



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
 HILLSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
 First Sunday of Advent  
 November 27, 2022 - 11:00 AM



*Welcome to the Hillsville Presbyterian Church "To live God's love and show God's grace through worship, fellowship and outreach"*

## WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Throughout the Order of Worship, any words or phrases that are highlighted by **BOLD** print are to be spoken in unison by the congregation.

\*Please stand if able

The Hymns are projected on the screen for your convenience.

Assisted Listening and Hearing Devices (ALDs) are available to all in need. If you need an ALDs, please request one from the usher on duty.

The church has Wi-Fi for your use. Use "hpcguest" and enter password "hpcguest".

Welcome and Announcements

Donna Mayberry

Prelude: *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent*

arr. Craig Curr

### **Call to Worship (based on Psalm 122)**

Donna Mayberry

Leader: I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let's go to the Lord's house!"

**People: That is where the tribes go up— the Lord's tribes!**

Leader: It is the law for Israel to give thanks there to the Lord's name,

**People: because the thrones of justice are there— the thrones of the house of David!**

### **\*Hymn #88: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (verses 1, 2, 7)**

Call to Confession (based on 1 John 3)

Out of love for us, God has made us children, drawing us into relationship through Jesus Christ. Although we sometimes rebel against this pure love, we believe God has given us Jesus' very own character, his DNA. Desiring to live in freedom and truth, let us ask for the power of God's grace to be at work in us today as we pray together:

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Forgive us, O Lord, if we go through our days going through the motions of life when you draw us into abundant life!**

**Forgive us if we go through our lives going through the motions of faith when you give us a dynamic faith! As we prepare our hearts to worship today, may the living Christ cleanse and renew us with your holy love! Hear us as we ask for your mercy in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## Moments of Silence for Personal Confession

### **Words Assuring Us of God's Grace (based on 1 John 3)**

Leader: God's Son came into the world for this purpose: to destroy the works of evil.

**People: Praise God that through the grace of Jesus Christ we are born from God!**

Leader: As God's children we are in the world for this purpose: to love one another.

**People: Thank God for the righteousness of Christ through whom we are set free!**

**\*Response #437: *You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!***

## **WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD**

### **Lighting the First Advent Candle**

Leader: We are God's people awaiting God's justice on earth.

**People: As we wait, we listen for God's word of hope.**

Leader: As we worship, we prepare for the coming of the One who judges heaven and earth.

**People: As we wait and worship, the light of a candle reminds us to remain hopeful.**

First Scripture Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Donna Mayberry

This is what Isaiah, Amoz's son, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Lord's house will be the highest of the mountains. It will be lifted above the hills; peoples will stream to it. Many nations will go and say, "Come, let's go up to the Lord's mountain, to the house of Jacob's God so that he may teach us his ways and we may walk in God's paths." Instruction will come from Zion; the Lord's word from Jerusalem. God will judge between the nations, and settle disputes of mighty nations. Then they will beat their swords into iron plows and their spears into pruning tools. Nation will not take up sword against nation; they will no longer learn how to make war. Come, house of Jacob, let's walk by the Lord's light.

Special Music: *Symphony No.6 Pastoral*

by Beethoven

Offered by Lacy Griffith

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 24:36-44

"But nobody knows when that day or hour will come, not the heavenly angels and not the Son. Only the Father knows. As it was in the time of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Human One. In those days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark. They didn't know what was happening until the flood came and swept them all away. The coming of the

Human One will be like that. At that time there will be two men in the field. One will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill. One will be taken and the other left. Therefore, stay alert! You don't know what day the Lord is coming. But you understand that if the head of the house knew at what time the thief would come, he would keep alert and wouldn't allow the thief to break into his house. Therefore, you also should be prepared, because the Human One will come at a time you don't know.

The Word of God for the people of God!  
**Thanks be to God!**

Scripture Reflections: *The Grind and the Ground*

Rev. Rebecca Taylor

Moments of Silence for Reflection

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen**

**\*Words Affirming Our Faith (*from A Declaration of Faith*<sup>1</sup>)** Donna Mayberry  
**The Lord's care sustained the people of Israel. God gave them a land where they could celebrate his goodness. The Lord established their kingdom and promised a ruler from the line of David to reign in justice and peace. When God's people worshiped the gods of the land, when they put their trust in military alliances, when they failed to do justice and oppressed the poor, God sent the prophets to condemn their sins and to call the people back to obedience. There were times of repentance and reform, but in the end their kingdoms fell. We declare God's goodness and justice. God has blessed us beyond our deserving. When we forget the Lord and worship our possessions, when we fail to deal justly with the poor, when we seek security no matter what it costs others, we can expect God's judgment upon us. We testify that God is faithful. Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. We can have confidence in God's coming kingdom even in the darkest times.**

**\*Hymn #121: *O Little Town of Bethlehem***

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<sup>1</sup> In 1985, the PCUSA adopted the *Declaration of Faith* as "a contemporary statement of faith, a reliable aid for Christian study, liturgy, and inspiration" even though it is not formally included in the Book of Confessions.

\*Benediction: Romans 14:9-10

\***Response #114: *Away in a Manger* (verse 3)**

Postlude: *How Can I Keep From Singing?*

arr. Janet Vogt

*After the Benediction, worshipers are invited to exit the sanctuary or to stay to enjoy the postlude.  
If you choose to leave, please be mindful of those who decide to stay to listen!*

## **WE DEPART- OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND LIVES IN SERVICE TO GOD**

### **OUR PRAYER LIST**

Austin Burns, Betty Anne Gaskill, Tim Gaskill, Scott Mitchem, Rick Walters, Delores Brannock, Debbie McCraw, Norma Quesenberry, Teresa Webb, Neil Hylton, Parker Hysell, Anna Childress, Dan Worrell, Deb Linton, Kenny Melton, Rob Moser, Tommy Neff, Judy Marchese, Gray Williams, Jenna and Marty Keys, Bob Gamble (ministry in Ukraine), RAE Center teachers and staff, Janet Rae Banks, Cheyenne Mills & her unborn child, George Smith, Doug Smith, Donnie Easter, Celeste Tsaklis, Charles Collins, Susan Mowery, Abingdon Presbytery, Rev. Ann Elyse Hicks.

### **OUR HOMEBOUND**

Mildred "Millie" Tompkins (The Glebe, Daleville), Jean Talley (Our Lady of the Valley Nursing Home, Roanoke), Ron Doerschug (home), Ruthie Griggs (home), Mary Helen and Bill Blair (home).

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**Our Leadership:** Rev. Rebecca Taylor, Pastor; Nancy McDaniel, Clerk of Session; Vickie Mills, Treasurer; Jim Spraker, Interim Music Leader

**Our Session:** Nancy McDaniel, Ken Gunn, David Lanham, Leigh Anne Phillips, Susan Randall, Vickie Mills, Faye Gunn

Elder of the Month: Nancy McDaniel: (C) (540) 529-6610 (E) [mcdanielfour@msn.com](mailto:mcdanielfour@msn.com)

**#88: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
(verses 1, 2, 7)**

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
who orderest all things mightily:  
to us the path of knowledge show;  
and teach us in her ways to go.  
[Refrain]

O come, Desire of nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;  
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
[Refrain]

**Response: #437: You Are the Lord,  
Giver of Mercy!**

You are the Lord, giver of mercy! You  
are the Christ, giver of mercy! You are  
the Lord, giver of mercy!

**#121: O Little Town of Bethlehem**

O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary  
and, gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,

and praises sing to God the king,  
and peace to all on earth.

How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming,  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in;  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us; abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel!

**#114: Away in a Manger (verse 3)**

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to  
stay close by me forever and love me, I  
pray. Bless all the dear children in thy  
tender care, and fit us for heaven to live  
with thee there