



Order of Service November 2, 2025

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Preparation

*“Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may
sing for joy and be glad all our days.”
- Psalm 90:14*

* Call to Worship: Psalm 104:31-34

Leader: May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works—

People: **he who looks at the earth, and it trembles, who touches the mountains, and they smoke.**

Leader: I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Unison: *May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the Lord.*

* Hymn: All Creatures of our God and King (verses 1,3,4 and 5)

* Invocation

* Song of Response Goodness of God

I love You, Lord
For Your mercy never fails me
All my days, I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God

*'Cause all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God*

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night
You are close like no other
I've known You as a Father
I've known You as a Friend
And I have lived in the goodness of God

*'Cause all my life You have been faithful
And all my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God
I will sing of the goodness of God*

Children's Message Cec Horn

Scripture Reading Isaiah 35:3-6 (ESV)

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

Prayer For Our Church Family

Offertory: *I'll Sing* Choir, Trumpet: Jonathan Persson

* **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 Doubter's Question"* Dr. Jeffrey Arthurs
Luke 7:18-30

- **Song of Worship** He Will Hold Me Fast
- **Apostle's Creed** (Insert)

Prayer of Renewal

Celebrating the Lord's Supper

- **Hymn:** Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound (verses 1 and 4)
- **Call to Prayer and Benediction**

Postlude

* (verses 1, 3, 4, and 5)

59 All Creatures of Our God and King

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

St. Francis of Assisi, 1225
Trans. by William H. Draper, 1926

LASST UNS ERFREUEN L.M. Alleluias
Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Cologne, 1623

* 1. All crea-tures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing
* 2. Thou rush-ing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail in heav'n a - long,
* 3. Thou flow-ing wa-ter, pure and clear, Make mu-sic for thy Lord to hear,
* 4. And all ye men of ten-der heart, For-giv-ing oth-ers, take your part,
* 5. Let all things their Cre-a - tor bless, And wor-ship Him in hum-ble - ness,

Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia! Thou burn-ing sun with gold - en beam,
O praise Him, Al-le - lu - ia! Thou ris - ing morn in praise re - joice,
Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia! Thou fire so mas - ter - ful and bright,
O sing ye, Al-le - lu - ia! Ye who long pain and sor - row bear,
O praise Him, Al-le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the Fa - ther, praise the Son,

Thou sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam, O praise Him, O praise Him,
Ye lights of eve - ning, find a voice, O praise Him, O praise Him,
That giv - est man both warmth and light, O praise Him, O praise Him,
Praise God and on Him cast your care, O praise Him, O praise Him,
And praise the Spir - it, three in one, O praise Him, O praise Him,

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

This tune in a unison setting, No. 166

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GOD THE FATHER: HIS WORKS IN CREATION

He Will Hold Me Fast

by Keith & Kristyn Getty

When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

Refrain

*He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Saviour loves me so
He will hold me fast*

Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

Refrain

For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
'Til our faith is turned to sight
When He comes at last!

Refrain

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and in
Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary;
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried:
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead:
he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of

God the Father Almighty:
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost: the holy catholic* Church;
the communion of saints: the forgiveness of sins:
the resurrection of the body: and the life everlasting. Amen

*Here the word means universal, such as the universal bond of genuine believers across the world.

* (verses 1 and 4)

288 Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound

God is able to make all grace abound toward you . . . II Cor. 9:8

John Newton, 1779
St. 4, source unknown

AMAZING GRACE C.M.
Traditional American melody
Arr. by Edwin O. Excell, 1900

The musical score is written for a piano and voice. It features a treble and bass staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the bass staff providing harmonic support. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some lines indented to align with specific notes. The score includes four verses of lyrics, with the first and fourth verses marked with an asterisk. The music concludes with a double bar line.

* 1. A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears re-lieved;
3. Through man - y dan - gers, toils and snares, I have al - read - y come;
* 4. When we've been there ten thou-sand years, Bright shin - ing as the sun,

I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.
How pre - cious did that grace ap - pear The hour I first be-lieved!
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we first be - gun.

SERMON TEXT & NOTES

Luke 7:18-30 (ESV)

18 The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, 19 calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" 20 And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'" 21 In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. 22 And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. 23 And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

24 When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? **25** What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. **26** What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. **27** This is he of whom it is written, "'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'

28 I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.” 29 (When all the people heard this, and the tax collectors too, they declared God just, having been baptized with the baptism of John, 30 but the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected the purpose of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.)

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.

——— SERMON TEXT & NOTES ———

1. The Question (7:19-20)

2. The Answer (7:21-28)

3. The Question Behind the Question

4. A Partial Answer (2 Peter 3:3, 8-9)

5. Two Responses (7:29-30)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 2, 2025

Our mission is to rejoice in God, grow in the gospel, and point people to Jesus.

Signup for events



DATES TO REMEMBER

- Today - The Story Unfolds Read-Through, 2:00 pm
- November 4 - High School Pumpkin Smash, 7:00 pm
- November 5 - Middle School Fall Party, 7:00 pm
- November 9 - New Members Class, Session I, 9:45 am
- November 9 - Sharon Carlson Reception, 12:15 pm
- November 9 - College Age Regressive Dinner, 5:00 pm
- November 10 - Pilgrim's Pint, 7:00 pm
- November 10 - Francis Collins Book Discussion on Zoom, 8:00 pm
- November 12 - New Members Class, Session II, 6:30 pm

NEW TO OUR CHURCH?

Welcome! We are 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 age 4 through 1st grade. 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.

Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 am

- Infants, preschool and kindergarten age children gather in the Meetinghouse
- Elementary age children meet in the lower level of the Ministry Center
- Middle schoolers meet in the Ministry Center, Room 11
- High schoolers meet in the Barn
- Adult classes:
 - *Living the Journey* with Dr. David Horn, Chapel
 - *Study of 1 Corinthians* with Dr. Eckhard Schnabel, MC 21
 - *Disability Ministry: It's more than just a ramp* with Heather LaBudde, MC 22
 - *The People of God in a Digital World* with Oli van Ruth, MC 23/24

Additional resources: We have the Deacons fund, prayer chain, helping hands ministry, meals ministry, pastoral counseling, and other resources to help. Contact us at info@fcchamilton.org.

Hearing-Assist Devices and Large-Print Bibles: We have hearing-assist devices that help reduce ambient noise when listening to the sermon in the sanctuary; we also have large-print bibles. Please see an usher for assistance.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING RESULTS

We are delighted to inform you that Oliver van Ruth was approved as Lead Pastor of Preaching & Teaching at last night's congregational meeting.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

We invite you to join our new members class, held in two sessions: Sunday, November 9, from 9:45 to 10:45 am, and Wednesday, November 12, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Wigglesworth-Cutler House. Find out what it means to be a member of our FCCH community. Sign up using the QR code above or email info@fcchamilton.org.

LIFESHARE DRESSER PROJECT

LifeShare is sponsoring the Dresser Project again this year. This year's mom, who lives in Beverly, gave birth three weeks early to an adorable baby boy! Please help fill the dresser, located at the Cutler Road entrance, with items for this new baby boy and mom. Check out the poster above the dresser and choose and take the tag(s) of the item(s) you'd like to purchase. Bring your unwrapped gift, along with the tag, and place it in the dresser by November 9. Direct questions to Jane Robinson by call/text at 978-304-6385 or email at robinson.jane76@yahoo.com.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT - THE STORY UNFOLDS

This Christmas season, FCCH will present a concert of music and dramatic readings entitled, The Story Unfolds. This free event will be held on Saturday, December 13, at 7:00 pm in the Meetinghouse sanctuary.

- **Readers:** We are looking for readers and actors ages 12 and up. If interested, come to a read-through today at 2:00 pm in the Meetinghouse sanctuary. Rehearsals will be on Sundays from 2:00 to 4:00 pm until December 7. Contact Amy Watson and Jill VanderWoude at info@fcchamilton.org with questions.
- **Choir:** Adults, young adults, and teens are encouraged to join the service choir for the concert. Rehearsals are on Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in the church sanctuary, beginning Thursday, November 6. For more information, contact Music Director, Hana Lee, hlee@fcchamilton.org.

COMMUNITY READ ZOOM DISCUSSION - THE ROAD TO WISDOM

If you've joined our community read, The Road to Wisdom, by Francis Collins, you are invited to meet Dr. Collins over Zoom for the first of two Q&A sessions on Monday, November 10, at 8:00 pm. A Zoom link will be emailed to those participating. Contact Vicki Best with any questions at vlbest@verizon.net.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Thank you all who donated items, money for shipping, time and energy to pack shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. We met our goal and packed 100 boxes last Tuesday, as well as receiving \$1000 to cover all the shipping costs! We plan to deliver them to the collection center complete with the donation of \$10/box on Monday November 17. If you are packing a shoebox at home, feel free to leave it in the MC café by **Sunday, November 16**. May God's Word and Love be spread far and wide with each box.

PILGRIM'S PINT

***Hitler's Religion:** How the Nazis Usurped the German Protestant Church*

The story of the German church during the rise of the Third Reich is far more complicated than familiar tales of resistance and faithful martyrs. While some pastors—like Dietrich Bonhoeffer—stood courageously against the tide, the broader Protestant church often stood shoulder to shoulder with the Nazi regime. How could a nation so steeped in Reformation theology become one of Hitler's strongest allies? Join us on Monday, November 10, at 7:00 pm at the Post (16 Bay Road, Hamilton), as church historian Rev. Kevin Adams uncovers the uneasy truth about the church's complicity in Hitler's rise and explores what happens when the church trades heavenly promise for political power. Sign up using the QR code on the front page.

A CALL FOR POETRY

"Poetry is when an emotion has found its thought, and the thought has found words." - Robert Frost

Join us Saturday, November 22, at 7:00 pm in the Meetinghouse Chapel for an evening of sharing poems and the stories behind them. If you're a poet or have a favorite poem you'd like to share, please contact Bill Devitt, writetobilldevitt@gmail.com, or Pastor Kevin, kbaird@fcchamilton.org. We will have treats to eat, and all are welcome to come and hear the poems and stories of our poets and poetry readers.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join us on Saturday, November 15, for the Men's Breakfast in Heritage Hall from 8:00 to 10:30 am. Dr. David Horn will speak on *The Humble Man: Walking in the Way of Christ*. This is a free and catered event. Registration is due by November 9. Sign up using the QR code on the front page.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE AT FCCH

- **Nursery Volunteers:** Our nursery is growing! We are looking for 2 adults and 4 high school students to serve in a monthly rotation in the nursery during both services. Contact Chrysa Bliati at cbliati@fcchamilton.org to help.
- **Jail Ministry Volunteers Needed for Alpha Programs:** There is something very powerful about seeing God's work come to life in correctional institutions. Alpha New England is looking for women volunteers to come alongside the Suffolk County Jail correctional officer who has been hosting Alpha in the jail for many years. Classes at the jail run on Monday and Tuesday afternoons. Male volunteers are needed to support the Alpha program at Essex County Pre-release and Re-entry Center in Lawrence. If interested, please contact: Kristin Larson, kristincklarson@hotmail.com.
- **Fall Cleanup at FCCH:** We're looking for individuals or groups to come to our campus at your convenience to help rake and bag leaves. The next Saturday curbside pickup in Hamilton is December 6. Bags and a few rakes are available on the side porch of the Wigglesworth-Cutler (WC) House. Please contact Phil Best, facilities@fcchamilton.org. Your help is greatly appreciated.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

- We extend our deep gratitude to Sharon Carlson for her years of devoted service and leadership as our Women's Ministry Director. An appreciation reception for Sharon will be held in Fellowship Foyer at 12:15 pm on Sunday, November 9.
- **Director of Women's Ministry:** FCCH is seeking a part-time Women's Ministry Director to lead, equip, and encourage women in their walk with Christ. This important role nurtures spiritual growth and fosters fellowship among women through faithful teaching, team leadership, and compassionate care. Full position details and requirements are available at fcchamilton.org. Inquiries and resumes may be sent to info@fcchamilton.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY

- **High School Youth Group** meets Tuesdays from 7:00 to 8:45 pm.
We want your old smelly pumpkins—carved, painted, or rotting—for our annual high school event, The Great Pumpkin Smash!, on Tuesday, November 4. Leave pumpkins on the W-C House porch. High School students who want to attend should sign up using the QR code on the front page.
- **Middle School Youth Group** will have a fall party on Wednesday, November 5, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.
- **Whiteout! Winter Retreat:** All youth ministry students and their friends are invited to Camp Spofford for our winter retreat. High school students will go from January 30 to February 1, 2026, and Middle school students will go from February 15 to 17, 2026. Please register, using the QR code on the front page, by December 1. Scholarships are available.

COLLEGE AGE MINISTRY

Our College Age Group meets weekly on Sunday for a topical study or special event. Join us tonight for a topical study in the Barn from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

- Join us for our Regressive Dinner, where we begin with sweets and finish with appetizers, on Sunday, November 9. We'll meet at FCCH at 5:00 pm (note the time change) and travel together to the homes that will each serve a different course. Sign up to attend by using the QR code on the front page.

*If you would like to receive our weekly email, sign up at fcchamilton.org, or the church office, info@fcchamilton.org.
If you signed up and are not receiving them, check your spam folder and add info@fcchamilton.org to your address book.
All submissions for the announcements must be received in the church office by Wednesdays at noon. Thank you!*