



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
HILLSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 23, 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

Russ McDaniel

Call to Worship

Russ McDaniel

Leader: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We gather to worship the living God, who has called us to be His people and has made us one body in Jesus Christ.

People: We come to offer ourselves as living sacrifices, holy and acceptable to God, which is our spiritual worship.

Leader: Jesus asked His disciples, "Who do you say that I am?"

People: You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God!

Leader: Christ has promised, "I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."

People: Our hope is in Christ alone, the Head of the Church, whose kingdom shall never end.

Leader: God has given each of us gifts through His Holy Spirit for the building up of the body of Christ.

People: We come ready to worship, to serve, and to encourage one another in love.

Leader: Let us worship God with thankful hearts, trusting in His faithfulness from generation to generation.

ALL: Let us worship the Lord!

***Hymn #697: "Take My Life"**

Call to Confession

God has called us to belong to Christ and to one another as members of one body. Yet we confess that we have not always offered ourselves fully to His service. We have sometimes trusted in our own strength rather than God's faithfulness. We have allowed fear to overshadow faith, comfort to replace commitment, and self-interest to take precedence over loving service. We have often neglected the gifts God has entrusted to us for the building up of His Church. Yet the good news is this: the One who calls us to repentance is rich in mercy. In Jesus Christ, we find forgiveness, restoration, and the power to begin anew. Therefore, let us draw near to the throne of grace with humble and repentant hearts, trusting in God's steadfast love:

Prayer of Confession

Merciful and gracious God, You alone are holy, and You alone are worthy of our worship. We come before You acknowledging that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Too often we have failed to present ourselves as living sacrifices, holding back portions of our lives instead of offering ourselves completely to Your service. We confess that we have sometimes relied more on our own wisdom than on Your Spirit, more on familiar routines than on Your leading, and more on human strength than on Your unfailing promises. Forgive us when we have neglected the gifts You have given us, expecting others to carry the work You have entrusted to the whole body of Christ. Forgive us when pride has kept us from serving humbly, when fear has kept us from stepping forward in faith, and when complacency has dulled our passion for the mission of Your Church. As we enter this season of transition, we confess our anxieties about the future. We admit that we are tempted to place our confidence in human leadership rather than in Christ, the true Head of the Church. Forgive us for doubting Your faithfulness. Renew our trust in Your promise that You are always with Your people and that Your Church rests securely in Your hands. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Transform us by the renewing of our minds, that we may discern Your will and faithfully follow where You lead. Fill us anew with Your Holy Spirit, so that each of us may use the gifts You have given for the building up of Your Church and the glory of Your name. We ask all this through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who loved us, gave Himself for us, and continues to build His Church. Amen.

Moments of Silence for Personal Confession

Words Assuring Us of God's Grace

Friends, hear and believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, God has shown us immeasurable mercy. Through His death and resurrection, Christ has conquered sin and death and reconciled us to the Father. Those who trust in Him are forgiven, renewed by the Holy Spirit, and called to live as members of His body. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

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

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.

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Understanding

Gracious God, By Your Holy Spirit, open our hearts and minds as Your Word is read and proclaimed today. Quiet the distractions within us, soften what has become hardened, and awaken within us a deeper love for You and for one another. Speak to us through the Scriptures—not simply to increase our knowledge, but to deepen our discipleship. Challenge us where we need correction, encourage us where we are weary, and equip us with the gifts of Your Spirit to serve You with joy. May the words we hear today bear fruit in faithful living, so that in all things Jesus Christ may be honored and His Church strengthened. We pray in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

So, brothers and sisters, because of God's mercies, I encourage you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice that is holy and pleasing to God. This is your appropriate priestly service. Don't be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds so that you can figure out what God's will is—what is good and pleasing and mature. Because of the grace that God gave me, I can say to each one of you: don't think of yourself more highly than you ought to think. Instead, be reasonable since God has measured out a portion of faith to each one of you. We have many parts in one body, but the parts don't all have the same function. In the same way, though there are many of us, we are one body in Christ, and individually we belong to each other. We have different gifts that are consistent with God's grace that has been given to us. If your gift is prophecy, you should prophesy in proportion to your faith. If your gift is service, devote yourself to serving. If your gift is teaching, devote yourself to teaching. If your gift is encouragement, devote yourself to encouraging. The one giving should do it with no strings attached. The leader should lead with passion. The one showing mercy should be cheerful.

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 16:13–20

Now when Jesus came to the area of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Human One is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the other prophets." He said, "And what about you? Who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Then Jesus replied, "Happy are you, Simon son of Jonah, because no human has shown this to you. Rather my Father who is in heaven has shown you. I tell you that you are Peter. And I'll build my church on this rock. The gates of the underworld won't be able to stand against it. I'll give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Anything you fasten on earth will be fastened in heaven. Anything you loosen on earth will be loosened in heaven." Then he ordered the disciples not to tell anybody that he was the Christ.

The Word of God for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

God's Word Engaging Us: *"The Church Carries On: Christ Is Still Building His Church"*

David Welch, Ruling Elder

Moments of Silence for Reflection

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

We Welcome Our New Member (*see insert*)

***Words Affirming Our Faith** (*from a Brief Statement of Faith*)

Russ McDaniel

Leader: What is it that we believe?

People: In life and in death we belong to God.

Leader: Whom do we trust?

People: We trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

Leader: Who is Jesus Christ?

People: We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. He proclaimed the reign of God, preached good news to the poor, released the captives, healed the sick, welcomed the outcast, forgave sinners, and called all to repent and believe the gospel.

(*continued*)

Leader: What has God done through Christ?

People: Jesus Christ was crucified, giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

Leader: And how are we called to live?

People: We trust in the Holy Spirit, who calls us to be the Church, the body of Christ. We are called to serve God in the world, to love one another, to seek justice, to work for peace, and to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

All: With the whole Church, we worship and serve the one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

***Hymn #307: "God of Grace and God of Glory"**

***Charge and Benediction**

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

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

Thank you, David Welch, for leading us in worship today.

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]
Bill Hicks	Undergoing chemo treatments
Nicole Menard	New tumors discovered (brain cancer)
Jody Moore	Recent scan revealed new lesions on brain [related to Amy Anderson]
Lindsey Mowery	Struggling with health issues [Susan Mowery's SIL]
RAE Center Students and staff	Blessings for the new school year
Session Members	Support during search for Interim Pastor
Philip Shipman	Seeking new treatment options (cancer)
Marlin Wilson	Recovering from a fall
The World	Praying for peace, an end to war, violence, and suffering

OUR HOMEBOUND

Mary Helen Blair (home)
Anita Edmonds (Blue Ridge Therapy Connection; Stuart, VA)
Rachel Worrell (home)

OUR ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS

Abingdon Presbytery	Graham Fyfe	Anna Faye Martin	Turman family
Lincoln Bolton	Robert Gamble	Scott Mitchum	Jerry & Shirley Varn
Delores Brannock	Betty Anne Gaskill	Bill Mowery	Emma Viars
Austin Burns	Tim Gaskill	Lindsey Mowery	Bernice Wade
Bruce Cummings	Rev. Ann Elyse Hicks	Ted Mowery	Marion Wade
Bobby Dalton	Michael Howlett	Music Leader search	Kathy Welch
Melissa Doerschug	Neal Hylton	Jennifer Ransom-Smith	Wild Goose Community
Kay Ellington & family	Rev. Marc Jones	Shining Orphanage	Gray Williams
Fairview Congregation	Paul Johnson	Rusty Porter	Matt Williams
Pat Frost	Carol Lanham	Douglas Satterfield	Dan Worrell

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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: Susan Randall (276) 733-1465

Hymn 307

**1 God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy pow'r;
crown thine ancient Church's story,
bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**

**2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways.
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.**

**3 Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.**

**4 Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.**

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.**

**4 Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt choose,
every power as thou shalt choose.**

**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.**

**6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.**

We Welcome Our New Member

****Presentation****

Elder: Friends – Today, John Viars is presented by the Session as a new member of this congregation by reaffirmation of faith.

****Affirmation of the Congregation****

Clerk: Because we are all members of one holy church, established by God through Jesus Christ and maintained by the power of God's Spirit, you do not come to us as a stranger, but as a member of the family of faith!

People: There is one body and one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all!

Clerk: We rejoice that you desire to declare your faith and share more fully in our common ministry! In baptism you were joined to Christ and made a member of His church. You have been nurtured at the table of our Lord and called to witness to Jesus Christ in the world.

People: We welcome you to the worship and work of this people of God!

****Renunciations and Profession of Faith****

Clerk: Please respond to these questions which affirm your faith and confirm your intentions concerning membership in this community of believers.

Do you renounce all evil and powers in the world which defy God's righteousness and love?

Response: I do.

Clerk: Do you renounce the ways of sin that separate you from the love of God?

Response: I do.

Clerk: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior?

Response: I do.

Clerk: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

Response: I will, with God's help.

****Affirmation of the New Members****

Clerk: Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, share in its worship and ministry through your prayers and gifts, your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Response: I will, with God's help.

Clerk: Let us all stand in body or in spirit and affirm our faith using the responsive reading in the bulletin.

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 765

**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.**