

Sunday, October 18, 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>

Music: Kyra's Team

Preaching: Rev. Anthony Elenbaas

WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 am

*You are invited to rise in body or spirit

Prelude: *He Will Hold Me Fast* (CCLI Song #7016161 - CCLI License #2024198)

GOD GATHERS US

Welcome

Call to Worship: *Psalm 96: 1-9 (NIV)*

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song;

People: sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Leader: Sing to the Lord, praise his name;

People: proclaim his salvation day after day.

Leader: Declare his glory among the nations,

People: his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

Leader: For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;

People: he is to be feared above all gods.

Leader: For all the gods of the nations are idols,

People: but the Lord made the heavens.

Leader: Splendor and majesty are before him;

People: strength and glory are in his sanctuary.

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord, all you families of nations,

People: ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;

People: bring an offering and come into his courts.

Leader: Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness;

People: tremble before him, all the earth.

Opening Prayer:

* Greetings

* **Song: Hymnal #209 Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise** (Public Domain)

GOD RENEWS US

Song (calling us to confession): I Shall Not Want (CCLI Song #7004369 - CCLI License #2024198)

Prayer of Confession

Dear God,

You are a great and awesome God.

Today we come to you in a prayer of confession.

We are sorry for the many things that we have done that are wrong in your eyes.

We are also sorry for all the things we should have done but we didn't do.

(Time of Silence)

We are asking now for forgiveness for these things,

and for other things that we have done wrong and don't even know about.

Please forgive us.

(Time of Silence)

In your name alone we pray, **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon and Call to Holy Living: Isaiah 43: 1-2b

GOD MAKES PROMISES WITH US IN BAPTISM

In baptism God seals the promises he gave when he made his covenant with us, calling us and our children to put our trust for life and death in Christ our Savior, deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow him in obedience and love. God graciously includes our children in his covenant, and all his promises are for them as well as us (Gen. 17:7; Acts 2:39). Jesus himself embraced little children and blessed them (Mark 10:16), and the apostle Paul said that children of believers are holy (1 Cor. 7:14). So, just as children of the old covenant received the sign of circumcision, our children are given the sign of baptism. We are therefore always to teach our little ones that they have been set apart by baptism as God's own children.

the Bible also tells us in Romans 6:3-4:

"All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death. We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." (from Rom. 6:3-4)

Baptism is the sign and seal of God's promises to his covenant people.

In baptism God promises by grace alone

to forgive our sins,

to adopt us into the body of Christ, the church,

to send the Holy Spirit daily to renew and cleanse us, and

to resurrect us to eternal life.

This promise is made visible in the water of baptism.

Water cleanses,

purifies,

refreshes,

sustains;

Jesus Christ is living water.

Through baptism Christ calls us to new obedience:

to love and trust God completely,

to forsake the evil of the world, and
to live a new and holy life.

Yet, when we fall into sin,
we must not despair of God's mercy,
or continue in sin,
for baptism is the sign and seal
of God's eternal covenant of grace with us.

Covenant of Baptism

[To parents, sitting at the front of the church. They are asked to rise in order to make their promises]

Beloved of God,
I ask you before God and Christ's church
to reject evil,
to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, and
to confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce sin and the power of evil
in your life and in the world?

We/I renounce them.

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ is my/our Lord and Savior.

Do you promise
to instruct Mariel
in the truth of God's Word,
in the way of salvation through Jesus Christ;
to pray for her, to teach her to pray, and
to train her in Christ's way by your example,
through worship, and
in the nurture of the church?

We/I do, God helping us/me.

[The congregation is asked to **rise** in order to make their promises. The minister, or an elder, addresses the members of the congregation:]

Do you promise to love, encourage, and support
Mariel by teaching her the gospel of God's love,
by being an example of Christian faith and character, and
by giving the strong support of God's family
in fellowship, prayer, and service?

We do, God helping us.

Let us join with the whole baptized church of God in professing the faith of the church and
renewing our own baptismal covenant...

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.**

The third day he rose again from the dead.

**He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Minister: We give you thanks,
O holy and gracious God,
for the gift of water.

In the beginning of creation your Spirit moved over the waters.

In the waters of the flood you destroyed evil.

You led the children of Israel through the sea
into the freedom of the promised land.

In the river Jordan, John baptized our Lord,
and your Spirit anointed him.

By his death and resurrection
Jesus Christ, the living water,
forgives us, frees us from sin and death,
and opens the way to life everlasting.

We thank you, O God, for the gift of baptism.

In this water you confirm to us
that we are buried with Christ in his death,
are raised to share in his resurrection,
are being renewed by the power of the Holy Spirit, and
are united to Christ in mission.

[The minister may pour or touch the water.]

Send your Holy Spirit, we pray,
Upon Mariel
that this water may be a spring gushing up to eternal life.
Wash away their sin,
raise her to new life, and
graft her to the body of Christ.
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon her, that she may have
wisdom to discern her gifts,
strength to obey your will,
and joy in answering your call.
To you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God,
be all praise, honor, and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Invite Rob and Rachel, and their children to the front.

The Baptism

Mariel, for you Jesus came into the world;
for you he died and conquered death;
all this he did for you, little one,
though you know nothing of it as yet.
We love because God first loved us.

Mariel,
I baptize you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Pastor: We now receive Mariel as a member of Jesus Christ's body. I charge you, Rob and Rachel, and you people of God, to be faithful to the vows you have made today so that Mariel and all our children may taste and see that God is good, that they may know and experience God's love for them in Jesus Christ, and that they might learn to trust the Spirit's leading.

***Congregation: Mariel, we receive you as a child of God's covenant promises. May you grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.**

* **Song: Hymnal #21 This Is My Father's World** (Public Domain)

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession | Darren Brouwer

Let us bring the needs of the church, our city, the world, and all in need, to God's loving care. (Please respond to the words "Lord, in your mercy" by saying "Hear our prayer")
We praise you, God our creator, for your handiwork in shaping and sustaining your wonderful creation. We praise you for the wonder and intricacy of the universe and how it reveals your power and majesty. We thank you for faithfulness in bringing the seasons, for the beautiful colors of this fall season. We thank you that we can worship you this morning here or in our homes, on this beautiful fall morning. **Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer**

We thank you for the miracle of life and the wonder of living. We thank you especially this morning for Mariel Eden Brink, this new life that you have created and entrusted to Rob and Rachel. We thank you that, through her baptism that we have witnessed today, you have already called her into a covenant relationship with you. Bless Rob and Rachel as they raise Mariel. May they demonstrate your love to her in all that they do. Show us how we can hold to the promises we made this morning by helping to nurture her (and all the children in our community) in their growing faith. **Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.**

Empower the church throughout the world in its life and witness. Break down the barriers that divide so that, united in your truth and love, the church may confess your name, share one baptism, sit together at one table, and serve you in one common ministry. We thank you for our fellow Christians in other churches in the Hamilton Area. This morning we pray for Immanuel CRC in Simcoe and their pastor Jeff Vandermeer, as well as Melrose United Church in the Kirkendall neighbourhood. May we find ways to work together as fellow believers to further your kingdom in the Hamilton area and beyond. **Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.**

Guide the rulers of the nations. Move them to set aside their fear, greed, and vain ambition and to bow to your sovereign rule. Inspire them to strive for peace and justice, that all your children may dwell secure, free of war and injustice. Lord, we pray that you will frustrate the efforts of those who seek to sow seeds of chaos, confusion, and violence for political gain. Protect Christians who live in places around the world where there is persecution. **Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.**

Renew our nation and city in the ways of justice and peace. Guide our prime minister Justin Trudeau, our premier Doug Ford, our mayor Fred Eisenberger, and all those who make and administer our laws to build a society based on trust and respect. Give them courage and wisdom to lead in these challenging times. **Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.** Restore among us a love of the earth you created for our home. Help us to put an end to abusing its land, air, and water, and give us respect for all your creatures, that, living in harmony with everything you have made, your whole creation may resound in anthem of praise to your glorious name. **Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.**

Lord, we pray for our church community in these challenging times. Many of us are feeling isolated and lonely and frustrated, longing for the day where we can gather together at our church as we used to, to greet each other properly with a handshake or hug, to sing our hearts out in worship, to see the joy of children on unmasked faces, to enjoy a cup of coffee and conversation in a noisy fellowship hall. Our experience of worship on Sundays, whether in person or on a screen, doesn't feel as rich and meaningful as it once did. Lord, give us patience. Lord, inspire creative ideas in us to find ways to connect with each other and ideas that draw us close to you in these days. Lord, help us to put our trust in you, and may you grant us your peace, so that our fears and anxieties can rest in your promises. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Sustain those among us who need your healing touch or your presence in a special way.

We pray for the Slote family as Tessa has received concerning news about her health – a CT scan indicating a mass on her kidney and lesions on her spine. There is fear and concern that this may be cancer and she awaits a biopsy. God, surround them with your love, comfort, and peace, your protection, and your healing. Help us as a community to do all we can to support them through this.

We pray for the elderly in our church, for those whose bodies and/or minds are not quite working like they used to when they were younger. We pray especially for Wim and Hilda Nusselder. We pray for those we feel isolated and lonely, for those who are not able to come to church to worship or struggle to connect over new technologies, for those who long to see their children and grandchildren but can't.

We pray for young families, especially mothers or fathers who spend lots of time at home with small children. Strengthen them and grant them the patience they need. We thank you for new babies in our congregation. In addition to the Brinks, Justin and Katherine Renkema, Aimee and Jon Berends, and Andrea Van Pelt and Daniel Pereira have recently welcomed new children into their families. Bless these families.

Uphold all those who suffer in body and mind, not only those that we know and love, but also those known only to you, that they may know the peace and joy of your supporting care. **Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.**

O God, in your loving purpose, answer our prayers and fulfill our hopes. Shape our lives and desires to conform to your will. In all things for which we pray, give us the will to bring them about, by the power of your Holy Spirit, and for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

GOD SPEAKS WITH US

Scripture Reading: Matthew 22:15-22

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Message: Render Unto Caesar

Prayer

* **Song: Knowing You** (CCLI Song #1045238 - CCLI License No. 2024198)

GOD RECEIVES OUR OFFERINGS

Offering: First Offering: First Hamilton CRC Budget

Second Offering: City Kidz

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:

* **Song: Hymnal #660 Jesus, Draw Me Ever Nearer** (CCLI Song #3552533 - CCLI License #2024198)