



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
 HILLSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Fourth Sunday in Lent
 March 19, 2023 - 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 Russ McDaniel

Prelude: *Nocturne in C# minor, Op. post.* Frédéric Chopin

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 23) Russ McDaniel

Leader: The Lord is my shepherd. I lack nothing. He lets me rest in grassy meadows; he leads me to restful waters; he keeps me alive.

People: He guides me in proper paths for the sake of his good name.

Leader: My cup is so full it spills over!

People: Yes, goodness and faithful love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the Lord's house as long as I live.

Hymn #223: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Call to Confession (based on Hebrews 4)

Friends, God's Word made known in Jesus is living and active. It judges our heart's thoughts and intentions. We cannot hide anything from the eyes of our Lord! Knowing that we are answerable to him, let us ask God for the grace we need as we pray together:

Prayer of Confession [adapted from Prayers for a Privileged People by Walter Brueggemann]

Leader: Creator God, we celebrate you for sending rain and making springs gush forth in the valleys...

People: ...but we confess that we thoughtlessly count on water and growth and daily bread.

Leader: We admit that we do not expect failed rain or failed bread or failed healing.

People: These failures cut deep into the fabric of our common life.

Leader: And so, we turn back to you, whose patience we try.

People: We pray that you will look to this world of need and restore, enliven, recreate, give rain, bring peace.

Leader: Come to us afresh – you, whose will for good overrides our capacity for self-destruction.

People: Yes, come full of grace, for there is no other source for life! 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 Hebrews 4)

Leader: Hear this Good News: Jesus understands our weakness and has compassion for us.

People: Praise God that we may draw near with confidence and find grace!

Leader: Take heart: Christ was tempted in every way but overcame the power of sin!

People: Thank God that through him we find favor and receive mercy!

Response #447: *We Are Forgiven

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Understanding

Help us, O God, by your Spirit at work within us that we may give you our undivided attention as your word is made known today! Clear away any distractions in our hearts and minds that we may receive your truth and encouragement this day. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: I Samuel 16:1-13

Russ McDaniel

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long are you going to grieve over Saul? I have rejected him as king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and get going. I'm sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem because I have found my next king among his sons." "How can I do that?" Samuel asked. "When Saul hears of it he'll kill me!" "Take a heifer with you," the Lord replied, "and say, 'I have come to make a sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will make clear to you what you should do. You will anoint for me

the person I point out to you." Samuel did what the Lord instructed. When he came to Bethlehem, the city elders came to meet him. They were shaking with fear. "Do you come in peace?" they asked. "Yes," Samuel answered. "I've come to make a sacrifice to the Lord. Now make yourselves holy, then come with me to the sacrifice." Samuel made Jesse and his sons holy and invited them to the sacrifice as well. When they arrived, Samuel looked at Eliab and thought, That must be the Lord's anointed right in front. But the Lord said to Samuel, "Have no regard for his appearance or stature, because I haven't selected him. God doesn't look at things like humans do. Humans see only what is visible to the eyes, but the Lord sees into the heart." Next Jesse called for Abinadab, who presented himself to Samuel, but he said, "The Lord hasn't chosen this one either." So Jesse presented Shammah, but Samuel said, "No, the Lord hasn't chosen this one." Jesse presented seven of his sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord hasn't picked any of these." ¹¹ Then Samuel asked Jesse, "Is that all of your boys?" "There is still the youngest one," Jesse answered, "but he's out keeping the sheep." "Send for him," Samuel told Jesse, "because we can't proceed until he gets here." So Jesse sent and brought him in. He was reddish brown, had beautiful eyes, and was good-looking. The Lord said, "That's the one. Go anoint him." So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him right there in front of his brothers. The Lord's spirit came over David from that point forward. Then Samuel left and went to Ramah.

Anthem: *I'll Keep My Eyes on the Cross*

Kenn Mann
Offered by HPC Choir

Second Scripture Reading: John 9:1-17

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man who was blind from birth. Jesus' disciples asked, "Rabbi, who sinned so that he was born blind, this man or his parents?" Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents. This happened so that God's mighty works might be displayed in him. While it's daytime, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." After he said this, he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and smeared the mud on the man's eyes. Jesus said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (this word means *sent*). So the man went away and washed. When he returned, he could see. The man's neighbors and those who used to see him when he was a beggar said, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," and others said, "No, it's someone who looks like him." But the man said, "Yes, it's me!" So they asked him, "How are you now able to see?" He answered, "The man they call Jesus made mud, smeared it on my eyes, and said, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and then I could see." They asked, "Where is this man?" He replied, "I don't know." Then they led the man who had been born blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus made the mud and smeared it on the man's eyes on a Sabbath day. So Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. The man told them, "He put mud on my eyes, I washed, and now I see." Some Pharisees said, "This man isn't from God, because he

breaks the Sabbath law." Others said, "How can a sinner do miraculous signs like these?" So they were divided. Some of the Pharisees questioned the man who had been born blind again: "What do you have to say about him, since he healed your eyes?" He replied, "He's a prophet."

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

God's Word Engaged: *Got Connection?*

Rev. Rebecca J. Taylor

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 (*A Declaration of Faith*¹)**

Russ McDaniel

In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God has already demonstrated his judging and saving work. We are warned that rejecting God's love and not caring for others whom God loves results in eternal separation from him and them. Yet we are also told that God loves the whole world and wills the salvation of all humankind in Christ. We live in tension between God's warnings and promises. Knowing the righteous judgment of God in Christ, we urge all people to be reconciled to God, not exempting ourselves from the warnings. Constrained by God's love in Christ, we have good hope for all people, not exempting the most unlikely from the promises. Judgment belongs to God and not to us. We are sure that God's future for every person will be both merciful and just.

Hymn #797: *We Cannot Measure How You Heal

*Benediction: Revelation 22:1-2

Response #313: *Lord, Make Us More Holy (verse 1)

Postlude: *Nimrod*

Edward Elgar, trans. Larry Pugh

¹ 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.

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

OUR PRAYER LIST

Austin Burns, Betty Anne Gaskill, Tim Gaskill, Scott Mitchem, Delores Brannock, Debbie McCraw, Norma Quesenberry, Teresa Webb, Neil Hylton, Parker Hysell, Anna Childress, Dan Worrell, 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, Doug Smith, Donnie Easter, Celeste Tsaklis, Rachel Hill, Larry Cofield, The Cook Family, Jerry Mayberry, Jacob Holderfield, Peggy Tolbert, Milo Mills, Sandy Jones, Charles Collins, Alafair Combs, 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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Email: hpc.ourrock@gmail.com

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

Our Session: Nancy McDaniel, Leigh Anne Phillips, Susan Randall, Vickie Mills, Faye Gunn, Charles Collins, Ted Westmoreland

Elder of the Month: Susan Randall: (C) (252) 301-0324

#223: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

1 When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God; all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down; did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Response #447: *We Are Forgiven*

We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

Hymn #797: *We Cannot Measure How You Heal*

We cannot measure how you heal or answer every sufferer's prayer, yet we believe your grace responds where faith and doubt unite to care.

Your hands, though bloodied on the cross, survive to hold and heal and warn, to carry all through death to life and cradle children yet unborn.

The pain that will not go away, the guilt that clings from things long past, the fear of what the future holds, are present as if meant to last.

But present too is love which tends the hurt we never hoped to find, the private agonies inside, the memories that haunt the mind.

So some have come who need your help and some have come to make amends, as hands which shaped and saved the world are present in the touch of friends.

Lord, let your Spirit meet us here to mend the body, mind, and soul, to disentangle peace from pain, and make your broken people whole.

Response #313: *Lord, Make Us More Holy (verse 1)*

Lord, the 1 Lord, make us more holy;
Lord, make us more holy;
Lord, make us more holy,
until we meet again: holy, holy, holy,
until we meet again.