

ASSEMBLING IN GOD'S NAME AND LIFTING OUR VOICES

As you gather, take time quietly to sit and prepare your heart to worship God

Prelude "Nimrod" Edward Elgar
(Notes about today's music can be found in the bulletin at the end of the worship section)

Welcome, Announcements

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c (OT Page 582)

*Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: We gather to worship God, whose creative imagination never fails:

People: **For the sake of God, we will search for the outcasts.**

Leader: We gather to praise our God, whose steadfast love never weakens:

People: **For the sake of Jesus, we will lift up all who have fallen.**

Leader: We gather to offer our best to God, who walks with us through eternity:

People: **For the sake of the Holy Spirit, we will walk with the weary.**

*Hymn #43 "On Eagle's Wings"

*Prayer of Adoration

CONFESSING AND RESPONDING TO FORGIVENESS

Call to Confession & Unison Prayer of Confession

We cannot hide from you, Everlasting God, even if we were to go from one edge of creation to the next. You speak to us of compassion, but the ways in which we treat others show we have not been listening. You explain your hopes to us, and we act as if we don't have a clue as to what is going on. We run as fast, and as far, from you as we can, and wonder why we have no energy to follow Jesus. Yet you search for us in all the deserted places we flee to, Never-wearied God, so you can take us by the hand to show us the way to life with you. You heal our broken hearts so we can offer them to others. You fill us with your strength so we can bind ourselves to Jesus, our Savior, following him to serve all of your children. Amen.

-Silent Personal Prayer-

Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: Have you not known? Have you not heard? God never tires out, nor is there an expiration date on God's forgiveness. God is ever with us, healing us with mercy, and strengthening us for service.

People: **If God numbers the stars, surely our names are known by the One who loves us, offers us grace, and forgives us. This is indeed good news for all! Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*Passing the Peace

*Gloria #582

"Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

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. **World without end, without end. Amen. (x3)** As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Time with Children

Special Music "So Will I" Megan Turner

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Isaiah 40: 21-31 (OT Pg 668)

New Testament I Corinthians 9: 16-23 (NT Pg 171)

Gospel Mark 1: 29-39 (NT Pg 35)

Sermon "Choose your Own Adventure" Elder Chris Waller

RESPONDING TO GOD WITH THANKSGIVING

*Hymn #331 "God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand"

*Affirmation of Faith - *The Apostles' Creed*

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.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory "Let Us Rejoice!" Cindy Ovokaitys
Sanctuary Choir

*Let us sing praise for all God has done. Ring out with joy, salvation has come. He is the truth and the way, Rejoice! Sing Hallelujah!
Give glory and honor to God, and let us now sing. We come to rejoice in the Lord. Come all who hear, give ear to God's word.
Jesus is King, Redeemer and Lord! Savior to all who believe.
Come let our spirits rejoice, come and rejoice! Let us sing praise for all God has done
Ring out with joy, salvation has come. He is the Truth and the Way.*

*Doxology #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication

Pastoral Prayer 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

*Hymn #546 "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Benediction

Postlude "Festive Trumpet Tune" David German

(Many people at Hilltop prefer to be seated to listen to the Postlude. If leaving, please do so quietly. Thank you.)

**(Indicates the Congregation will please stand as you are able.)*

ABOUT THE MUSIC IN TODAY'S SERVICE

'Nimrod' is the name given to the ninth and best-known variation in Edward Elgar's Enigma Variations, an orchestral work of 14 variations on an original theme composed between 1898 and 1899. Each variation is also a portrait of one of 14 members of Elgar's family and circle of friends. A celebrated work in its own right, 'Nimrod' is a portrait of Augustus J. Jaeger, Elgar's editor and publisher.

The Festive Trumpet Tune by David German was originally composed as a wedding present to the composer's wife for use at their own wedding. The structure of the piece is similar to other famous Trumpet Tunes by Purcell and Clark. The main theme is announced on a big Trumpet or Tuba stop, and then repeated on the chorus stops. All the stops are pulled out with flourishes as this short march concludes.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT HILLTOP CHURCH!

We are blessed by your presence with us!

Whether today is your first time worshipping at Hilltop or you've been a member for decades, we are glad you are here and pray that the living God will touch your life as you worship with us this morning. +++ **We love having children in worship.** We provide **Noah's Ark Nursery** (with attendants) for children 4 and

under but, of course, they are always welcome in worship. Please don't be overly concerned about bothering others. If you do feel you need to take your child out of the sanctuary during the service, we hope you'll return when you feel the time is right. +++ Out of respect for those worshipping near you **please take a moment to turn off cell phones.**

For additional information please use this QR code to learn more.

ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR A NEW CHURCH HOME?

We invite you to learn more about the mission and ministry of Hilltop. We are always looking for new ways to embody Jesus' call to love God and our neighbors in this community and throughout the world. We have a heart for mission and we believe in including children and families in everything we do. We'd love for you to be part of our future, continuing Jesus Christ's earthly ministry of building God's Kingdom.

While you're here, please:

- **Fill out** a visitor card and drop it in the offering plate to let us know you were here and to request a call or visit from the pastor.
- **Pick up a copy of the Spire** (our church newsletter).
- **Speak with the pastor** and help us get to know you.

Interfaith Food Pantry - Item of the Week

Hilltop is collecting a much-needed item each week for the IFP Network. This is our way of helping to ease that decline. The "Item of the Week" is pasta.

SERVING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

Greeting you at the front door is Anne Kleemeyer.
Our Reader is Cassandra Tarentino.
Our Usher Coordinator is David Kerr.
Operating our Video System is Bob Willis.
Operating our Sound System is Greg Smith.

PRAYING TOGETHER AT HILLTOP:

If you wish to speak to the Pastor Reverend Scot McCachren you can email him at rev.scot.mcc@gmail.com. For pastoral needs after hours please call (201)400-1834.

Area of Ministry: Fellowship
Nt'l Mission: Race Reconciliation

Local Mission: Interfaith Food Pantry
Int'l Mission: Prayers for Nokias & Obi



COMING UP AT HILLTOP...

Communion Bible Worship Class is starting TODAY !

If your child is in 3rd grade and up, we would love for him/her to join us 1/28, 2/4, 2/11, 2/25 from 10-11am in the Library at Hilltop House and for Communion/Bible Presentation 3/3 during worship.

Topics covered are how to use and find verses in the Bible, how we remember what Jesus did for us when we take Communion and how we worship as Presbyterians.

To sign up or for more info, email Cathy Malman, cimalman12@gmail.com

Christian Education, Nurture and Development for Adults at Hilltop Church

Women's Bible Study Group - Thursday mornings in the Hilltop House Library from 9:45-11:30 am

Men's Bible Study Group - Saturday mornings in the Hilltop House Library from 8:30-10:00 am

Adult Education - Sundays immediately after Church in the Hilltop House parlor and tries to wrap up its meetings by around 12:30. On the final Sunday of each month there's no formal meeting and, instead, we typically meet at the Blackhorse Pub for fellowship and brunch. We hope you'll join us.

THIS WEEK AT HILLTOP

Monday, January 29th
7:00 p.m. Oratorio Choir in Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, January 30th
Wednesday, January 31st
Thursday, February 1st
9:45 a.m. Women's Bible Study
6:45 p.m. Bell Choir
7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir
Friday, February 2nd The Church Office is Closed on Fridays
8:30 p.m. AA in the Steelman Room
Saturday, February 3rd
8:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
Sunday, February 4th
10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. Adult Education and Fellowship at Hilltop House



NEXT SUNDAY:
February 4th, 2024
Pastor Scot to Preach

To worship with us online at 10 am (or anytime after) please visit the homepage of our website for the link and bulletin:

https://www.hilltopchurch.org/t_homepage.asp
Subscribe to our channel here: <https://www.youtube.com/c/HilltopChurchMendham>

JANUARY 28TH, 2024
The 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Welcome to Hilltop Church

The First Presbyterian Church
of Mendham, New Jersey

“Proclaiming Christ’s Presence and
Continuing Christ’s Work since 1738”

HILLTOP CHURCH
PLEASE JOIN US FOR
KIDS K-5TH
PARENT'S NIGHT OUT!
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH
5:00-8:00 PM

\$20 PER CHILD,
\$10 EACH ADDITIONAL CHILD
TO SUPPORT C.E. MISSIONS
COME WATCH THE MOVIE
“LEO”
PIZZA, SNACKS, CRAFTS &
MORE
14 HILLTOP RD. MENDHAM, NJ

Summertime Fun at Hilltop Church!
June 17-21, 2024 | Full or Half-Day
For children entering grades 1-5
Register soon -- Limited to the first 40!

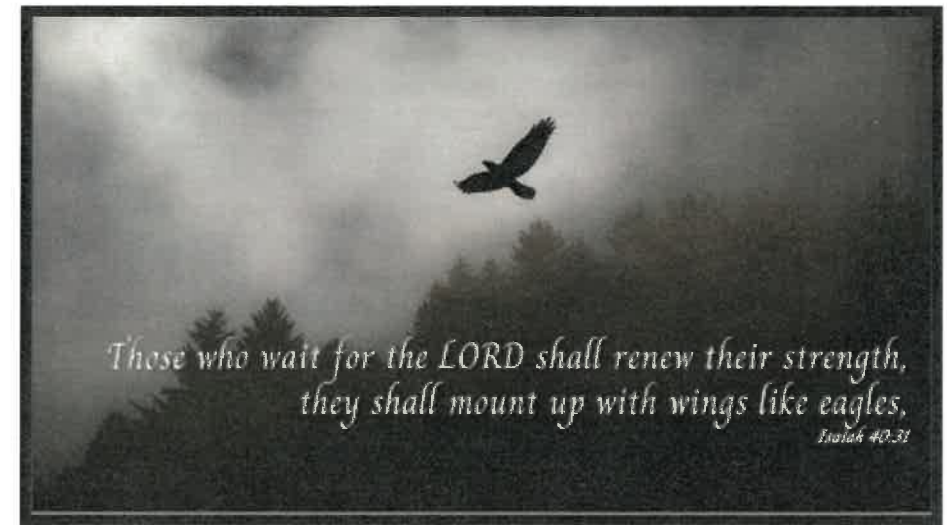
Camp Hilltop
Summertime • Enrichment
Jesus!

Morning Vacation Bible School

STUPA
Civility into Friendship with God

Afternoon Enrichment Programs

GEOGRAPHY LAB Climate Landmarks Compasses Mapmaking	SCIENCE STEMpire Gravity Blending Colors Chemical Reactions Pressure Experiment	RANDOLPH MARTIAL ARTS ACADEMY Control Discipline Self Defense Age-Appropriate
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Black Hawk Soaring by Tim Mossholder, 2019

Sunday, February 25, 2024
8:30 - 8:00pm

MUSIC ON THE HILL

Taylor Swift Edition

Live Music from All 10 Eras
Friendship Bracelets & Photo Booth
Concession Stand

3:30 Bracelets and Photos
4:00 Music
Hilltop House
14 Hilltop Road
Mendham, NJ

Featuring Megan Pepper

Suggested Donation \$20 to support Appalachia Service Project

Let us know you are coming!
<https://bit.ly/tayloratmh>

SERVING CHRIST AND YOU AT HILLTOP

Reverend Scot McCachren - Pastor/ Head of Staff
James Wynne - Director of Music Ministries
Tori Legacki- Director of Hilltop Christian Nursery School
Bill Lowe- Clerk of Session Brian Elliott - Treasurer
Dane Manchester - Assistant Treasurer
Amy Beal & Marilyn Willett - Moderators of the Board of Deacons
Lissa Anderson- Stephen Leader
Bob Willis - Organ Curator & Video Greg Smith - Audio
Danielle Doyle - Office Manager
John Andrews - Facilities Manager Brendan Doyle - Facilities Assistant

Office: 14 Hilltop Road. Sanctuary: 20 Hilltop Road
Mendham, NJ 07945
(973) 543-4012 hilltopchurch.org office@hilltopchurch.org

MINISTERS

All the Members of Hilltop Church

OUR MISSION

The purpose of the First Presbyterian Church, Mendham, NJ is to acknowledge and proclaim the presence and power of God and to continue the work of Jesus Christ by loving God, God's world, each other and ourselves. We are committed to the growth of faith, the spreading of the good news, and the mission of caring for those near and far. We fulfill these commitments through prayers, study, sharing, teaching and serving.