



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
 HILLSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
 Third Sunday in Lent  
 March 8, 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

Lind Reiss

Call to Worship (verses from Psalm 95)

Lind Reiss

Leader: Come, let's worship and bow down! Let's kneel before the Lord, our maker!

**People: We are the people of his pasture, the sheep in his hands.**

Leader: The Lord is a great God, the great king over all other gods!

**People: Let's raise a joyful shout to the rock of our salvation!**

**Let's come before him with thanks!**

**\*Hymn #65: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"**

Call to Confession (based on Hebrews 4)

God's Word is living and active, able to judge our hearts' thoughts and intentions. We cannot hide from it! Aware that we are often tempted to follow examples of disobedience, let us ask God for the grace we need as we pray together:

**Prayer of Confession** [adapted from the Iona Community]

Leader: Holy God, maker of us all, have mercy on us!

**People: We confess to you, O God, and in the company of all your people that our lives and the life of the world are broken by our sin.**

Leader: God, forgive us all!

**People: Christ, restore us all!**

Leader: Spirit, enable us to grow in love!

**People: Turn again, O God, and give us life that we may rejoice in you!**

Leader: Give us again the blessing of your help.

**People: And sustain us in the freedom of your grace! 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 to God with confidence and find grace!**

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

**People: Thanks be to God that through our Lord we find favor and receive mercy!**

**\*Response #437: "You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!"**

## **WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD**

### **Prayer for Understanding**

**Holy God, help us receive your word for us today! Remove from our hearts and minds anything that would hinder us from hearing and understanding you as you speak to us. Hear us as we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

First Scripture Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

Lind Reiss

The whole Israelite community broke camp and set out from the Sin desert to continue their journey, as the Lord commanded. They set up their camp at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people argued with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why are you arguing with me? Why are you testing the Lord?" But the people were very thirsty for water there, and they complained to Moses, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt to kill us, our children, and our livestock with thirst?" So, Moses cried out to the Lord, "What should I do with this people? They are getting ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of Israel's elders with you. Take in your hand the shepherd's rod that you used to strike the Nile River, and go. I'll be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Hit the rock. Water will come out of it, and the people will be able to drink." Moses did so while Israel's elders watched. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites argued with and tested the Lord, asking, "Is the Lord really with us or not?"

Second Scripture Reading: Romans 5:1-11

Therefore, since we have been made righteous through his faithfulness, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. We have access by faith into this grace in which we stand through him, and we boast in the hope of God's glory. But not only that! We even take pride in our problems, because we know that trouble produces endurance, endurance produces character, and character produces hope. This hope doesn't put us to shame, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right moment, Christ died for ungodly people. It isn't often that someone will die for a righteous person, though maybe someone might dare to die for a good person. But God shows his love for us, because while we were still sinners Christ died for us. So, now that we have been made righteous by his blood, we can be even more certain that we will be saved from God's wrath through him.

If we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son while we were still enemies, now that we have been reconciled, how much more certain is it that we will be saved by his life? And not only that: we even take pride in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, the one through whom we now have a restored relationship with God.

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

God's Word Engaging Us: *"The Taste in Our Mouths"*

Rev. Rebecca Taylor

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*<sup>1</sup>)

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 #494: "Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts"**

<sup>1</sup> 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*)

\*Benediction: Philippians 4:11-13

\*Response #820: "Nothing Can Trouble"

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

### **OUR CURRENT PRAYER CONCERNS**

Billy	Approved for liver transplant pending heart catheterization
Melissa Doerschug	Seizure activity increased, medication adjusted
Bill Hicks	Health concerns; undergoing cancer treatments
Luke Murphy	Twelve-year-old in need of kidney transplant
RAE Center Staff & Students	Blessings for the school year!
Lind Reiss	Preparing for back surgery on March 10th
Philip Shipman	Chemotherapy no longer effective; different treatment sought
Kathy Welch	Recovering from back surgery (nerve ablation)
The World	Praying for peace, an end to war, violence, and suffering!

### **OUR HOMEBOUND**

Mary Helen Blair (home)  
Anita Edmonds (Commonwealth Senior Living, Hillsville)  
Jean Talley (Our Lady of the Valley Nursing Home, Roanoke)

### **OUR ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS**

Abingdon Presbytery	Robert Gamble	Ted Mowery
Lincoln Bolton	Betty Anne Gaskill	Search for Music Leader
Ron Braith	Tim Gaskill	Elizabeth Porter
Delores Brannock	Rev. Ann Elyse Hicks	Jennifer Ransom-Smith
Diane Brogan	Michael Howlett	Sonja Reiss
Austin Burns	Neal Hylton	Shining Orphanage in Thailand
Sirinapa Chaocharoen [Fon]	Leigh Anne Johnson & father	Jerry & Shirley Varn
Katrina Cole	Bryon Joyce	Emma Viars
Virginia Collins	Annette McDermott	Bernice Wade
Alafair Combs	Anna Faye Martin	Marion Wade
Kay Ellington & family	Nicol Menards	Dot Wagner
Ken Everham	Scott Mitchum	Gray Williams
Pat Frost	Bill Mowery	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:** Susan Randall (276) 733-1465

### Hymn 65

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me till I want no more,  
feed me till I want no more,

2 Open now the crystal fountain,  
whence the healing stream doth flow.  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield  
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside.  
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee

### Hymn 437

You are the Lord,  
Giver of mercy!  
You are the Christ,  
Giver of mercy!  
You are the Lord,  
Giver of mercy!

### Hymn #494

1 Jesus, Thou joy of loving hearts,  
Thou fount of life, Thou light of all,  
from the best bliss that earth imparts,  
we turn unfilled to heed thy call.

2 Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood;  
Thou savest those that on Thee call;  
to them that seek Thee, Thou art good,  
to them that find Thee all in all.

3 We taste Thee, O Thou living Bread,  
and long to feast upon Thee still;  
we drink of Thee, the Fountain-head,  
and thirst our souls from Thee to fill.

4 Our restless spirits yearn for Thee,  
where'er our changeful lot is cast;  
glad when Thy gracious smile we see,  
blest when our faith can hold Thee fast.

5 O Jesus, ever with us stay,  
make all our moments calm and bright;  
O chase the night of sin away;  
shed o'er the world Thy holy light.

### Hymn 820

Nothing can trouble,  
nothing can frighten.  
Those who seek God shall  
never go wanting.  
Nothing can trouble,  
nothing can frighten.  
God alone fills us.