



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
Church of Hamilton

Order of Service March 17, 2024

Prelude: Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It David Rox

Welcome and Announcements

Preparation..... Matthew 11:28

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

* **Call to Worship:** Psalm 100:1-4a

Leader: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

People: Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Leader: Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his;

People: we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Unison: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.

* **Hymn #3**..... “God, Our Father, We Adore Thee”

* **Invocation**

* **Song of Response:** Worthy

It was my cross You bore	And now my shame is gone
So I could live in the freedom You died for	I stand amazed in Your love undeniable
And now my life is Yours	Your grace goes on and on
And I will sing of Your goodness forevermore	And I will sing of Your goodness forevermore

Chorus

Worthy is Your name Jesus

You deserve the praise worthy is Your name

Worthy is Your name Jesus

You deserve the praise worthy is Your name

Lent 42: Psalm 42:6-8

My soul is downcast within me; therefore I will remember you
from the land of the Jordan, the heights of Hermon—from Mount Mizar.

Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls;
all your waves and breakers have swept over me.

By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me

- a prayer to the God of my life

Children’s Message..... Craig Story

Story of Grace.....Zoe Ting

Scripture Reading..... Luke 13:22-30

* **Hymn #344:** “Be Thou My Vision”

Pastoral Prayer

Musical Offering: “A Prayer To The God Of My Life (*Psalm 42*)” *Ella Gutowski*

* **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

Sermon: “*The Narrow Door*” Dr. Jeffrey Arthurs
Luke 13:22-30

* **Song of Response** “I Have Decided To Follow Jesus”

* **Call to Prayer and Benediction**

Postlude

God, Our Father, We Adore Thee 3

Ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. Rom. 8:15

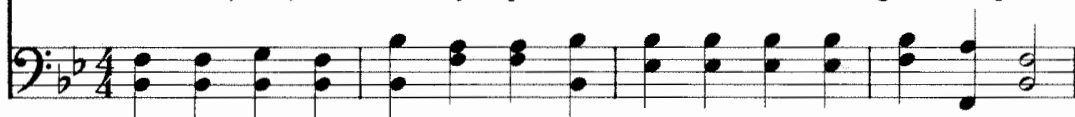
George W. Frazer, 1904
St. 3, Alfred S. Loizeau, 1952

BEECHER 8 7 8 7 D.

John Zundel, 1870



1. God, our Fa - ther, we a - dore Thee! We, Thy chil - dren, bless Thy name!
2. Son E - ter - nal, we a - dore Thee! Lamb up - on the throne on high!
3. Ho - ly Spir - it, we a - dore Thee! Par - a - clete and heav'n - ly guest!
4. Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it— Three in One! we give Thee praise!



Cho - sen in the Christ be - fore Thee, We are "ho - ly with - out blame."
Lamb of God, we bow be - fore Thee, Thou hast brought Thy peo - ple nigh!
Sent from God and from the Sav - ior, Thou hast led us in - to rest.
For the rich - es we in - her - it, Heart and voice to Thee we raise!



We a - dore Thee! we a - dore Thee! Ab - ba's prais - es we pro - claim!
We a - dore Thee! we a - dore Thee! Son of God, who came to die!
We a - dore Thee! we a - dore Thee! By Thy grace for - ev - er blest:
We a - dore Thee! we a - dore Thee! Thee we bless, thro' end - less days!



We a - dore Thee! we a - dore Thee! Ab - ba's prais - es we pro - claim!
We a - dore Thee! we a - dore Thee! Son of God, who came to die!
We a - dore Thee! we a - dore Thee! By Thy grace for - ev - er blest!
We a - dore Thee! we a - dore Thee! Thee we bless, thro' end - less days! A - men.



This tune in a lower key, No. 75

THE TRINITY

Be Thou My Vision 344

What things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Phil. 3:7

Irish hymn, c. 8th century
Trans. by Mary E. Byrne, 1905
Versified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912

SLANE 10 10 10 10
Traditional Irish melody
Arr. by Donald P. Hustad, 1973

Unison

1. Be Thou my Vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2. Be Thou my Wis - dom, and Thou my true Word;
3. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise,
4. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art—
I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
May I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!

Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Thou my great Fa - ther, I Thy true son;
Thou and Thou on - ly, first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

Wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy pres - ence my light.
Thou in me dwell - ing, and I with Thee one.
High King of heav - en, my Treas - ure Thou art.
Still be my Vi - sion, O Rul - er of all. A - men.

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HOPE AND ASPIRATION

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Luke 9:57

Hindustani Folk Tune

$\text{♩} = 80$

C F C Dm⁷ F D^o F

1. I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus; I have de - cid - ed to fol - low
 2. The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me; The world be - hind me, the cross be -
 3. Though none go with me, I still will fol - low; Though none go with me, I still will
 4. Will you de - cide now to fol - low Je - sus? Will you de - cide now to fol - low

4 F C F C F C G⁷ C

Je - sus; I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus; No turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.
 fore me; The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me; No turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.
 fol - low; Though none go with me, I still will fol - low; No turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.
 Je - sus? Will you de - cide now to fol - low Je - sus; No turn - ing back, no turn - ing back.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 17, 2024

Our mission is to rejoice in God, grow in the gospel, and point people to Jesus.
Our vision is to be a house of refuge, a community of joy, and a spiritual catalyst for personal and cultural renewal.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Today - Congregational Mtg. Recap, 9:45 am in HH
- March 18 - FCCH Artists Gathering, 7:00 pm
- March 25 - Pilgrim's Pint, Post Restaurant, 7:00 pm
- April 1 - GriefShare Zoom Session begins
- April 5 - HS Broom Hockey Meet, 8:30 pm
- April 6 - Women's Tea, 1:00 pm

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

- March 24 - Palm Sunday, 8:30 am and 11:00 am
 - March 28 - Maundy Thursday, 7:00 pm
 - March 29 - Good Friday, 1:00 pm
 - March 31- Easter Sunrise Service, 6:15 am GCTS parking lot
 - March 31 - Easter Service, 10:00 am, AJ Gordon College Chapel
- * Don't forget to order your Easter flowers by today!

NEW TO OUR CHURCH?

Welcome! We are glad you chose to join us this morning! If you have questions please ask an usher, or visit our Welcome Desk downstairs in the Fellowship Foyer.

For families we provide children's ministry. During our 8:30 am service, our supervised Nursery is for ages 0- 3, and our Little People's Church (LPC) program is for age 4 through 1st grade. LPC meets after the Children's Message during the 8:30 service. During the 11:00 am service, the Nursery is staffed as a combined space for infants and toddlers.

Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 am

- Infants - Preschool age children gather in the Meeting House
- Elementary age children meet on the lower level of the Ministry Center
- Middle Schoolers meet in the Ministry Center (Café)
- High Schoolers meet in the Barn
- Adults classes:
 - **Study of 1 Corinthians** with Dr. Eckhard Schnabel, MC Room 21
 - **Study of 1 and 2 Thessalonians** with Kornilios Lazaridis, MC Room 22
 - **How to Get More Comfortable with the Holy Spirit** with Dr. Jack Davis, Meeting House Chapel

Additional Resources: As a house of refuge, we want to care for you well. We have the deacon's fund, prayer chain, helping hands ministry, meals ministry, counseling, and other resources to help. Please reach out to us at info@fcchamilton.org.

We're so glad you're here and would love to serve you!

MISSED THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING?

If you missed the congregational meeting on Monday, March 11, elders, Vicki Best and Lou Brown will be giving a recap of the presentation today in Heritage Hall during the Sunday school hour at 9:45 am.

LENT 42

During Lent our goal is to memorize Psalm 42 as a church community. If you do not have a Lent 42 bookmark visit the information desk. While in Fellowship Foyer, see the artwork reflecting verse 8.

COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL BAKE SALE WAS A SUCCESS!

The 4th-5th Grade Sunday School class want to thank all who visited their bake sale and contributed to their cause. The students raised \$800 which is enough to sponsor a child for 2 years!

THE COMMUNION MILESTONE CLASS TODAY!

Parents/caregivers of 2nd and 3rd graders are invited with your child to the fourth Milestone in the Rites of Passage for Lifelong Faith, called "Communion." Join us for a discussion with Pastor Kevin and our deacons to learn about Communion. Meet today in Fellowship Foyer from 9:45 - 10:45 am. Register on our website fcchamilton.org/children or use our app/sigh ups.

FCCH ARTISTS GATHERING

Join us tomorrow, March 18 in the Wigglesworth-Cutler Living Room from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm for our first Arts night of the year. We are going to focus on resources that inspire. What websites, artists, environments, and influences inspire you. We look forward to hearing what inspires each of you. Register on the church app/sign ups.

PILGRIM'S PINT

Our next Pilgrim's Pint (a casual and engaging lecture series exploring the 'ins' and 'outs' of Christian beliefs in a modern context) is on Monday, March 25 at 7:00 pm at the Post in Hamilton. Dr. David Horn of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary will speak on *Friendship Is More Than A Greeting Card*. Invite a friend and join us for a lively talk and discussion as we reason together over a beverage of your choice. Register on the app/sign ups. Pilgrim's Pint is led by Josiah Coffey and sponsored by FCCH.

MONDAY MORNING MOM'S GROUP

Mom's with little ones meet every Monday from 9:15-10:15 am for an informal play date in the church nursery. Drop-ins (or invited friends) always welcome. Contact Janelle Deddo, janelle.deddo@gmail.com, (630) 724-7425 for more details.

LOST & FOUND

We have designated two specific spots on our church campus for lost and found items. There is a bin in the Ministry Center by the coat rack and a bin in the church Meeting House across from the nursery. These baskets will be emptied monthly so if you're missing something check them out!

GRIEFSHARE

A new 13-week Zoom session begins on Monday, April 1 at 7:30 pm. This program features biblical, Christ-centered teaching focused on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. Participants will prepare before each session by viewing a video on-line featuring respected grief experts and real-life stories, and working through a simple study in the accompanying workbook. Confidentiality is very much a part of this program. Register online at griefshare.org. For further information contact John Clark at (978) 375-6329 or johnclarkhydroseeding@outlook.com.

BROOM HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

High school students time to register for the annual high school Broom Hockey tournament! The big event is scheduled for Friday, April 5. This friendly game is an opportunity to fellowship with other teens from Ipswich Presbyterian. So pull your brooms out of the closet and start preparing for this year's win (we hope)! Register on the app/sign ups.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

The Young Adults Ministry at FCCH consists of two groups that meet weekly for a Bible study, fellowship and fun. Find out where you belong and join us!

- College Age: Sundays at 6:30 pm at Gordon College.
- Post College Age: Wednesdays at 7:00 pm at the Pineda-Cooper home in Beverly.

For more details contact Pastor Matt at mschuberth@fcchamilton.org.

WOMEN'S TEA - APRIL 6

Registration is open for the Women's Tea! Join us on Saturday, April 6, at 1:00 pm in Heritage Hall for our annual Women's Tea and a wonderful time of fun and fellowship. Our speaker, Rene Allen, will share on our theme from Psalm 91:4, "Resting in God's Protection." We are in need of hostesses, bakers, and volunteers. Register and sign up on the website at fcchamilton.org/women.

MEN'S NIGHT AT THE POST RESTAURANT - APRIL 18

Men: mark your calendars! Our next fellowship night at the Post restaurant in Hamilton will be Thursday, April 18 at 8:00 pm. The Men's Ministry will provide pizza and you may purchase your own beverages. Join us for a time of informal fellowship and getting to know each other better. This event is ideal to invite your non-church friends! Please register on the church app/sign ups so we know how many to expect. Contact Dave Rox with questions at david.rox@gordon.edu, or 978-257-4219.

MISSIONS

- The Missions Committee is sponsoring a 6-day Turkish Trip this summer from Tuesday, June 26 - Monday, July 1. This trip is for adults (18 and older) or 15-17 year olds with an accompanying parent. We be driving to Paterson, NJ, and working with Global Gates in getting acquainted with Turkish people. Please consider being a part of this strategic new outreach opportunity. There will be an information session in April!
 - Dan & Shelly Young are supported by FCCH and have been serving with United World Missions for over 30 years. Dan has partially retired from full time missionary work, but Shelly is now serving as ESL Coordinator at the Manantial School Puerto Escondido, Oaxaca, México which is a Christian School. The main purpose of the school is to present the Gospel to the children and their families. Shelly's service at the school precipitated some leaders from UWM to visit the school and form the most recent partnership. Dan & Shelly have just bought some land near the school and plan on building a home on the land. This is the first time that they will have owned a home. Please be in prayer for them.
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PLACE YOUR ORDER FOR EASTER FLOWERS!

Keeping with tradition, we are asking for your help to bring some Easter beauty to the Gordon College Chapel with Easter lilies, tulips and daffodils. If you would like to lend flowers for the altar on Easter Sunday, please indicate the type of flower, quantity and if you would like to give your flowers in honor or memory of someone. Orders are due today. Remember to pick them up after the Easter Service on Sunday, March 31.

Name: _____

Phone/ Email: _____

I wish to lend: Easter Lily (\$15 each) #____ Tulip (\$27 each) #____ Daffodil (\$26 each) #____

Given in honor / memory of: _____

Drop this form and a check (made out to First Congregational church) in the offering plate, use the app on the *Sign ups* tab or use the QR code to order online.

