



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
 HILLSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 First Sunday after Epiphany
 January 12, 2025 - 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 29)

Susan Mowery

Leader: The Lord's voice is over the waters; the glorious God thunders.

People: The Lord's voice is strong; the Lord's voice is majestic.

Leader: The Lord's voice unleashes fiery flames; the Lord's voice shakes the wilderness.

People: The Lord's voice strips the forests bare, but in his temple everyone shouts, "Glory!"

***Hymn #408: "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit"**

Call to Confession (based on Galatians 4)

We may not realize it, but the systems of the world enslave us, and we do not live as freely as God desires. God wants us to enjoy being children who have been adopted in grace. We need help to be set free to live more fully as the sons and daughters of God. Let us confess our fears and admit our need, praying together:

Prayer of Confession

Lord of all life, if we give more attention to the voices of fear and alarm around us than to your voice of assurance and love, forgive us! If we live more out of self-doubt and loathing than in trust of our worth and belovedness in your eyes, forgive us! With your purifying grace, clear away everything in us that does not honor you and reflect your glory! 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 Galatians 4)

Leader: Hear this good news: at just the right time, God sent Jesus into the world to redeem us!

People: Praise God that we are claimed as children of God's love!

Leader: Take heart: we have received the Spirit of Christ who assures us that we have been adopted in grace!

People: Thank God that we are forgiven, receiving all the blessings of God's grace!

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

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Understanding

Gracious God, out of your unfailing love for us, send your Holy Spirit to help us as your word is heard and explored. Engage us with your truth and enable us to take in all that you long to reveal to us today! Receive our prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

Susan Mowery

But now, says the Lord — the one who created you, Jacob, the one who formed you, Israel: Don't fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; when through the rivers, they won't sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you won't be scorched and flame won't burn you. I am the Lord your God, the holy one of Israel, your savior. I have given Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in your place. Because you are precious in my eyes, you are honored, and I love you. I give people in your place, and nations in exchange for your life. Don't fear, I am with you. From the east I'll bring your children; from the west I'll gather you. I'll say to the north, "Give them back!" and to the south, "Don't detain them." Bring my sons from far away, and my daughters from the end of the earth, everyone who is called by my name and whom I created for my glory, whom I have formed and made.

Second Scripture Reading: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The people were filled with expectation, and everyone wondered whether John might be the Christ. John replied to them all, "I baptize you with water, but the one who is more powerful than me is coming. I'm not worthy to loosen the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. The shovel he uses to sift the wheat from the husks is in his hands. He will clean out his threshing area and bring the wheat into his barn. But he will burn the husks with a fire that can't be put out."

When everyone was being baptized, Jesus also was baptized. While he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit came down on him in bodily form like a dove. And there was a voice from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness."

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 the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus God kept his promises. All that we can ever hope for was present in Christ. But the work of God in Christ is not over. God calls us to hope for more than we have yet seen. The hope God gives us is ultimate confidence that supports us when lesser hopes fail us. In Christ God gives hope for a new heaven and earth, certainty of victory over death, assurance of mercy and judgment beyond death. This hope gives us courage for the present struggle.

***Hymn #547: "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"**

***Benediction: Romans 12:11-12**

***Response #126: "Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child"**

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

Carolyn Anderson	Rejoicing in good news: the tumor has shrunk! No surgery!
Dale Coulson	Prayers that his new leg fits and functions well!
John Frost	Recovering from Mohs surgery, preparing for knee replacement surgery
Greg Hicks	Recovering from surgery, blood clot found in right leg
Michael Howlett	Recovering from surgery, preparing to begin treatments
Search for Music Leader	God's help and guidance!
RAE Center Staff	Blessings for the school year!
Victims of storms, flooding	Praying for comfort, strength as cleanup and restoration continue
Janie Walters	Recovering from a fall, being moved to a care facility
The World	Praying for peace, an end to war, violence, and suffering!

OUR HOMEBOUND

Mary Helen Blair (home)
Jean Talley (Our Lady of the Valley Nursing Home, Roanoke)

OUR ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS

Abingdon Presbytery	Jason Halsey	Debi Myers
Shonda Blevins	Rev. Ann Elyse Hicks	A.L. Noblett
Delores Brannock	Neal Hylton	Phyllis Oakley
Stacey Bullion	Ima Lindsey	Gary Surratt
Austin Burns	Debbie McCraw	Peggy Tolbert
Alafair Combs	Donna Mayberry	Teresa Webb
Melissa Doerschug	Scott Mitchem	Kathy Welch
Robert Gamble	Lindsay Mowery	Gray Williams
Betty Anne Gaskill	Ted Mowery	Dan Worrell
Tim Gaskill	William "Bill" Mowery	

Address: 172 South Main Street Hillsville, VA 24343 / **Phone:** (276) 728-2722 / **Email:** hpc.ourrock@gmail.com

Our Leadership: Rev. Rebecca Taylor, Pastor; Nancy McDaniel, Clerk of Session; Vickie Mills, Treasurer;
Sue Marshall, Accompanist

Our Session: Nancy McDaniel, Carol Lanham, Susan Mowery, Sandy Porter, Sandy Worrell, Charles Collins,
Ted Westmoreland

Elder of the Month: Carol Lanham (276) 398-2656

Hymn 408

1. There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Refrain:

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with Your love.

And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;

Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived,

When we shall leave this place.

2. There are blessings you cannot receive
Till you know Him in His fullness and believe;

You're the one to profit when you say,
"I am going to walk with Jesus all the way."

Refrain.

Hymn 126

Jesus, Jesus, O what a wonderful child.
Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek and mild.
New life, new hope the child will bring.
Listen to the angels sing:
Glory, glory, glory!
Let the heavens ring.

Hymn 547

1. Go, my children, with my blessing,
Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you,
You are my own.
In my love's baptismal river
I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing,
You are my own.
2. Go, my children, sins forgiving,
At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you,
What I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son's story;
Here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven,
At peace and pure.
3. Go, my children, fed and nourished,
Closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving,
Joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you;
Here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished,
Joyful and free.

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.