



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
HILLSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 2026 - 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

Leigh Anne Phillips

Call to Worship

Leigh Anne Phillips

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord, for God is good.

People: His steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: We come not because we have earned God's favor, but because God has first loved us.

People: We come trusting in God's abundant grace and mercy.

Leader: Let us lay aside our worries, our comparisons, and our striving.

People: Let us give thanks for all that God has given us.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God whose generosity is greater than we can imagine.

People: With grateful hearts, we worship and praise the Lord!

Leader: Let us worship God.

***Hymn #649: "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"**

Call to Confession

We come before a gracious and generous God, who knows our hearts and loves us despite our shortcomings. Too often, we compare ourselves with others. We keep score of what we have done, what we have given, and what we believe we deserve. We sometimes forget that everything we have—including our very lives—is a gift of God's grace. Let us turn away from our pride, our envy, our striving, and our desire to earn what God freely gives. Trusting in God's mercy and the grace we have received through Jesus Christ, let us confess our sins together:

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and merciful God, we confess that we often forget that everything we have is a gift from you. We compare ourselves with others, and we become envious of what they have or proud of what we have accomplished. We keep score, thinking we deserve more because we have worked harder. We try to earn your favor rather than receive your grace. Forgive us, Lord. Remind us that we cannot earn your love, for you have loved us first. Help us to be grateful for your generosity, to rejoice in your blessings to others, and to serve you faithfully with humble hearts. When following Christ is difficult, give us strength to remain faithful. When service requires sacrifice, give us willing hearts. When suffering comes, help us trust in your unfailing grace. Thank you for the gift of Jesus Christ, through whom we are forgiven and made new. Teach us to live not to earn your love, but because we have already received it. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, we pray. Amen.

Moments of Silence for Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news of the Gospel: God does not ask us to earn his forgiveness. In Jesus Christ, God has already extended to us the gift of grace. As Scripture reminds us, "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." (Romans 8:1) Through Christ, our sins are forgiven, our guilt is removed, and we are reconciled to God.

People: Thanks be to God for his amazing grace!

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

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

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Understanding

Gracious God, as we hear your Word today, open our hearts and minds to your truth. Help us to understand the depth of your grace and to recognize that your love is not something we earn, but a gift you freely give. Through your Holy Spirit, help us hear what you are saying to us today. Free us from comparison, pride, and the desire to prove ourselves. Teach us to receive your grace with grateful hearts and to follow Christ faithfully wherever you lead us. May your Word strengthen our faith, shape our lives, and draw us closer to Jesus Christ. In whose name we pray. Amen.

Because for me, living serves Christ and dying is even better. If I continue to live in this world, I get results from my work. But I don't know what I prefer. I'm torn between the two because I want to leave this life and be with Christ, which is far better. However, it's more important for me to stay in this world for your sake. I'm sure of this: I will stay alive and remain with all of you to help your progress and the joy of your faith, and to increase your pride in Christ Jesus through my presence when I visit you again. Most important, live together in a manner worthy of Christ's gospel. Do this, whether I come and see you or I'm absent and hear about you. Do this so that you stand firm, united in one spirit and mind as you struggle together to remain faithful to the gospel. That way, you won't be afraid of anything your enemies do. Your faithfulness and courage are a sign of their coming destruction and your salvation, which is from God. God has generously granted you the privilege, not only of believing in Christ but also of suffering for Christ's sake. You are having the same struggle that you saw me face and now hear that I'm still facing.

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 20:1-16

"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. After he agreed with the workers to pay them a denarion, he sent them into his vineyard. "Then he went out around nine in the morning and saw others standing around the marketplace doing nothing. He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I'll pay you whatever is right.' And they went. "Again around noon and then at three in the afternoon, he did the same thing. Around five in the afternoon he went and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you just standing around here doing nothing all day long?' "Because nobody has hired us,' they replied. "He responded, 'You also go into the vineyard.' "When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the workers and give them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and moving on finally to the first.' When those who were hired at five in the afternoon came, each one received a denarion. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more. But each of them also received a denarion. When they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, 'These who were hired last worked one hour, and they received the same pay as we did even though we had to work the whole day in the hot sun.' "But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I did you no wrong. Didn't I agree to pay you a denarion? Take what belongs to you and go. I want to give to this one who was hired last the same as I give to you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with what belongs to me? Or are you resentful because I'm generous?' So those who are last will be first. And those who are first will be last."

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

God's Word Engaging Us: *"God's Grace Changes Everything"*

Elder David Welch

Moments of Silence for Reflection

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our 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**

Leigh Anne Phillips

Leader: Christians, what do we believe?

All: I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Hymn #697: "Take My Life" (verses 1,2,3,5 only)**

***Benediction**

***Response #765: "May the God of Hope Go with Us"**

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

Many thanks to David Welch for leading us in worship this morning.

OUR CURRENT PRAYER CONCERNS

Eddie Ayers	Undergoing pre-transplant tests at Duke (lung transplant)
Brian Burns	Suffering with Parkinson's [Elizabeth Porter's brother]
Lois Galyen	Recovering from procedure [Kristy Viars' mother]
Sarah Griggs	Recovering from shoulder surgery Sept. 9
Bill Hicks	Undergoing chemo treatments
Bryon Joyce	Struggling with Parkinson's [Russ' BIL]
Jody Moore	Recent scan revealed new lesions on brain [related to Amy Anderson]
Lindsey Mowery	Struggling with health issues [Susan Mowery's SIL]
Elaine Noe	Struggling with medical issues
RAE Center Students and staff	Peace for learning
Session Members	Support during search for Interim Pastor
Philip Shipman	Seeking new treatment options (cancer)
Kathy Williams	Recovering from a fall
The World	Praying for peace, an end to war, violence, and suffering

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Our Leadership: Nancy McDaniel, Clerk of Session; David Lanham, Treasurer; Sue Marshall, Accompanist

Our Session: Carol Lanham, Susan Mowery, Sandy Porter, Sandy Worrell, Russ McDaniel, Reinhart Reiss, Susan Randall

Elder of the Month: Reinhart Reiss (804) 731-6150

Hymn 649

1. Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind but now I see.

2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home.

4. The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

5. When we've been there ten thousand
years
Bright, shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

Hymn 765 - Response

May the God of hope go with you every day,
Fill all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our
way,
Bringing light and hope to every land and
race.
Praying, let us work for peace;
Singing, share our joy with all;
Working for a world that's new,
Faithful when we hear Christ's call.

Hymn 697

1 Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise,
let them flow in endless praise.

2 Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.

3 Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee,
filled with messages from thee.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

Hymn 582 - Response

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.