



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
 HILLSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
 February 2, 2025 - 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

Lind Reiss

Call to Worship (verses from Psalm 71)

Lind Reiss

Leader: O Lord, be my rock of refuge where I can always escape.

People: You are my rock and my fortress!

Leader: You are my hope, Lord!

People: You, Lord, are the one I've trusted since childhood. I've depended on you from birth. My praise is always about you!

***Hymn #693: "Though I May Speak"**

Call to Confession (based on Galatians 4)

We may not realize it, but the systems of the world enslave us, and we do not live as freely as God desires. God wants us to enjoy being children who have been adopted in grace. We need help to be set free to live more fully as the sons and daughters of God. Let us confess our fears and admit our need, praying together:

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, forgive us if we have resisted your call to live as agents of your love and instruments of your grace! We are often fearful of getting hurt or being taken advantage of or ridiculed by others. It's hard for us to always speak and act in ways that encourage truthfulness and nurture growth! Release us from our fearful selfishness and deepen our trust in you! 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 Galatians 4)

Leader: Hear this good news: at just the right time, God sent Jesus into the world to redeem us!

People: Praise God that we are claimed as children of God's love!

Leader: Take heart: we have received the Spirit of Christ who assures us that we have been adopted in grace!

People: Thank God that we are forgiven, receiving all the blessings of God's grace!

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

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Understanding

Gracious God, out of your unfailing love for us, send your Holy Spirit to help us as your word is heard and explored. Engage us with your truth and enable us to take in all that you long to reveal to us today! Receive our prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10

Lind Reiss

The Lord's word came to me: "Before I created you in the womb I knew you; before you were born, I set you apart; I made you a prophet to the nations." "Ah, Lord God," I said, "I don't know how to speak because I'm only a child." The Lord responded, "Don't say, 'I'm only a child.' Where I send you, you must go; what I tell you, you must say. Don't be afraid of them, because I'm with you to rescue you," declares the Lord. Then the Lord stretched out his hand, touched my mouth, and said to me, "I'm putting my words in your mouth. This very day I appoint you over nations and empires, to dig up and pull down, to destroy and demolish, to build and plant."

Second Scripture Reading: I Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in tongues of human beings and of angels but I don't have love, I'm a clanging gong or a clashing cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and I know all the mysteries and everything else, and if I have such complete faith that I can move mountains but I don't have love, I'm nothing. If I give away everything that I have and hand over my own body to feel good about what I've done but I don't have love, I receive no benefit whatsoever. Love is patient, love is kind, it isn't jealous, it doesn't brag, it isn't arrogant, it isn't rude, it doesn't seek its own advantage, it isn't irritable, it doesn't keep a record of complaints, it isn't happy with injustice, but it is happy with the truth. Love puts up with all things, trusts in all things, hopes for all things, endures all things. Love never fails. As for prophecies, they will be brought to an end. As for tongues, they will stop. As for knowledge, it will be brought to an end. We know in part and we prophesy in part; but when the perfect comes, what is partial will be brought to an end. When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, reason like a child, think like a child. But now that I have become a man, I've put an end to childish things. Now we see a reflection in a mirror; then we will see face-to-face. Now I know partially, but then I will know completely in the same way that I have been completely known. Now faith, hope, and love remain—these three things—and the greatest of these is love.

The Word of God for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

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)

Lind Reiss

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.

***Hymn #703: "Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me"**

***Benediction: Ephesians 4:14-16**

***Response #126: "Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child"**

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

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](#)).

OUR CURRENT PRAYER CONCERNS

Austin Burns	Recently hospitalized with high fever, possible infection
Ceasefire in Gaza	Prayers that peace will continue!
Dale Coulson	New mechanical leg not functioning properly
Greg Hicks	Recovering from surgery, blood clot found in right leg
Michael Howlett	Recovering from surgery, undergoing cancer treatments
Search for Music Leader	God's help and guidance!
A.L. Noblett	Issues with failing health
Gary Quesinberry	Recovering from knee replacement surgery
RAE Center Staff	Blessings for the school year!
Victims of storms, flooding, fires	Praying for comfort, strength as cleanup and restoration continue
The World	Praying for peace, an end to war, violence, and suffering!

OUR HOMEBOUND

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

OUR ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS

Abingdon Presbytery	Donna Mayberry
Carolyn Anderson	Scott Mitchem
Shonda Blevins	Lindsay Mowery
Delores Brannock	Ted Mowery
Stacey Bullion	William "Bill" Mowery
Alafair Combs	Debi Myers
Melissa Doerschug	Phyllis Oakley
Robert Gamble	Gary Surratt
Betty Anne Gaskill	Peggy Tolbert
Tim Gaskill	Janie Walters
Jason Halsey	Teresa Webb
Rev. Ann Elyse Hicks	Kathy Welch
Neal Hylton	Gray Williams
Ima Lindsey	Dan Worrell
Debbie McCraw	

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Our Leadership: Rev. Rebecca Taylor, Pastor; Nancy McDaniel, Clerk of Session; Vickie Mills, Treasurer;
Sue Marshall, Accompanist

Our Session: Nancy McDaniel, Carol Lanham, Susan Mowery, Sandy Porter, Sandy Worrell, Charles Collins,
Ted Westmoreland

Elder of the Month: Vickie Mills (540) 330-3039

Hymn 693

1. Though I may speak, with bravest fire,
And have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain,
As sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

2. Though I may give all I possess,
And striving so my love profess,
And not be given by love within,
The profit soon turns strangely thin.

3. Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control;
Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
By this we worship, and are freed

Hymn 703

1 Jesus, your boundless love to me
no thought can reach, no tongue declare;
dwell in my heart eternally,
and reign without a rival there.
O Jesus, nothing may I do,
but seek my joy in serving you.

2 O grant that nothing in my soul
may dwell but your pure love alone;
oh, may your love possess me whole,
my joy, my treasure, and my crown!
All coldness from my heart remove;
my ev'ry act, word, thought, be love.

3. O Love, how gracious is thy way!
All fear before thy presence flies;
Care, anguish, sorrow melt away
Where'er thy healing beams arise.
O Jesus, nothing may I see,
Nothing desire, or seek, but thee.

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 126

Jesus, Jesus, O what a wonderful child.
Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek and mild.
New life, new hope the child will bring.
Listen to the angels sing:
Glory, glory, glory!
Let the heavens ring.