

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 "Musette" David Holden
(Notes about today's music can be found in the bulletin at the end of the worship section)

Welcome, Announcements

Psalm 111:1-10 (OT Page 562)

*Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Come, let us praise the Lord!

People: We praise God with our whole heart!

Leader: God's works are great!

People: Open our hearts and spirits to see your works, O Lord!

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord who has saved us!

People: May our lives reflect the wondrous love of God. Let us worship!

*Hymn #35 "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

*Prayer of Adoration

CONFESSING AND RESPONDING TO FORGIVENESS

Call to Confession & Unison Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we think we know so much and have all the answers. In our self-proclaimed wisdom, we judge others. We arrogantly announce our own righteousness without a compassionate thought. We proclaim your word when it suits us and often only to those with whom we want to associate. We shut others out because of our faulty judgement and blindness. Help us to see where our humble help may be a blessing. Help us to share and serve. Speak to us and teach us the way we should go. Open our hearts and make us listen. Remind us again of your love. Forgive our foolishness and our stubbornness. Create in us new spirits, filled with your love, offering peace and hope to the world. Amen.

-Silent Personal Prayer-

Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God

*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 The Joyful Ringers

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Deuteronomy 18:15-20 (OT Pg 174)

New Testament I Corinthians 8:1-13 (NT Pg 171)

Gospel Mark 1:21-2 (NT Pg 35)

Sermon "So-Called Gods" Pastor Scot

RESPONDING TO GOD WITH THANKSGIVING

*Hymn #450 "Be Thou My Vision"

*Affirmation of Faith - Adapted from the Confession of 1967 (9.15)

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory "Ascribe to the Lord" Joseph Metzger

Sanctuary Choir
Ascribe to the Lord O Mighty One
Ascribe to the Lord Glory and strength
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due to His name
Worship the Lord In the beauty of his holiness
Come and sing praises To the Lord of all ages
Come and sing praises To Jesus our Lord
Bow down before Him Worship, adore Him
Come and sing praise To Jesus our Lord

*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 #545 "Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace"

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Benediction

Postlude "Marche Romaine" Charles Gounod

(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

It has been stated that the music of Ralph Vaughn-Williams signaled a departure of the strong influence German composers had over the English. Along with contemporary, Gustav Holst, Vaughn-Williams used Tudor and English Folk Song melodies as a chief inspiration, collecting hundreds of English songs in his travels around the British Isles. Recently, the Oratorio Choir performed his 'Fantasia on English Carols' – a collection of traditionally English Christmas Carols arranged by the composer.

Charles Gounod is best known as the composer of the opera 'Faust.' He wrote 12 operas, but also wrote a great deal of chamber music, as well as music for the church, as he was deeply religious. Due in large part to his friendship with Mendelssohn, Gounod was inspired by the music of Bach. It is the Bach 'Prelude in C' that forms the accompaniment for his 'Ave Maria,' second in popularity of that setting only to the version composed by Franz Schubert.

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.

SERVING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

Greeting you at the front door are Ray and Bonnie King.

Our Reader is Amy Beal.

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!

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 22nd
Tuesday, January 23rd
7:00 p.m. Deacons
Wednesday, January 24th
Thursday, January 25th
9:45 a.m. Women's Bible Study
6:45 p.m. Bell Choir
7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir
Friday, January 26th **The Church Office is Closed on Fridays**
8:30 p.m. AA in the Steelman Room
Saturday, January 27th
8:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
10:00 am "I'm All Ears" Listening Workshop
Sunday, January 28th
10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. Adult Education and Fellowship at Black Horse Pub



NEXT SUNDAY:

January 28, 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>

"I'm All Ears"

A Listening Workshop

at Hilltop House, 14 Hilltop Rd, Mendham
Saturday 27th January 10am – 12 noon

- Do you consider yourself a good listener?
- Do others say you're a good listener?
- Do you find it easier to listen to others if you want something, or wish to impress, than to members of your family for whom you don't need to make an effort?

We can probably all point out those people who don't listen, who steam on with their own agenda. Those are not the ones with whom we'd share our deepest vulnerabilities. Are we more like them than we think?

Come and let's discuss together how to listen well, listen more effectively, discover your obstacles (and perhaps where they're rooted), through exercises and roleplay in a safe environment.

Facilitated by
Christina Walker, MA
Voice & Communication Coach at
Wycliffe Hall Theological College
Oxford, England
<https://www.bespokevoice.com>

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

JANUARY 21ST, 2024
The 3rd 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"

"Is There Nothing Sacred?" - Part II
The Hilltop Presbyterian Church Concert Series presents
"A Concert of Transcriptions for the Pipe Organ"

Arrangements of famous music not usually heard on the Pipe Organ
- and None of it is Sacred Music!



Program to Include...

- Beethoven: Symphony #7 in A, 2nd Mvt
- Offenbach: Can-Can
- Strauss: Tritsch-Tratsch Polka
- Massenet: Meditation
- Barber: Adagio
- Von Suppe: Poet and Peasant
- Grieg: The Last Spring
- Anderson: Bugler's Holiday

James Wynne, Organist

Sunday Afternoon, January
21st, at 3:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$15 for Adults
\$10 for Students

Children under 12 are Free!

Hilltop Presbyterian Church
20 Hilltop Road, Mendham, NJ

For Ticket Information, call:

973-543-4012

Jessel: Parade of the Wooden Soldiers

Copland: Fanfare for the Common Man

Mouret: Rondeau

Sousa: The Stars and Stripes Forever

Audience Participation Encouraged!

Dancing in the Aisles Permitted!

Humming Along and Tapping Your Toes

Are the Order of the Day!



Apartheon: Parade of the Gods by Jesse McGibney, 2015

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.