



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
Church of Hamilton

Order of Service

January 18, 2026

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Preparation

"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. "
Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that
Christ's power may rest on me.
- 2 Corinthians 12:9

* Call to Worship: Psalm 19:7-10

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

People: The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

Leader: The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The decrees of the Lord are firm, and all of them are righteous.

Unison: *They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.*

* Hymn: How Great Is Our God

* Invocation

* Song of Response:Jesus Paid It All

I hear the Savior say,
"Thy strength indeed is small,
Child of weakness, watch and pray,
Find in Me thine all in all."

*Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.*

Lord, now indeed I find
Thy pow'r and Thine alone,
Can change the leper's spots
And melt the heart of stone.

*Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.*

Children's Message Mary Bigus

Scripture Reading Hebrews 2:1-10

We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away. For since the message spoken through angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, how shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him. God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will. It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking. But there is a place where someone has testified:

“What is mankind that you are mindful of them, a son of man that you care for him? You made them a little lower than the angels; you crowned them with glory and honor and put everything under their feet.”

In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them. But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered.

- **Hymn:** Goodness of God

Prayer For Our Church Family

Offertory: *Be Still, My Soul* John Bigus

- * **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: “*God’s Welcome: Who Is This?*” Kevin Baird
Luke 9:18-22

- **Hymn:** Beneath the Cross of Jesus
- **Call to Prayer and Benediction**

Postlude

How Great Is Our God

by Chris Tomlin

The splendor of a King, clothed in majesty

Let all the Earth rejoice

 All the Earth rejoice

He wraps himself in light

And darkness tries to hide

And trembles at His voice

 Trembles at His voice

How great is our God, sing with me

How great is our God, and all will see

How great, how great is our God

Age to age He stands

And time is in His hands

 Beginning and the end

 Beginning and the end

The Godhead Three in One

 Father Spirit Son

 The Lion and the Lamb

 The Lion and the Lamb

How great is our God, sing with me

How great is our God, and all will see

How great, how great is our God

Name above all names

Worthy of our praise

 My heart will sing

How great is our God (2X)

How great is our God, sing with me

How great is our God, and all will see

How great, how great is our God

Goodness of God

by Bethel Music

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
Oh, 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
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me
With my life laid down, I surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me

*'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
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God*

Offertory
Be Still, My Soul
by Jean Sibelius

Be still, my soul! the Lord is on your side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
In every change He faithful will remain.

Be still, my soul! your best, your heav'nly friend
Thru' thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul! your God does undertake
To guide the future as he has the past;
Your hope, your confidence, let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.

Be still, my soul! the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while he lived below.

Be still, my soul! the hour is hast'ning on
When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.

Be still my soul! when change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Beneath the Cross of Jesus 151

Now there stood by the cross of Jesus . . . John 19:25

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Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1872

Frederick C. Maker, 1881



1. Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I fain would take my stand-
2. Up - on that cross of Je - sus Mine eye at times can see
3. I take, O cross, thy shad - ow For my a - bid - ing place;



The shad - ow of a might - y Rock With - in a wea - ry land;
The ver - y dy - ing form of One Who suf - fered there for me;
I ask no oth - er sun-shine than The sun-shine of His face;



A home with - in the wil - der - ness, A rest up - on the way,
And from my smit - ten heart with tears Two won - ders I con - fess-
Con - tent to let the world go by, To know no gain nor loss,



From the burn-ing of the noon-tide heat, And the bur-den of the day.
The won-ders of re-deem-ing love And my un - wor - thi - ness.
My sin - ful self my on - ly shame, My glo - ry all the cross. A-men.



- SERMON TEXT & NOTES

Luke 9:18-22

18 Once when Jesus was praying in private and his disciples were with him, he asked them, "Who do the crowds say I am?" 19 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, that one of the prophets of long ago has come back to life." 20 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "God's Messiah."

21 Jesus strictly warned them not to tell this to anyone. **22** And he said, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life."



ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 18, 2026

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

Signup for events



DATES TO REMEMBER

- Today - College-Age Group resumes, 6:00 pm
- January 19 - Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, office closed
- January 20 - Missions Prayer, 7:45 am
- January 20 - Stephen Ministry Training, 7:00 pm
- January 20 - Parents meeting during High School Youth Group, 7:00 pm
- January 21 - Parents meeting during Middle School Youth Group, 7:00 pm
- January 24 - Family Board Game Night, 5:00 pm
- January 28 - Coping with Anxiety: Embracing Faith & Hope, 7:00 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
 - *Getting Along God's Way* with Dr. Katherine Horvath, Chapel
 - *Christians and Immigration: The Bible, Ethics, and Ministry to Immigrants* with Dr. Glenn Butner, Barn

Download our app



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.

LIFESHARE INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Today is National Sanctity of Human Life Day. Each January, churches around the country celebrate God's gift of life and commit themselves to protecting human life at every stage. FCCH carries out this commitment through the ministry of LifeShare, whose mission is to create a culture where each life, given to us by God, is honored and valued. We work toward this by praying, raising awareness, volunteering, fundraising, collecting baby items, and reaching out to individuals and families experiencing unplanned pregnancies. To learn more, please stop by the information table in Fellowship Foyer. (Pick up a homemade cookie, too!) To join LifeShare, call LuBeth Kuemmerle at (978) 468-7085.

SIGN UP FOR STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING TODAY!

This is your last opportunity to sign up for the Stephen Ministry training offered this winter. The 20 training sessions will be held every other Tuesday at 7:00 pm, beginning January 20. Unfortunately, if we do not have at least 10 attendees the class will be canceled. Register today to be a part of this training. If you're interested, register by using the QR code above.

COPING WITH ANXIETY: EMBRACING FAITH AND HOPE

Lisa Clay and Yuka Langlais possess a wealth of personal and professional experience in the mental health field. Together, they invite you to participate in an informative and engaging evening focused on anxiety, a topic that affects so many. Join them on Wednesday, January 28, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in the Chapel. Register by January 21, using the QR code above.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

We're excited to focus our Bible study this winter-into-spring on the book of Genesis. SonLight takes place each Tuesday from 9:45 am to noon, and NightLight takes place each Thursday from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. We're using the LifeChange study guide, *Genesis*. You can purchase a book (\$12) when you register by using the QR code above.

COMMUNITY READ - THE ROAD TO WISDOM

Consider joining us for a discussion of The Road to Wisdom by Francis Collins. We have established two reading groups. If you're interested in joining the discussion, refer to the information below:

The Seiberts in Ipswich	The Rendalls in Wenham
Tuesday, January 20 7:00 pm: Chapters 1-3	Tuesday, January 27 7:00 pm: Chapters 1-3
Tuesday, February 10 7:00 pm: Chapters 4-6	Thursday, February 12 7:00 pm: Chapters 4-6
RSVP to Donna at donnaseibert15@gmail.com	RSVP to John at jdrendall@icloud.com

Books will be available to purchase in Fellowship Foyer today after both services. Our community read will conclude with a discussion with Dr. Collins over Zoom on Tuesday, February 17, at 8:00 pm.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join us on Saturday, January 31, from 8:00 to 10:30 am, for the Men's Breakfast in Heritage Hall. Dr. Sean McDonough will speak on *Fidelity of the Heart: The Heart of the Modern Christian Man*. This is a free and catered event. Registration is due by January 26. Sign up by using the QR code on the front page.

FRIDAY MORNING MOMS GROUP

Moms with little ones are invited to join us for an informal play date in the church nursery on Friday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 am. Drop-ins and invited friends are always welcome. Contact Janelle Deddo, janelle.deddo@gmail.com, for more details.

YOUTH MINISTRY

- **High School Youth Group** meets Tuesdays from 7:00 to 8:45 pm.
- **Middle School Youth Group** meets Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.
 - High school and middle school parents are invited to the first 20 minutes of youth group this week for a quick update on the spring semester. Pastor Matt would love to connect with as many parents as possible. Hope to see you Tuesday (1/20) or Wednesday (1/21) night!
- **Whiteout! Winter Retreat:** Payments and waivers are due for our high school and middle school students who are attending our winter retreats! If your child wants to attend but has not registered, contact Pastor Matt directly at mschuberth@fcchamilton.org.

COLLEGE-AGE MINISTRY

Our College-Age Group meets tonight and regularly on Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm in the Barn for a topical study or special event.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Our Young Adults Group meets on Mondays at 7:00 pm. To receive more information, contact Pastor Matt at mschuberth@fcchamilton.org.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

- **Night to Shine:** North Shore Community Baptist Church is hosting a Night to Shine event on Friday, February 13, and is looking for volunteers. Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs, ages 14 and older. Register to be a volunteer at nscbc.org/night-to-shine/.
- **Joni & Friends:** Joni & Friends in Lawrence offers summer camp for people with special needs. They are looking for volunteers for June 7–11, August 9–13, and August 17–21. To learn more about volunteering, contact newengland@joniandfriends.org.
- **Campus Monitors:** We are looking for volunteers to serve as Campus Monitors, an important ministry that helps provide safety and peace of mind during worship. Monitors play a vital role in caring for the well-being of our congregation by keeping watch over the church building and surrounding campus. Please prayerfully consider serving in this valuable role. To volunteer, please contact Campus Monitor Volunteer Coordinator, Bonnie Mower, at bonnie_mower@yahoo.com.
- **Easter Yarn Donation Drive:** Women in Transition is looking for yarn donations for inmates. These incarcerated women seek to give to others through knitting and crocheting but are running out of yarn. Please drop your leftover/new yarn in one of our bins by Sunday, March 29. Donation baskets are found in Fellowship Foyer and the Ministry Center hallway.
- **Greeters:** The FCCH Welcome Team is looking for a few good greeters to join the 8:30 am greeting team. Whether you're new to this church or you've been here 20 years, your greeting is an impactful way to serve the church and welcome everyone into the peace of Christ as they prepare to worship Him. Email Josiah Coffey if interested, josiah.coffey001@gmail.com.

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!