

## 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** "Largo" G.F. Handel  
*(Notes about today's music can be found in the bulletin at the end of the worship section)*

### Welcome, Announcements

**Psalm Psalm 62:5-12** (OT Page 528)

### \*Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Jesus says, "Now is the time!"  
**People: Startle us, God, from our busyness and routines. Show us how very close your Kingdom is.**

Leader: Jesus says, "God's kingdom is at hand!"  
**People: Deliver us, God, from faith in our own strength. Free us from the traps of violence, dishonesty, and greed.**

Leader: Jesus says, "Receive the good news from God!"  
**People: Embolden us, God, to trust you anew. For we are as fragile as breath and draw our strength from your mercy and compassion.**

\*Hymn #286 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

### \*Prayer of Adoration

## CONFESSING AND RESPONDING TO FORGIVENESS

### Call to Confession & Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of procrastinating prophets, we can spend so much time waiting for the perfect moment, that we might miss the chance to help another. We may worry so much about saying the right thing, that we say nothing to encourage a person who needs such words. We may be so wrapped up in dealing with the stresses of life, that we have no time to deal with your hopes and dreams for us. Forgive us, God of second chances. By your grace, we can hear your words of compassion and forgiveness; by your mercy, we can place our feet back on the path of discipleship; by your love, we are welcomed as your children by our Brother and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**-Silent Personal Prayer-**

### Assurance of Pardon:

Pastor: If it can happen in Ninevah, repentance and forgiveness can happen in us; if God can call a stubborn person like Jonah, God can call us to lives of faithful discipleship.

**People: Let us lay aside our fears and doubts, all our worries and resistance, so we can follow Jesus, trusting always in the One who forgives us, in this moment, and all the moments to come.**

Pastor: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

### \*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.

### \*Passing the Peace

### Special Music

## PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

### Time with Children

### Prayer for Illumination

**Old Testament Reading** **Jonah 3:1-5, 10** (OT Pg 247)  
**New Testament Reading** **1 Corinthians 7:29-31** (NT Pg 170)  
**Gospel Reading** **Mark 1:14-20** (NT Page 35)

**Sermon** "2 99/100" Pastor Scot

## RESPONDING TO GOD WITH THANKSGIVING

\*Hymn #697 "Take My Life"

### \*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** "A Joyful One Hundred" Joseph Martin  
Sanctuary Choir

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord. Lift a joyful shout among the people.*

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord. Come into His presence with song.*

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord. Lift a joyful shout among the nations.*

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord. Come before His presence, singing*

*Worship God with voices strong. Let the voice of music ring,*

*Praise God with tuneful song. Know that the Lord is our Creator.*

*He is our gentle Shepherd. We are His people.*

*Our God is faithful, and His mercy endureth. His love will last forevermore.*

*Enter His gates with singing. Praise God with loud thanksgiving.*

*Let all with life declare the 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 #543 "God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me"

## GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

### \*Benediction

**Postlude** "Festival Toccata" Percy Fletcher

*(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

George Frederick Handel was a great self-promoter. Brought from Germany by the Elector of Hannover – soon to be King George I, Handel knew how to write music that would please the court. When the conservative Protestant establishment prevented him from producing his operas during Lent, he quickly filled this void by writing Oratorios, or sacred operas – the most famous of these is 'Messiah.' His Opera, 'Xerxes,' was actually a flop when it was first premiered. It is based upon the life of the Persian King – but contains one of Handel's most enduring melodies – the Largo – the title of which is simply a tempo marking.

Born in Derby, Fletcher was largely self-taught, though his parents were both musical and he learned to play violin, piano and organ before embarking on a career of theatrical conducting. He took positions at the Prince of Wales, Savoy and the Drury Lane Theatre under Johnston Forbes-Robertson. In 1915 he was appointed musical director at His Majesty's Theatre by Sir Herbert Tree, where he stayed until his death. Fletcher also composed ballads, works for chorus, a string quartet, and suites for light orchestra, as well as the Passion of Christ (1922) and organ voluntaries for church use. Intended to be performed by smaller, less experienced choirs, the Passion is sometimes used as an alternative to Stainer's The Crucifixion, though its influences derive more from Elgar than from Mendelssohn.

## 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** is Dave Kerr.

**Our Reader** is Jeffrey Betz

**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](mailto: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...

### Christian Education Update

Heads up! ... **Sunday School is back!** Sunday School is currently serving grades K through 4th grade. Join us in the sanctuary for worship, and we will walk down to Hilltop House together for Sunday School!

### 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.

### Upcoming Fellowship Events at Hilltop Church



**SECOND SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP**

**Chili COOK OFF**

**Sunday - January 14**  
5:00 pm  
Hilltop House  
14 Hilltop Rd, Mendham

**Hit us with your best shot!** **Win Prizes!**



**POWERED BY**

**KARAOKE PAINT Night**

Register in advance by following the QR code OR contact the church office at (973) 543-4012 or office@hilltopchurch.org

**ENTRY FEE \$35 PER PERSON February 11 @ 4:30 - 6:30 PM**  
Covers Everything!

**HILLTOP HOUSE FELLOWSHIP HALL**  
14 HILLTOP RD | MENDHAM NJ 07945

hilltopchurch.org

### THIS WEEK AT HILLTOP

**Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**

7:30 p.m. Session

**Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>**

9:45 a.m. Women's Bible Study

6:45 p.m. Bell Choir

7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

**Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup> The Church Office is Closed on Fridays**

8:30 p.m. AA in the Steelman Room

**Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>**

8:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study

**Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>**

10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

11:15 a.m. Adult Education and Fellowship

3:00 p.m. Hilltop concert Series: Organ Transcriptions, Part II



NEXT SUNDAY:

**January 21, 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](https://www.hilltopchurch.org/t_homepage.asp)

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



### 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](http://hilltopchurch.org) office@hilltopchurch.org

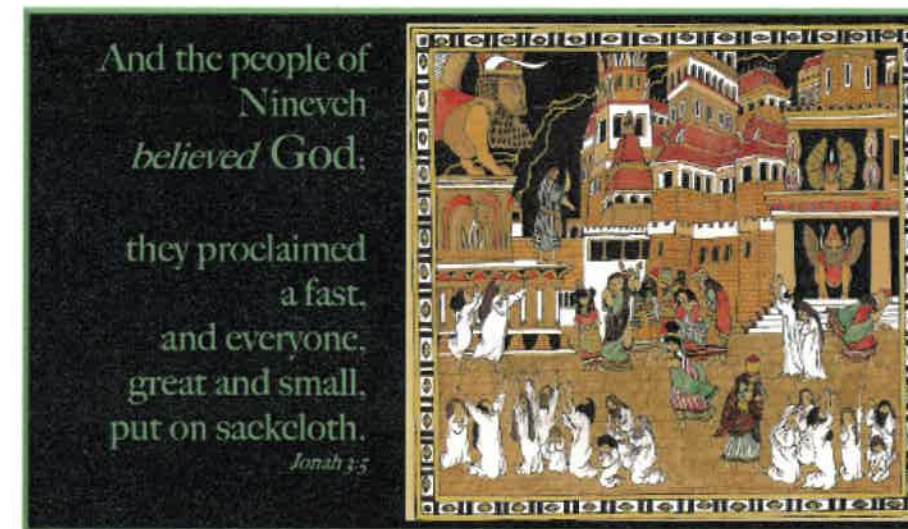
JANUARY 14TH, 2024

The 2nd 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”



*The Inhabitants of Nineveh Repent by Renáta Fučíková, 1996*

### 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.