



ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A National Historic Site: Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Good Friday Service

April 3rd, 2026. 11 am

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S

*We are so glad that you've come to worship the Lord with us today, and we hope that you will experience the presence of Christ among us. In the pew are the following tools for participation in this service. The blue "**Book of Praise**" contains our hymns, the red "**Book of Psalms**" contains the responsive psalms, and the blue "**New English Bible**" contains the scripture passages. If an item has an asterisk (*), then please stand if you are able. **Large print Hymnals** are available in the back of the Sanctuary. An usher would be happy to help you. All are welcome to join us for Coffee hour in St. Andrew's Hall, immediately following the service today.*

WE COME TOGETHER BEFORE GOD

Prelude "Passion Chorale" Johann Kirnberger

*Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn 239 "O sacred head, sore wounded"

Welcome

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response to Forgiveness

Gloria Patri

WORD OF GOD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Reader: Debbie Bruce

*Responsive Psalm 22, ref. II, v. 1-10

Isaiah 52: 13 – 53: 12 (page 884, OT)

Matthew 27: 27-44 (page 40, NT)

*Hymn 235 "Alas, and did my Saviour bleed"

Anthem "Medieval Prayer for Good Friday" Marvin Johnson

Sermon "Beyond the Terror of the Cross"
Rev. Dr. J. Mark Lewis

Silent Reflection

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD WITH CELEBRATION

*Hymn 238 "Beneath the cross of Jesus"

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer 831 *Book of Praise*

Announcements

The Offering

Offertory "O Darkest Woe" Wilbur Held

*The Doxology 830 *Book of Praise*

Prayer of Dedication

WE GO FORTH IN THE JOY OF THE LORD

*Hymn 231 "When I survey the wondrous cross"

Benediction

Choral Response 206 *Book of Praise*

Postlude "Is It Nothing to You?" F. A. Ouseley

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

St. Paul's is situated on the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Mississaugas. This land is covered by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, which was an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinabek to share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. All peoples have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship and respect. We further acknowledge that this land is covered by the Between the Lakes Purchase, 1792, between the Crown and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Land acknowledgments are essential as we move forward on a path to reconciliation and are guided by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action.

AN INCLUSIVE & AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

The church is called to be a welcoming, nurturing, loving and supportive community—a true church family. As affirmed by the 2021 General Assembly, all people whatever their sexual orientation or gender identity are equally beloved by God. The Session of St. Paul's endorses these truths and will strive to create a church where all people are included and affirmed.

PLEASE NOTE: GALLERY SEATING IS CLOSED

For insurance reasons, the gallery seating around the top of the sanctuary is not open to the public. Only the individual who is coordinating the live stream will be in the gallery. We invite you to join us in the pews on the main floor of the Sanctuary as you worship with us today. Thank you.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY



An automated external defibrillator is available in the hallway outside the main office.

ST. PAUL'S VISION



St. Paul's Presbyterian Church is a Christian community in downtown Hamilton, embodying Jesus' acceptance and love of all people and supporting the growth of God's people in faith and service.

ST. PAUL'S TEAM

Interim Moderator:	Rev. Dr. J. Mark Lewis
Clerk of Session:	Jer Dubash
Director of Music:	Blair Havers
Chimer:	Branden Moffat
Custodian:	Ruparain Sydney
Office Administrator:	Gordon Swenor (Interim)
Today's Ushers:	Heather Pirie Trish Haycock

ST. PAUL'S CONTACT INFO

Website:	www.stpaulshamilton.ca
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Fundraiser 2026 –

This year at St. Paul's our Easter Fundraiser will support the Eva Rothwell Centre on Wentworth St. North and repairs to our front steps facing James St. South. Our Easter Fundraiser goal in 2026 is \$10,000.

The Eva Rothwell Center partners with families living in poverty empowering them to become self-sufficient and aiding them in fulfilling their potential, as well as their goals. Your generous support will provide the Eva Rothwell Centre with more resources to empower these families.

The damage to our front steps is not only an aesthetic concern; it's also a safety and insurance liability. While we have been practicing financial constraint in maintaining the exterior of the building, repairs to our steps have become a priority that needs to be addressed. Your generous Easter donation will help us afford these repairs and may be a step towards more restorations in the future.

St. Paul's Prayer Group –

There is a group wanting to pray for you or someone you feel needs our prayers. To request a prayer please speak to Judith Flaherty, your elder, or reach out to the office through phone or email. You may also place your prayer request in the offering plate on Sunday morning.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, April 5th

11:00am: Easter Sunday Service

12:00pm: Coffee Hour

4:00pm: Hamilton Beat Harmonic

Monday, April 6th

9am-3pm: Church office is OPEN

7:30pm: Scottish Country Dancing in St. Andrew's Hall

Tuesday, April 7th

9am-3pm: Church office is OPEN

Wednesday, April 8th

9am-3pm: Church office is OPEN

Friday, April 10th

5:30pm: Friday Night Meeting in Centennial Hall

Books for Bus Tickets Fundraiser –

Our Books for Bus Tickets fundraiser will continue through 2026 thanks to Ida. Please visit the book table in St. Andrew's Hall to view the entire collection. Thank you for your generosity and support!