

HILL UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

APRIL 7, 2024 - 10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

2nd Sunday of Easter | Lord's Supper
Our Weekly Celebration of the Resurrection



THE HILL UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HONORING THE PAST AND CELEBRATING THE FUTURE

501 Second Street | Butler, Pennsylvania 16001
724-287-5427 | www.hillup.org | hillup@zoominternet.net

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE

PASTOR

Rev. Leigh Benish
pastorleighb@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATIVE

ASSISTANT

Lu Olszak
office.hillup@gmail.com

MINISTERS

The Entire Congregation

TREASURER

Paula Nguyen
treasurer.hillup@gmail.com

TECHNOLOGY TEAM

Elder Tom Graham
Deacon Kyle Nevel
Jon Harper

PASTORAL CARE

Rev. Mark Davis, HR

MUSIC MINISTRY

Nancy Slezak
*Organist and Memorial
Handbell Choir Director*

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Elder Lauren McElhaney
financialsecretary.hillup@gmail.com

CLERK OF SESSION

Elder Louise Evans

◆———— WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP ———◆

GATHERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Leigh Benish

MINUTE FOR MISSION: MEALS ON WHEELS BAKING

PRELUDE

“There is a Happy Land” *arr. Dale Wood*

Nancy Slezak

***CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)**

Deacon Marsh Miller

ONE: People of God, sing praise! Give thanks to God’s holy name!

ALL: God has turned our mourning into joyful song and dance.

ONE: God has taken away our funeral clothes, and clothed us with joy instead.

ALL: May we sing with abandon and may our praises never be silent.

***OPENING PRAYER (UNISON)**

Deacon Marsh Miller

Holy God, as you have taken what we would call an absurdity and turned it into possibility; as you have coaxed us to sing springtime alleluias where once there was a gray dawn; as you have called us out of the tombs we inhabit into an undreamed of tomorrow, we praise you for this day! Come, Risen Christ, in newness and hope on this Eastertide day. Amen.

***HYMN #108**

“Christ is Alive!”

(TRURO)

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Rev. Leigh Benish

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)**

Rev. Leigh Benish

Merciful God, you know better than we do what important people we believe we are. Thinking we have to be serious all the time, we miss out on the joy of your creation. Choosing to feast on the pain of the world, we skip the picnic offered in paradise. Forgive us, Heart of Joy, and make us open to the startling, upside-down ways in which you work. Fill us with Easter's laughter, with your healing joy, and with the love poured into us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Hear this prayer, O God, and hear us as we lift our silent confessions before you now...

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Rev. Leigh Benish

***GLORIA PATRI (HYMN #579)**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Rev. Leigh Benish

A TIME ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN

Rev. Leigh Benish

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Deacon Marsh Miller

◆———— WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD ———◆

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 8:1-5 (CEB)

Deacon Marsh Miller

WISDOM READING

Ecclesiastes 3:1-4 (NRSV)

Deacon Marsh Miller

ANTHEM

“Hyfrydol” *arr. by John Purifoy*

Pam Lentz, flute

**indicates where all are invited to rise in body or spirit*

GOSPEL READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (TIB)

Rev. Leigh Benish

SERMON

“April Fools!”

Rev. Leigh Benish

◆————— **WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD** —————◆

HYMN #106

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks” (v.2)

ALLELUIA NO. 1

AN INVITATION TO OFFER OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Deacon Marsh Miller

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)**

Deacon Marsh Miller

God of Laughter and Joy, grant us joyful hearts and holy senses of humor. Give us the gift of faith, to be renewed and shared with others each day. Teach us to live in this moment, looking neither to the past with regret, nor to the future with apprehension. Let love be our guide, and our lives a grateful prayer. Amen.

***DOXOLOGY (HYMN #592)**

*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.*

READING

“With My Outside Voice”

by Rev. Sarah A. Speed

SHARING OUR JOYS & CONCERNS

Rev. Leigh Benish

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Leigh Benish

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Leigh Benish

ONE: The Lord be with you. **ALL: And also with you.**

ONE: Lift up your hearts. **ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.**

ONE: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise

THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

Rev. Leigh Benish

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 OF INSTITUTION

Rev. Leigh Benish

SHARING IN THE LORD’S SUPPER

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (UNISON)

Deacon Marsh Miller

God of joy, your belly laughter echoes through the world. We have responded to your invitation to join in the Banquet, and we have tasted your goodness. May the joy we find in this meal together lift up our hearts. May we carry your laughter to the world around us, and may we live out the foolishness called love wherever we go.

◆————— **WE GO OUT TO SERVE** —————◆

***HYMN #121**

“That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright”

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

***BLESSINGS AND BENEDICTION**

Rev. Leigh Benish

***POSTLUDE**

“Marziale” by L. Buttazzo

Nancy Slezak

HAPPENINGS ON THE HILL

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK: Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 am-1:30 pm

PASTOR LEIGH IS AWAY ON LEAVE APRIL 10-26

MONDAY, 4/8: Session Meeting, Hall Lounge, 6:45 pm

TUESDAY, 4/9: Women's Bible Study, Hall Lounge/Zoom, 9:30-11:00 am

Staff Meeting, Deacons' Room, 11:15 am

Adults' Night Out, Fellowship Hall, 6:00 pm

Overeaters Anonymous (OA), Hall Lounge, 7:00 pm

WEDNESDAY, 4/10: Community Dinners, St Andrews UP, 5:00 pm

FRIDAY, 4/12: Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Handbell Room, 10:00 am

SATURDAY, 4/13: Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Fellowship Hall, 11:00 am

SUNDAY, 4/14: Worship Service, 10:30 am

3rd Sunday of Easter

Elementary Sunday School, Art Room, 11:45 am

Fellowship Hour, Fellowship Hall, 11:45 am

Community Lunches, St. Andrews UP, 12:00 pm

VOLUNTEERS & LEADERS TODAY

OPENER/CLOSER: Dave Olenic

LITURGIST: Marsh Miller

ORGANIST: Nancy Slezak

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Tom Graham

ACOLYTE: Jackson Harper

GREETERS: Bob Scott & Norbert Slezak

FELLOWSHIP: Carol Gadsby & Nancy Luellen

COUNTERS: None

CHANCEL FLOWERS: Given with love by
Mike & Debbie Markiw in honor of
Jean Markiw's 95th birthday

FLOWER DELIVERY: Marsh Miller & Kyle Nevel

APRIL 14 VOLUNTEERS & LEADERS

OPENER/CLOSER: Bob Kennedy

LITURGIST: Susan Catanzarito

ORGANIST: Nancy Slezak

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Kyle Nevel

ACOLYTE: Kaydence Hall

GREETERS: Bob Kennedy & Gerry Graham

FELLOWSHIP: Nurture Committee

COUNTERS: Louise Evans & Debbie Markiw

CHANCEL FLOWERS: Given with love by
Mark & Kathleen Davis in honor of the 40th
adoption anniversary of their sons,
John & Frank

FLOWER DELIVERY: Becky Bayne &
Sherry Neely

SESSION & TRUSTEES

Moderator: Rev Leigh Benish | Clerk of Session: Louise Evans

(A) Administration | (N) Nurture | (M) Mission | (W) Worship

(CE) Christian Education | (S) Stewardship | *Committee Chair

2024

Kathleen Davis* (M)

Karen Earhart* (CE)

Lauren McElhaney (S)

Pete McElhaney (A)

Anne Miller* (A)

2025

Janet Edinger (A)

Gerry Graham (CE)

Jim Kameron* (N)

Debbie Markiw (M)

Arlene Roth* (W)

2026

Doug Hall (N)

Lauren Nace (CE)

Kathy Nevel (W)

Dave Olenic (A)

Ruth Scott* (S)

BOARD OF DEACONS

Moderator: Barb Kameron

Vice Moderator: Deacon Marsh Miller

Secretary: Kyle Nevel

Treasurer: Becky Bayne

Assistant Treasurer: Sherry Neely

2024

Chris Leroy

Jack Montag

Sharon Montag

2025

Barb Kameron

Marsh Miller

Kyle Nevel

2026

Becky Bayne

Ray Dougherty

Sherry Neely



ELECTRONIC GIVING

To give a gift electronically, please scan the QR code.



PRAYER REQUESTS

To send a request directly to Pastor Leigh, please scan the QR code.

WORSHIP NEXT WEEK

Sunday, April 14, 2024 | 3rd Sunday of Easter

Readings: Psalm 4:1-8; Acts 3:12-19 | Rev. Dr. Karen Anderson

ANNOUNCEMENTS: APRIL 7, 2024

BOOK CLUB APRIL GATHERING

The Hill Church book club gathering will meet **TODAY** following worship in the Hall Lounge to discuss “The Color Purple” by Alice Walker. ALL are welcome!

ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL

ALL youth in grades K-6 are invited to Sunday School **following worship**. Students may get a snack and then go directly to the Art Room.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

ALL women are invited to Bible Study on **Tuesday mornings from 9:30-11:00** in the Hall Lounge or on Zoom. Kathleen Davis is teaching about the Gospel of John. If you would like the Zoom information, contact the church office.

ADULTS’ NIGHT OUT

The next Adults’ Night Out is **Tuesday, April 9 at 6:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. A sign-up sheet is available on the Deacons’ table, or call to church office.

PASTOR LEIGH AWAY

Pastor Leigh will be away from April 10-27 for a short study leave followed by a leave of absence to address health concerns. Please keep her and her family in prayer during this time. If you have a pastoral need, please contact Rev. Mark Davis.

GARDEN CLUB

Spring into action with the Garden Club! Join us on **Saturday, April 13 at 10:00 am** for light mulching, weeding and trimming. Please bring tools such as gloves, rakes, and shovels. No tools? No problem. We can share! Contact Pete McElhaney or Gerry Graham if you have any questions.

MEALS ON WHEELS BAKING

The Deacons are hosting a collection baked goods for Meals on Wheels. Cakes, pies, cupcakes, cookies, brownies, muffins, and sweet breads are welcome. **Please no nuts or icing**. Bring your items to worship with you next Sunday, **April 14**, and place them on the tables in the Giving Corner. If you need your items picked up, contact Barb Kameron.

DEACONS’ CARE PACKAGES

The Deacons are sending care packages to college students and service members who are personally, or children or grandchildren of, church members. Please fill out an orange form found on worship tables, or call the church office. A new form must be completed each semester. Address forms are due next Sunday, **April 14**.

COMMUNITY MEAL MINISTRIES GALA & ART SHOW

April 13 | 6:00-9:00 pm

Tickets required (\$30 each)

Art Show featuring 5 artists, including Hill Church's Mark Hall; Basket, Quilt, & 50/50 Raffles; Appetizers; Adult Beverages; Cookie Table; Photo Booth; Live Music

April 14 | 12:00-3:00 pm

Free to attend

Art Show featuring 5 artists, including Hill Church's Mark Hall; Refreshments; Basket, Quilt, & 50/50 Raffles (winners chosen at 2:00)

See Becky Plymale or Judy Birch to purchase Saturday evening & 50/50 raffle tickets.

FAMILY MOVIE DAY

Grab your *GOLDEN TICKET* and your movie theatre *CHOCOLATE* and join us to watch a popular 2023 musical prequel on **Sunday, April 21, at 3:00 pm**. Popcorn and drinks will be provided. ALL ages welcome!

2024 PER CAPITA

If you would like to help cover the costs of ministry at the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly levels, you are invited to contribute **\$44.20 per person**. Thank you!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY APRIL REQUEST: Cereal, Granola, and Oats

Donations may be placed in the food barrel in the Giving Corner.



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF HILL CHURCH?

If you have been considering becoming an official member of Hill Church, please scan the QR code or visit <https://bit.ly/HillUPNewMember> to fill out the interest form. New Member conversations will be held in June. If you have any questions, please see Pastor Leigh.

NOMINATIONS FORM CHURCH OFFICER & MEMBER-AT-LARGE

I prayerfully submit the following people for nomination to the office of:

ELDER:

DEACON:

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBER-AT-LARGE:

I would like to volunteer myself for consideration for the office of:

NAME: _____

PLEASE PLACE YOUR COMPLETED FORM IN AN OFFERING PLATE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DISCERNMENT!

CHURCH OFFICER QUALIFICATIONS

The Nominating Committee is in the process of discernment regarding the slate of nominees for membership on the Session, the Board of Deacons, and the Nominating Committee. You are invited to participate in this process by submitting names of individuals whom you feel are qualified to serve. You may nominate yourself as well.

Elders and Deacons take the same ordination vows as pastors with the exception of one specific, office-related question. All officers and Nominating Committee members-at-large are elected by the congregation

General qualifications for an officer include:

- membership on the roll of the church
- regular attendance at Sunday worship services
- regular participation in church activities
- commitment to the church and its vision, mission, and stewardship
- acting as a faithful witness to Christ in the areas of family, work, and community
- willingness to learn, openness to new ideas, and maturity of judgement

ELDERS

Elders serve on the Session, which is the ruling body of the church. The Session is responsible for the order of church life, which includes worship, education, mission, and stewardship. Each elder will be assigned to a committee, and will also be expected to be a periodic representative at Presbytery meetings.

DEACONS

The office of Deacon is one of service, sympathy, and witness. Deacons minister to those who are in need within and outside the congregation. A Deacon participates in monthly board meetings and is involved with the ongoing work of the Board of Deacons.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

The Nominating Committee is comprised of 7 people, 4 of which are considered members-at-large because they are not currently serving as officers.