

PRAYER GUIDE: One Church – One Day (April 2026)

Opening Prayer

Father, we thank You that You always hear our prayers. We thank You for the privilege of coming together as one Church across many locations in this city of Hamilton.

We see the great needs in our city, but we fix our eyes on You, our Lord and King. You have the answers, and there is nothing too hard for You.

Teach us to pray with faith and bold expectation as we cover Hamilton in prayer. Holy Spirit, lead us—highlight the issues and reveal Heaven’s solutions. Let Your Kingdom come and Your will be done in our city.

In Jesus’ name, Amen.

1. JUSTICE - Public Safety

2.

Concerns around hate, division, and underfunded prevention efforts continue to affect the city. The city is planning to spend \$50,000 on vulnerable communities, including initiatives related to Black History Month and Pride Month.

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for true peace, not just policy changes.
- Ask for effective policing, education, prevention and enforcement strategies.
- Pray for Jewish and other vulnerable communities that are not being protected.
- Release the protection of God over every group and neighbourhood. Pray for just leadership in the legal systems of the city.

1. Isaiah 32:18

“My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes, in undisturbed places of rest.”

1. BUSINESS – Environmental Stewardship

5.

Hamilton continues to face air quality concerns stemming from industrial emissions, particularly from Dofasco. There are ongoing issues with lack of compliance with the provincial standards set in 2016.

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for accountability and adherence to Ontario environmental standards.
- Ask for wisdom for industry leaders and for effective government oversight.
- Pray for restoration of Hamilton’s air quality, cleansing of her land, and protection of her natural beauty.

Romans 8:19–21

“Creation waits in eager expectation... because the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay...”

1. HEALTH CARE - Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

7.

Paramedic calls for overdoses have increased by nearly 40%, with record-breaking numbers and multiple daily incidents. These overdoses are strongly linked to despair, while treatment options remain inadequate.

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for EMS Chief Michael Sanderson and all paramedics.
- Pray for strength, protection, and emotional resilience.
- Ask for increased funding and innovative solutions.
- Break the spirit of despair and release hope.

Psalm 34:18

“The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”

1. HEALTH CARE - Sanctity of Life (MAiD)

9.

Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) continues to rise in Hamilton. From 2016 to 2024, over 600 people have died by MAiD, representing around 3–4% of the total in Ontario. There is a deep need for hope, care, and support for those suffering and facing illness.

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for a culture of LIFE over Hamilton.
- Pray for those facing illness to encounter hope, compassion, and support.
- Ask for wisdom in health care leadership and policy.

1. John 10:10

“The thief comes only to steal, kill and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

11.

1. HEALTH CARE – Addiction and Mental Health

12.

Addiction, overdoses, and mental health struggles are impacting every system in the city, rooted deeply in hopelessness and despair. There were 160 deaths in 2025, which is 47% higher than the Ontario average in 2024.

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for improved and expanded treatment access and recovery pathways.
- Pray for Bible-based, Spirit-led addiction and mental health treatments to be developed and implemented
- Break the power of addiction, suicide, hopelessness and despair.
- Speak identity, purpose, and healing over individuals.

Matthew 11:28

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

1. GOVERNANCE - Homelessness & Housing

15.

Homelessness continues to rise, with around 2,000 people affected in Hamilton. Rent increases, complicated personal issues, and insufficient social services are all contributors. There is a critical shortage of affordable and supportive housing, with long wait lists, despite plans for 1,200 new units by 2027.

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for increased government wisdom and intervention, especially from Ontario leadership.
- Pray for innovative solutions to homelessness to arise from within the Body of Christ.
- Ask for acceleration of affordable and supportive housing.
- Pray for those experiencing homelessness—for dignity, protection, and increasing stability

Isaiah 58:7

“Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to bring the homeless poor into your house...?”

1. GOVERNANCE - Public Services – Hamilton Public Library

17.

The Hamilton Public Library is increasingly impacted by homelessness, addiction, and mental illness. With the closure of supervised injection sites, there has been a rise in drug use, overdoses, and violence within library spaces—creating safety concerns, especially for families and children. Staff are stretched beyond capacity.

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for Chief Librarian Paul Takala and all staff.
- Pray for wisdom, effective problem-solving and endurance.
- Ask for proper funding and integrated social support.
- Pray for restoration of safety and peace in library spaces.

John 14:27

“Peace I leave you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”

1. THE CHURCH

19.

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for strength within and brotherly love amongst pastors and ministry leaders in Hamilton.
- Pray for unity between churches and across denominations—we are one Church in this city.
- Ask for boldness, compassion, and Bible-based and Spirit-led outreach.
- Pray for a harvest of souls and transformation in every neighbourhood.

Psalm 133:1, 3

“Behold how good and pleasant it is when brethren dwell together in unity!... For there the Lord commands the blessing—life forevermore.”

1. Final Covering Prayer – SHALOM Over Hamilton

21.

Father, we speak SHALOM over Hamilton—nothing missing, nothing broken. Let Your peace rest on every street, **in** every home, and **within** every institution.

Let righteousness, justice, and truth flow like a river. We declare that Hamilton belongs to You.

Let Your Kingdom come. Let Your will be done.

In Jesus' mighty name—Amen!