



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
 HILLSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Fifth Sunday of Eastertide
 April 28, 2024 - 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 Carol Lanham

Prelude: "All Things Bright and Beautiful" arr. Larry Shackley

Call to Worship (verses from Psalm 22) Carol Lanham

Leader: Let all who seek the Lord praise him!

People: Every family among all the nations will worship you, O Lord.

Leader: Future descendants will serve our God; generations to come will be told about our Lord.

People: They will proclaim God's righteousness to those not yet born, telling them what God has done.

***Hymn #694: "Great God of Every Blessing"**

Call to Confession (based on Psalm 103)

We know that our days on earth are brief, like a flower that blooms but is quickly forgotten. We are aware that while we live, we need forgiveness, healing, and salvation which are the wondrous works of God. Let us then turn to our God and ask for the grace we need as we pray together:

Prayer of Confession (adapted from *About Procreation* by Mattie J.T. Stepanek, age 9]

We believe, O God, that life is a great gift given to us by you. We admit that we sometimes toy with our lives and threaten the lives of others. We are aware that we use the gift you have given us inappropriately. Forgive us and help us honor the wonder of life and make more opportunities for friendship in the world! 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 Psalm 103)

Leader: Hear this good news: the Lord is compassionate and merciful, very patient, and full of faithful love!

People: Thanks be to God that as high as heaven is above the earth, that's how large God's faithful love is for us!

Leader: Take heart: as far as east is from west, that's how far God has removed our sin from us!

People: Praise God that God feels compassion for us and forgives us in Jesus Christ!

***Response #582: "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"**

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Understanding

You, O God, are the only living source of the words that bring new life – why would we go anywhere else to receive what we need? May your presence be felt and your truth be heard as we worship you today! Receive our prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Exodus 19:1-6

Carol Lanham

On exactly the third-month anniversary of the Israelites' leaving the land of Egypt, they came into the Sinai desert. They traveled from Rephidim, came into the Sinai desert, and set up camp there. Israel camped there in front of the mountain while Moses went up to God. The LORD called to him from the mountain, "This is what you should say to Jacob's household and declare to the Israelites: You saw what I did to the Egyptians, and how I lifted you up on eagles' wings and brought you to me. So now, if you faithfully obey me and stay true to my covenant, you will be my most precious possession out of all the peoples, since the whole earth belongs to me. You will be a kingdom of priests for me and a holy nation. These are the words you should say to the Israelites."

Anthem: "No Greater Gift"

Ruth Schram
Offered by the HPC Choir

Second Scripture Reading: I John 4:15-21

If any of us confess that Jesus is God's Son, God remains in us and we remain in God. We have known and have believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who remain in love remain in God and God remains in them. This is how love has been perfected in us, so that we can have confidence on the Judgment Day, because we are exactly the same as God is in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear expects punishment. The person who is afraid has not been made perfect in love. We love because God first loved us. Those who say, "I love God" and hate their brothers or sisters are liars. After all, those who don't love their brothers or sisters whom they have seen can hardly love God whom they have not seen! This commandment we have from him: Those who claim to love God ought to love their brother and sister also.

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

God's Word Engaged: *"When Love Finds You"*

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 Brief Statement of Faith*¹)

Carol Lanham

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

¹ When the PCUSA was formed in 1983, the *Plan for Reunion* called for the formulation of a new creed. The resulting document, *A Brief Statement of Faith*, "celebrates our rediscovery that for all our undoubted diversity, we are bound together by a common faith and a common task" as it "lifts up concerns that call most urgently for the church's attention in our time." ([Book of Confessions](#))

***Hymn #769: “For Everyone Born”**

***Benediction: John 15:5**

***Response #606: “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

Postlude: “Only King Forever”

Wade Joye & Mack Brock

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

OUR CURRENT PRAYER CONCERNS

Carolyn Anderson	Struggling with health issues
Rev. Kevin Campbell	Preparing for cancer surgery May 16 th
College Friend of Jim’s	Supportive care and concern
John Collins	Recovering from a car accident
John Lintecum	Struggling with health issues (blood cancer)
William “Bill” Mowery	Struggling with numerous health issues
Jenny Nester	Recovering from surgery
A.L. Noblett	Struggling with failing health
Elizabeth Porter	Recovering from surgery – HOME!
RAE Center Teachers/Staff	Needing support for the school year!
Karen Sexton	Recovering from colon cancer surgery
Rev. Michael Weller	Facing end-of-life options (brain cancer)
Lauren Whorley	Recovering from cranioplasty after car accident 12/16
The World	Praying for peace, an end to war and suffering!
Betty Semones Wyrick	Suffered a stroke, may need surgery

OUR HOMEBOUND

Mary Helen Blair (home)
Jean Talley (Our Lady of the Valley Nursing Home, Roanoke)

OUR ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS

Abingdon Presbytery	Michelle Frank	Liz Ingersoll	Celeste Tsaklis
Susan Alexander	Robert Gamble	Deb Linton	Ron Wagner
Janet Rae Banks	Betty Anne Gaskill	Debbie McCraw	Janie Walters
Stephanie Baron	Tim Gaskill	John McCurdy	Teresa Webb
Dodie Braith	Rev. Ann Elyse Hicks	Scott Mitchem	Kathy Welch
Delores Brannock	Bill Hicks	Rob Moser	Gray Williams
Austin Burns	Shirley Hurst	Debi Myers	Dan Worrell
Alafair Combs	Parker Hysell	Samuel Terry	
Ralph Ellison	Neal Hylton	Peggy Tolbert	

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

Our Session: Nancy McDaniel, Carol Lanham, Susan Mowery, Vickie Mills, Faye Gunn, Charles Collins,
Ted Westmoreland

Elder of the Month: Faye Gunn (276) 733-9002

Hymn 694

1 Great God of every blessing,
of faithful, loving care,
you are the fount of goodness,
the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you?
Our praise is but a start:
sincerely and completely
I offer you my heart.

2 Your Word is our salvation,
the source of endless grace,
in death and life extending
your covenant embrace.
In Christ we are one body;
each member has a part:
sincerely and completely
I offer you my heart.

3 Your Spirit is our teacher,
the light that guides our search,
transforming broken people
into the holy church.
For feeding us with mercy,
for wisdom you impart:
sincerely and completely
I offer you my heart.

Hymn 769

1. For Everyone Born, A Place At The Table,
For Everyone Born, Clean Water And Bread,
A Shelter, A Space, A Safe Place For
Growing,
For Everyone Born, A Star Overhead.

REFRAIN: And God Will Delight When We
Are Creators
Of Justice And Joy, Compassion And
Peace:
Yes, God Will Delight When We Are
Creators
Of Justice, Justice And Joy.

2. For Woman And Man, A Place At The
Table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
With wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
For woman and man, a system that's fair.
REFRAIN..

3. For Young And For Old, A Place At The
Table,
A Voice To Be Heard, A Part In The Song,
The Hands Of A Child In Hands That Are
Wrinkled,
For Young And For Old, The Right To
Belong. REFRAIN

4. For Just And Unjust, A Place At The
Table,
Abuser, Abused, With Need To Forgive,
In Anger, In Hurt, A Mindset Of Mercy,
For Just And Unjust, A New Way To Live.
REFRAIN

5. For Everyone Born, A Place At The Table,
To Live Without Fear, And Simply To Be,
To Work, To Speak Out, To Witness And
Worship,
For Everyone Born, The Right To Be Free.
REFRAIN

Hymn 582

**1 Glory to God, whose goodness shines on
me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned
me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me
free.**

**As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

2 World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen

World without end, without end. Amen.

**As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

Hymn 606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.**