



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
 HILLSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 The Fourth Sunday of Eastertide
 April 26, 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

Susan Mowery

Call to Worship (verses from Psalm 100)

Susan Mowery

Leader: Come before the Lord with shouts of joy! Know that the Lord is God—he made us; we belong to him.

People: We are his people, the sheep of his own pasture.

Leader: Thank the Lord! Bless his name!

People: The Lord is good; his loyal love lasts forever; his faithfulness lasts generation after generation!

***Hymn #803: "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"**

Call to Confession (based on II Corinthians 5)

It's easy for us to say that we live by faith and not by sight, but it's much more difficult to trust those words every day, especially when the challenges and heartaches of this life cause us to suffer. Knowing that we could not live for our Lord without mercy and forgiveness, let us ask for the grace we need as we pray together:

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

Leader: We admit, O Lord, that we sit in the midst of your many mercies yet are mindful of so many who dwell in places short of mercy and absent of justice.

People: We hold in our hearts a long list of needful people and violent places and we know that you know them all.

Leader: We are aware of our calling to serve them in your good name...

People: ...but we are so poorly equipped for such a call.

Leader: So, we ask you for your grace once more, along with courage and energy, that we may rise to tasks greater than ourselves.

People: We trust you to continue to be the God who gives bread and wine, table and towel, book and song, compassion and mercy.

Leader: Help us stick to the belief that your good purposes are larger than all the needs of the world and bless us as your church in the thick of it all.

People: Keep us free from temptation and disloyalty and keep us on task for your good name's sake! 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 II Corinthians 5)

Leader: Hear this Good News: everything has changed by God's reconciling work in Christ!

People: Praise God that what is old is gone away; we are made new!

Leader: Take heart: being in Christ means that we are a new creation!

People: Thank God that in Christ our sin is not counted against us; we are forgiven!

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

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Understanding

Good and gracious God, you alone bring life out of death and hope out of despair! Come to us in love and prepare our hearts to receive the gifts you long to give us through your word for us this day! Hear us as we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Ezekial 34:7-15

Susan Mowery

So now shepherds, hear the Lord's word! This is what the Lord God says: As surely as I live, without a shepherd, my flock became prey. My flock became food for all the wild animals. My shepherds didn't seek out my flock. They tended themselves, but they didn't tend my flock. So, shepherds, hear the Lord's word! The Lord God proclaims: I'm against the shepherds! I will hold them accountable for my flock, and I will put an end to their tending the flock. The shepherds will no longer tend them, because I will rescue my flock from their mouths, and they will no longer be their food. The Lord God proclaims: I myself will search for my flock and seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out the flock when some in the flock have been scattered, so will I seek out my flock. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered during the time of clouds and thick darkness. I will gather and lead them out from the countries and peoples, and I will bring them to their own fertile land. I will feed them on Israel's highlands, along the riverbeds, and in all the inhabited places. I will feed them in good pasture, and their sheepfold will be there, on Israel's lofty highlands. On Israel's highlands, they will lie down in a secure fold and feed on green pastures. I myself will feed my flock and make them lie down. This is what the Lord God says.

Second Scripture Reading: John 10:1-10

I assure you that whoever doesn't enter into the sheep pen through the gate but climbs over the wall is a thief and an outlaw. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The guard at the gate opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. Whenever he has gathered all of his sheep, he goes before them and they follow him, because they know his voice. They won't follow a stranger but will run away because they don't know the stranger's voice." Those who heard Jesus use this analogy didn't understand what he was saying. So, Jesus spoke again, "I assure you that I am the gate of the sheep. All who came before me were thieves and outlaws, but the sheep didn't listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief enters only to steal, kill, and destroy. I came so that they could have life—indeed, so that they could live life to the fullest.

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 Declaration of Faith* ¹)

Susan Mowery

In forming his people and sending them into the world Jesus called individuals to be disciples. They were to share the joy of his companionship, to understand and obey his teachings, and to follow him in life and death. We confess that Christians today are called to discipleship. Life shared with Christ and shaped by Christ is God's undeserved gift to each of us. It is also God's demand upon every one of us, never perfectly fulfilled by any of us. Forgiven by God and supported by brothers and sisters, we strive to become more faithful and effective in our daily practice of the Christian life.

***Hymn #301: "Let Us Build a House"**

***Benediction: Hebrews 13:20-21**

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

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

¹ In 1985, the PCUSA adopted A 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.

OUR CURRENT PRAYER CONCERNS

Billy	Still hospitalized with complications after liver transplant surgery
Jo Jones & Family	Grieving the death of her 41-year-old nephew
Carol Lanham	Preparing for eye surgery next week
Jessica Otto	Recently diagnosed with cancer; treatments underway
RAE Center Staff & Students	Blessings for the school year!
Phillip Shipman	Uncertainly re: effectiveness of radiation
Kathy Welch	Struggling with back pain; additional procedure planned
Matt Williams	Heart issues, fatigue due to AFib
The World	Praying for peace, an end to war, violence, and suffering!

OUR HOMEBOUND

Mary Helen Blair (home)
Anita Edmonds (Commonwealth Senior Living, Hillsville)

OUR ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS

Abingdon Presbytery	Leigh Anne Johnson & father
Lincoln Bolton	Bryon Joyce
Delores Brannock	Anna Faye Martin
Austin Burns	Scott Mitchum
Virginia Collins	Bill Mowery
Alafair Combs	Ted Mowery
Melissa Doerschug	Luke Murphy
Kay Ellington & family	Search for Music Leader
Pat Frost	Jennifer Ransom-Smith
Robert Gamble	Shining Orphanage in Thailand
Betty Anne Gaskill	Jerry & Shirley Varn
Tim Gaskill	Emma Viars
Rev. Ann Elyse Hicks	Bernice Wade
Bill Hicks	Marion Wade
Barbara Howlett	Dot Wagner
Michael Howlett	Gray Williams
Neal Hylton	Dan Worrell

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Our Leadership: Rev. Rebecca Taylor, Pastor; 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 803

1. My Shepherd will supply my need;
Jehovah is His Name;
In pastures fresh He makes me feed
beside the living stream.
He brings my wand'ring spirit back
when I forsake His ways,
And leads me, for His mercy's sake,
in paths of truth and grace.
2. When I walk thru the shades of death,
your presence is my stay;
One word of your supporting breath
drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes,
does still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows;
your oil anoints my head.
3. The sure provisions of my God
attend me all my days;
O may your house be my abode,
and all my work be praise!
There would I find a settled rest,
while others go and come,
No more a stranger or a guest,
but like a child at home.

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 301

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
And all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell
How hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
Rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions.

Chorus-

All are welcome, all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.

2 Let us build a house where prophets
speak,
And words are strong and true,
Where all God's children dare to seek
To dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
And as symbol of God's grace;
Here as one, we claim the faith of Jesus:
Chorus.

3 Let us build a house where love is found
In water, wine, and wheat:
A banquet hall on holy ground,
Where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
Is revealed in time and space;
As we share in Christ the feast that frees
us: *Chorus.*

4 Let us build a house where hands will
reach
Beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen serve and teach
And live the word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
Bear the image of God's face;
Let us bring an end to fear and danger:
Chorus.

5 Let us build a house where all are named,
Their songs and visions heard
And loved and treasured, taught and
claimed
As words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter
Prayers of faith and songs of grace;
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
Chorus.

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.