



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
 HILLSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
 April 27, 2025 - 11:00 AM  
 Second Sunday of Eastertide



*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 150)

Susan Mowery

Leader: Christ is risen!

**People: Christ is risen indeed!**

Leader: Alleluia! Celebrate God in this sacred space! Celebrate God in all places under heaven!

**People: Give praise for God's mighty deeds! Give praise for God's resurrecting power!**

Leader: Praise God with a fanfare of trumpets.

**People: Praise God with the harp and the cello!**

Leader: Praise God with tambourines and dancing!

**People: Praise God with flutes and guitars!**

Leader: Praise God with cymbals and drums!

**People: Let everything with life and breath praise God!**

**\*Hymn #1: "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"**

Call to Confession (based on John 20:19, 26)

When we keep our fears and faults locked up inside us, it is hard to be healed and receive new life. So let us open ourselves to God in confession, trusting the Lord's desire to give us peace.

**Prayer of Confession**

**God of the empty tomb and our empty hearts, when we are afraid to speak our faith in the world, forgive us and help us to find our voice. When we are afraid to forgive and to love again, forgive us and give us the power to forgive. When we are afraid to stand up to misguided authority, join with the weak to make us all strong. When we are confined by our hurts, touch us with your wounded hands and set us free. When we are locked behind our doubts and fears, pass through our barricades, open our hearts, and give us peace. Amen.**

## Moments of Silence for Personal Confession

Words Assuring Us of God's Grace (based on John 20:21–22, 31)

Christ comes with healing light into our locked places and shadowy hurts, resurrecting our spirits and breathing into us new life. As God's own forgiven people, go to bring peace, forgiveness, and new life to the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

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

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

**Prayer for Understanding** (based on John 20:29)

**Living God, as the risen Christ came into the locked room of the first disciples, may your Word enter into us, by the power of your Holy Spirit, so that we who have not seen may yet believe. Amen.**

First Scripture Reading: Revelation 1:4-8

Susan Mowery

John, to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace and peace to you from the one who is and was and is coming, and from the seven spirits that are before God's throne, and from Jesus Christ—the faithful witness, the firstborn from among the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To the one who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, who made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father—to him be glory and power forever and always. Amen. Look, he is coming with the clouds! Every eye will see him, including those who pierced him, and all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of him. This is so. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "the one who is and was and is coming, the Almighty."

Second Scripture Reading: John 20:19-31

It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you don't forgive them, they aren't forgiven." Thomas, the one called Didymus, one of the Twelve, wasn't with the disciples when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We've seen the Lord!" But he replied, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won't believe." After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!" Thomas responded to Jesus, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus replied, "Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don't see and yet believe." Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples'

presence, signs that aren't recorded in this scroll. But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God's Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.

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

Reflecting on God's Word: "*Witness the Holy Spirit*"

David Welch, Elder

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** (Apostles' Creed <sup>1</sup>)

Susan Mowery

**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 #238: "Thine Is the Glory"**

**\*Benediction: Revelation 1:4,5**

**\*Response #192: "Shine, Jesus, Shine" (refrain only)**

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

<sup>1</sup> Within the first two centuries of Christianity, this creed was formulated to defend the faith from heresy and misunderstanding. The statement underwent several revisions to further clarify the theology of the church and was adopted in its present form during the eighth century. It is the primary expression of Christian doctrine and is used not only in worship but also instruction.

## OUR CURRENT PRAYER CONCERNS

John Frost	Recovering from surgery (torn muscle in leg!)
Rev. David Lovelace	Recently diagnosed with prostate cancer
Gene Meyers	Serious health issues (testing for cancer)
Search for Music Leader	God's help and guidance!
Family & Friends of A.L. Noblett	Grieving his death yet celebrating his life
RAE Center Staff	Blessings for the school year!
Jerry Varn	Home but struggling with weakness
Victims of storms, flooding, fires, earthquakes	Praying for comfort, strength as work continues
Marion Wade	Diagnosed with cancer, awaiting next steps
Janie Walters	Fell out of bed, recovering from surgery
Matt White	Struggling with issues after a stroke
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	Donna Mayberry
Carolyn Anderson	Jerry Mayberry
Delores Brannock	Scott Mitchem
Austin Burns	Jody Moore
Alafair Combs	Ted Mowery
Dale Coulson	William "Bill" Mowery
Robert Gamble	Debi Myers
Betty Anne Gaskill	Sonja Reiss
Tim Gaskill	Shining Orphanage in Thailand
Rev. Ann Elyse Hicks	Gary Surratt
Michael Howlett	Peggy Tolbert
Neal Hylton	Kathy Welch
Ima Lindsey	Gray Williams
Rev. Dr. Gordon Mapes	Dan Worrell

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**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:** Sandy Worrell (276) 233-2233

## Hymn 1

1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to  
Thee;  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

2 Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore Thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around  
the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim, falling down before  
Thee,  
which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

3 Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide  
Thee,  
though the eye of sinfulness Thy glory may  
not see;  
only Thou art holy, there is none beside  
Thee,  
perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth  
and sky and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

## 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.

## Hymn 238

1. Thine is the glory, Risen, conqu'ring Son;  
Endless is the vict'ry Thou o'er death hast  
won!  
Angels in bright raiment Rolled the stone  
away,  
Kept the folded grave-clothes Where Thy  
body lay.

*Refrain:* Thine is the glory,  
Risen, conqu'ring Son;  
Endless is the vict'ry  
Thou o'er death hast won!

2. Lo, Jesus meets us, Risen from the tomb!  
Lovingly He greets us, Scatters fear and  
gloom;  
Let the church with gladness, Hymns of  
triumph sing,  
For the Lord now liveth; Death hath lost  
its sting!

### Refrain

3. No more we doubt Thee, Glorious Prince  
of life;  
Life is naught without Thee; Aid us in our  
strife;  
Make us more than conqu'rors, Through  
Thy deathless love;  
Bring us safe through Jordan To Thy  
home above.

### Refrain

## Hymn 192 Refrain – response

Shine, Jesus, shine;  
Fill this land with the Father's glory.  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze;  
Set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow;  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy.  
Send forth your word,  
Lord, and let there be light.

