of grief or pain; Leave to thy God to or-der and pro-vide;
 as He has the past. Thy hope, thy con-fi-dence let noth-ing shake;
 ev-er with the Lord, When dis-ap-point-ment, grief, and fear are gone,

In ev-ery change He faith-ful will re-main. Be still, my soul! thy
 All now mys-te-rious shall be bright at last. Be still, my soul! the
 Sor-row for-got, love's pur-est joys re-stored. Be still, my soul! when

best, thy heav'n-ly Friend Thro' thorn-y ways leads to a joy-ful end.
 waves and winds still know His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be-low.
 change and tears are past, All safe and bless-ed we shall meet at last.

* Call to Prayer and Benediction

Pastor Oli van Ruth

Postlude

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

Jonathan Heppner (8:30) and Margot Rox (11:00), Elders

Kelly Lestage (8:30) and Beth White (11:00), Deacons

SERMON TEXT & NOTES

Habakkuk 1:1-17 (ESV)

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Announcements

Signup for events



- **New to our church?** Please join us today for breakfast, downstairs in the first-floor classroom at 9:45 am.
- **Installation Service:** Kevin Baird and Oli van Ruth will be installed as co-lead pastors today at 4:00 pm in the Meetinghouse Sanctuary. All are invited to worship, pray, and witness this special service. Refreshments will follow in Fellowship Foyer.
- **Men's Ministry Dinner:** Join us on Thursday, October 29, for a special evening with Dr. Scott Sunquist, President of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, as he speaks on Conversations with God in Our Times of Suffering. Enjoy a catered dinner in Heritage Hall from 6:00 to 8:30 pm. The cost is \$10 per person.
- **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.
- **Pumpkin Donations:** Donate your leftover smelly pumpkins to our annual high school event, The Great Pumpkin Smash!, on Tuesday, November 3. Leave pumpkins on the Wigglesworth-Cutler House porch.
- **LifeShare Dresser Project:** This year's dresser project recipient is a mom who is a full-time student in need of many items for her baby boy, born in June. Please help fill the dresser, which is located in the hallway of the Meetinghouse, by choosing a tag of the item(s) you would like to purchase. Place your unwrapped gift in the dresser by November 15. Direct questions to LuBeth Kuemmerle, lubethkuemmerle@gmail.com.
- **Annual Meeting Preparation:** We'll have an informational Zoom session on Wednesday, November 4, at 7:00 pm to prepare for our Annual Meeting, which will take place on Monday, November 16, at 7:00 pm. All are encouraged to attend.

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

October

- | | |
|----|--|
| 25 | Newcomers Breakfast 9:45 to 10:45 am, Meetinghouse, First-Floor Classroom |
| | Installation Service 4:00 pm, Meetinghouse Sanctuary |
| 29 | Men's Ministry Dinner 6:00 to 8:30 pm, Ministry Center, Heritage Hall |

November

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | New Members Class 9:45 to 10:45 am, Wigglesworth-Cutler Living Room |
| 2 | Women's Night at the Post 7:00 pm, Post Restaurant at 16 Bay Rd, South Hamilton |
| 3 | The Great Pumpkin Smash 7:00 to 8:45 pm, Ministry Center Lawn |

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 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*
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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