

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 "Fugue on the 'Kyrie'" Francois Couperin
(Notes about today's music can be found in the bulletin at the end of the worship section)

Welcome, Announcements

Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22 (OT Page 559)

*Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.
People: God's steadfast love endures forever.
Leader: Let those redeemed by the Lord say:
People: God's steadfast love endures forever.
Leader: When we cried out to God in our distress,
People: God saved us in our hour of need.
Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.
People: God's steadfast love endures forever.

***Hymn #267 "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"**

*Prayer of Adoration

CONFESSING AND RESPONDING TO FORGIVENESS

Call to Confession & Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess the folly of our sin and the hypocrisy of our complaints. We grumble about the evils in our world, even as we commit injustices and profit through deceit. We fret about the scarcity of resources while hoarding earth's goods and cheating the poor. We protest the problems of our world, but we do not actively work to address them. Merciful God, expose our sins before the light of your grace. Heal our sin and free us from our foolish ways that we may know the joy of eternal life in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen
-Silent Personal Prayer-

Assurance of Pardon:

Pastor: Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: 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 "Here I am Lord" Daniel L. Schulte
Amy Burns

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Numbers 21:4-9 (OT Pg 139)

Gospel John 3:14-21 (NT Pg 94)

Sermon "Snakes on the Plain (Look into the Light)" Pastor Scot

RESPONDING TO GOD WITH THANKSGIVING

***Hymn 826 "Lift High the Cross"**

***Affirmation of Faith - adapted from the Confession of 1967 (9.31)**

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory "Be Strong In the Lord" Thornbill and Nix
Sanctuary Choir

Be strong in the Lord, trust Him in all of your ways.
Be strong in the Lord, serve Him for all of your days.
Whatever path you travel, wherever you may go
God will be your Shepherd, You'll never walk alone.
Mountains may rise before you, storms may be fierce and strong.
Shadows may gather 'round you when the night is long.

***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 #643 "Now Thank We All Our God"**

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Benediction

Postlude "Fantasia in G Minor" J.S. Bach

(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

François Couperin was a keyboard player during the Baroque Period. He was born into a musical family and eventually became harpsichordist at the court of the Sun King, Louis XIV. His compositions very highly influenced by the Italian composer, Corelli.

It is believed the Bach composed his Great Fantasia and Fugue in G Minor, BWV 542, while his was organist in Cöthen. (1717-1723) The Fantasia section of the piece is the postlude today. Unlike his pairing of Prelude and Fugue, the Fantasia component allowed for a more free-form style. Later, during the Romantic Period, Franz Liszt created a transcription of this piece for the piano.

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 Elisabeth MacDonald.

Our Reader is Linda McCachren.

Our Usher Coordinator is David Kerr.

Operating our Video System is Bob Willis.

Operating our Sound System is Greg Smith.

The Flowers on the Table are given by Beth Smith to the Glory of God for Lilly Montenegro.

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: Session

Nt'l Mission: Women's Ministries

Local Mission: Table of Hope

Int'l Mission: One Great Hour

COMING UP AT HILLTOP...

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.

One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing is a special offering during Lent in which Presbyterians can share God's love with neighbors in need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry and support for the poor and oppressed. The three programs supported are Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People.

Through our collective gifts, One Great Hour of Sharing currently supports projects in over 100 countries. Please consider making a contribution to One Great Hour of Sharing by Palm Sunday (March 24). There are special offering envelopes in the church pews or indicate your donation is for OGHS. There is an option online through BREEZE. Thank you.

THIS WEEK AT HILLTOP

- Monday, March 11th**
7:00 p.m. Oratorio Choir in Fellowship Hall
- Tuesday, March 12th**
4:00 p.m. Personnel
7:00 p.m. Membership
- Wednesday, March 13th**
12:00 p.m. Lenten Lunch at Grace Lutheran Church
6:30 p.m. Stewardship & Finance
- Thursday, March 14th**
9:45 a.m. Women's Bible Study
6:45 p.m. Bell Choir
7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir
- Friday, March 15th** **The Church Office is Closed on Fridays**
8:30 p.m. AA in the Steelman Room
- Saturday, March 16th**
8:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- Sunday, March 17th**
10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. Adult Education and Fellowship at Hilltop House



NEXT SUNDAY:
March 17th, 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

- 8 oz. bottles of water
- Granola bars (no nuts)

Plenty to Share

February 18 - March 10, 2024

During this Lenten season, please consider sharing some non-perishable goods with our mission partners. Drop off bins are located at Hilltop Church and Hilltop House

- Shampoo, Conditioner
- Toothpaste, Toothbrush

- Full size foil pans
- Disposable forks and knives
- 1-3 compartment to go containers

- Laundry Pods
- Coffee - instant and ground
- Bed pillows (only new)
- Twin blankets - no throws.

To make a credit card donation, click on the QR code and select "Give to pLENTy to Share" from the dropdown menu or go to www.hilltopchurch.org/mission-partners

- Soap, Body Wash
- Paper Towels, Toilet Paper
- Garbage bags
- Dish Soap, Cleaning supplies

Summertime Fun at Hilltop Church!

June 17-21, 2024 9:00 - 12:30

For children entering grades 1-5

Register soon - Limited to the first 40!

Vacation Bible School

Follow this code to register now!

- Music
- Skits
- Hands-on Science Experiments
- Tidal Treats Snacks
- Bible Adventures
- Reef Recreation

Only \$75 for the whole week!

Mendham

Lenten

Lunches

February 14 - Brookside Community Church UCC
 February 21 - TBD
 February 28 - Hilltop Presbyterian
 March 6 - St. Mark's Episcopal Church
 March 13 - Mendham United Methodist Church
 March 20 - TBD

Wednesdays
 Worship at 12pm
 Lunch at 12:30

Held at Grace Lutheran Church 65 E Main St, Mendham

MARCH 10TH, 2024

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Welcome to Hilltop Church

The First Presbyterian Church of Mendham, New Jersey

"Proclaiming Christ's Presence and Continuing Christ's Work since 1738"



Moses and the Brazen Serpent by Anthony van Dyck, circa 1620

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 & Lisa Oberai- 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.