

Sunday, August 30, 2020

Ordinary Time

WORSHIP SERVICE LITURGY

All songs are included in the back of the package.

The entire worship service will be streamed live starting at 9:30am at

<http://www.firsthamilton.ca/live>

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WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 am

*You are invited to rise in body or spirit

Prelude

GOD GATHERS US

Welcome

Song: Hymnal #575 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

(Public Domain)

Call to Worship

Leader: Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

All: **Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits.**

Leader: Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word.

All: **Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will.**

Leader: Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion.

All: **Praise the LORD, my soul.**

The Worship Sourcebook, Second Edition, S 1.2.16 p.52

Opening Prayer

* Greetings

Grace, mercy and peace to you from God, in the love of Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

* **Song: Hymnal #593 Lord Most High**

(CCLI Song #2037688 / CCLI License #2024198)

GOD RENEWS US

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Merciful God, for the things we have done that we regret,

All: **forgive us;**

Leader: for the things we have failed to do that we regret,

All: **forgive us;**

Leader: for all the times we have acted without love,

All: **forgive us;**

Leader: for all the times we have reacted without thought,

All: **forgive us;**

Leader: for all the times we have withdrawn care,

All: **forgive us;**

Leader: for all the times we have failed to forgive,

All: **forgive us.**

Leader: For hurtful words said and helpful words unsaid, for unfinished tasks and unfulfilled hopes,
All: **God of all time, forgive us and help us to lay down our burden of guilt and shame. Amen.**
The Worship Sourcebook, Second Edition, S 2.2.30 p.96

Assurance of Pardon

While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.
For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.
Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity;
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.
Psalm 32:3-5, NRSV

Song: Hymnal #140 I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

(Words: African American spiritual / Music: Public Domain)

GOD SPEAKS WITH US

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Psalm: Psalm 26:1-8

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:21-28

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Message: The Great Invitation

Prayer

* **Song: Hymnal #859 Be Thou My Vision**

Words: Public Domain; Music: CCLI Song#35555 - CCLI License #20204198 / One License #A-713971)

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession | Pastor Hayden Regeling

Almighty God, powerful three in one. Holy Father, we thank you that we can come before you in prayer and that you hear us and respond to us. God, your greatness is evident to us. We see it in each other and in our world, we experience it in the sounds of singing and in the silence of solitude. We feel it through your Holy Spirit that is alive in each one of us who believe and call on your name as Lord.

God today as we gather as your church, I pray on behalf of your people. You know us, you have searched us, and although I come on behalf of our church I pause and offer space for people to offer individual praises to your name.

God as we have been gathered into worship today by your grace, we carry with us burdens, worries, anxieties, pains, losses, tears, scars, resentments, and we need you to minister to us. You know us better than we know ourselves. Father we bring before you the needs of our congregation: We pray specifically for Asher and his leg. Father as this continues to bother him, heal him by your power. Free him to climb trees, go for walks and build things without pain or thought of his leg. We pray for Ann who continues to recover from a fall. Restore

her, I pray. God we know of so many more who are hurting, lonely, shut in, fearful, overtired and overworked. We miss being able to gather together all under one roof and to fellowship, encourage, and walk alongside each other in ways that are familiar. Be near to us as a church and draw us together in the midst of the pandemic.

God, I offer space for us to offer our own prayers for our church.

God we pray for our city. For the violence that we hear about in the news. For all the communities that gather in your Name, that we would bless the city with in the way of love you teach us. Help us to keep our eyes fixed on you. We pray for the schools in Hamilton, for the teachers that will inhabit the classrooms, for the students who will study either in the classroom or at home. We pray for our leaders, the MPP's, the councillors, our mayor. Give courage and wisdom to these people to make the right, tough decisions. We pray for universities and colleges; Redeemer, McMaster and Mohawk as they return to the fall semester. Bless the educators, staff and students.

God, I offer space for us to offer our own prayers for our city.

Father our prayer is also for the global, worldwide church. Your body is diverse and strong but there are people who are experiencing hardship and persecution. This is to be expected, Father, but it is not pleasant or wanted. Give courage and boldness to those experiencing persecution. Help us also to put on the faith without the fear of persecution. May we keep you our focus. Bless your church worldwide. Father our hearts break when we hear of violence and death all over the world. Racism flares up again this week and we need you to act in a powerful way. I pray for our country and its leaders as they continue to be tested in their leadership. I can only imagine the burnout and anxiety that they are experiencing 6 months into this pandemic. I ask that you give them the rest they need to do the work of leading our country. Give them also wisdom and guidance.

God, I offer space for us to offer our own prayers for our country and world.

We pray this together in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

GOD RECEIVES OUR OFFERINGS

Offering: First Offering: Ministries of First Hamilton CRC

Second Offering: Benevolent Fund

Ways to give:

- 1) **PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance):** (to get set up with PAR, please email office@firsthamilton.ca)
- 2) **CanadaHelps.org:** <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/first-hamilton-christian-reformed-church/>
(please put a note with designation details in the message area)
- 3) Or, by **mailing** a cheque to 195 Charlton Ave W. Hamilton, ON L8P 2C9

GOD SENDS US

* Blessing

May the grace of Christ, which daily renews us,
and the love of God, which enables us to love all,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, which unites us in one body, make us eager to obey the will of God until we meet again, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Based on 2 Corinthians 13:13

* **Song: Hymnal #965 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

(Public Domain)