

HILL UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 12, 2024 - 10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

Ascension Sunday | Mother's Day
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

Pastor 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

PENTECOST OFFERING

PRELUDE

“Morning Song” arr. by J.S.Dixon

Nancy Slezak

***CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)**

Elder Lauren McElhaney

ONE: Let us gather to praise our Mighty God.

ALL: With joy we celebrate and give thanks for God’s faithfulness.

ONE: Let us gather to sing to our Glorious God.

ALL: With joy, and with all creation, we celebrate the powers of our King.

ONE: Let us gather to worship and honor God.

ALL: With joy and reverent awe, we bow in worship and praise of our God.

***OPENING PRAYER (UNISON)**

Elder Lauren McElhaney

Almighty God, as we prepare to worship today, stretch our imaginations to sense the majesty and mystery of your ascension. Help us perceive how Jesus' presence in heaven can give us confidence in our praying and hope for the future. Through Jesus, our Savior, we pray. Amen.

***HYMN #150**

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

MADRID

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Rev. Leigh Benish

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)**

Rev. Leigh Benish

O Lord, we have not lived our lives as kingdom people. We place our crowns on hopelessness, fear, and selfishness, and are ruled by our schedules and our need for control. We make idols of the things we acquire and our immediate desires, and forget that your kingdom draws near to us on earth, as it is in heaven. Forgive us, we pray. 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**

◆———— WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD ———◆

A TIME ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN

Rev. Leigh Benish

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elder Lauren McElhaney

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 47 (NRSVUE)

Elder Lauren McElhaney

ANTHEM

“In The Garden”

Hill Memorial Handbell Choir

arr. by Keven McChesney

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

GOSPEL READING

Luke 24:44-53 (CEB)

Rev. Leigh Benish

SERMON

“You Are Witnesses”

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

Elder Lauren McElhane

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)**

Elder Lauren McElhane

O God, maker and provider, you have blessed us with many gifts. Use us, and what we have gathered, to feed the world through your love. Through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior, we pray. 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.*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (UNISON)**

Elder Lauren McElhane

Adapted from “The Heidelberg Catechism,” Germany, 1563

How does Christ’s ascension to heaven benefit us? First, he is our advocate in heaven in the presence of his Father. Second, we have our own flesh in heaven as a sure pledge that Christ our head will also take us, his members, up to himself. Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a corresponding pledge. By the Spirit’s power we seek not earthly things but the things above, where Christ is, sitting at God’s right hand. Amen.

SHARING OUR JOYS & CONCERNS

Rev. Leigh Benish

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Leigh Benish

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.

◆————— **WE GO OUT TO SERVE** —————◆

***HYMN #151**

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

DIADEMATA

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Leigh Benish

***POSTLUDE**

“Shalom Chaverim” arr. by Carol Dare

Nancy Slezak



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, May 19, 2024 | Pentecost Sunday
Readings: TBD | Pastor Kathleen Davis**

HAPPENINGS ON THE HILL

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

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK: Tuesday & Thursday, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

MONDAY, 5/13: Session Meeting, Hall Lounge, 6:45 pm

**TUESDAY, 5/14: Staff Meeting, Deacons' Room, 11:15 am
Overeaters Anonymous (OA), Hall Lounge, 7:00 pm**

FRIDAY, 5/17: Hill Quilters, Fellowship Hall, 9:00 am

SATURDAY, 5/18: Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Fellowship Hall, 11:00 am

SUNDAY, 5/19: Pentecost Ensemble Rehearsal, 9:30 am

Pentecost Sunday **Boomwhacker Rehearsal, 10:00 am**

Worship Service, 10:30 am

Deacons' Chili Cook-off, Fellowship Hall, 11:45 am

VOLUNTEERS & LEADERS TODAY

OPENER/CLOSER: Bob Kennedy

LITURGIST: Lauren McElhaney

ORGANIST: Nancy Slezak

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Jon Harper

ACOLYTE: Jacob Miller

GREETERS: Bob Kennedy & Kathy Nevel

FELLOWSHIP: NONE - Mother's Day

COUNTERS: Ruth Scott & Lauren Nace

CHANCEL FLOWERS: Given with love by
Kathy Nevel in honor of all mothers

FLOWER DELIVERY: Sherry Neely

MAY 19 VOLUNTEERS & LEADERS

OPENER/CLOSER: Anne Miller

LITURGIST: Becky Plymale

ORGANIST: Karen Krenitsky

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Kyle Nevel

ACOLYTE: Juliet Miller

GREETERS: Judy Birch & Doug Hall

FELLOWSHIP: Deacons' Chili Cook-Off

COUNTERS: None

CHANCEL FLOWERS: Given with love by
Karen Bryson in honor of her daughter,
Jennifer's 50th birthday

FLOWER DELIVERY: Barb Kamerer &
Chris Leroy

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 Kamerer* (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 Kamerer
Vice Moderator: Elder Lauren McElhaney
Secretary: Kyle Nevel
Treasurer: Becky Bayne
Assistant Treasurer: Sherry Neely

2024

Chris Leroy
Jack Montag
Sharon Montag

2025

Barb Kamerer
Marsh Miller
Kyle Nevel

2026

Becky Bayne
Ray Dougherty
Sherry Neely

HILL QUILTERS

The Hill Quilters will continue to gather to make lap quilts for members and loved ones in need of support. The next scheduled meeting is **Friday, May 17 at 9:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall. Additional meeting dates will be announced as determined.

PASTOR LEIGH AWAY

Pastor Leigh will be away May 18-26 for her Doctor of Ministry residency. If you have any pastoral care needs, please contact Rev. Mark Davis.

GLORY WAY CONCERT

The musical group Glory Way will present a free concert on **Saturday, May 18 at 2:00 pm** at Faith United Presbyterian Church, 1329 North Main Street Extension, Butler (near Clearview Mall). Refreshments and fellowship will follow the concert. All are welcome!

PENTECOST MUSICAL ENSEMBLE

ATTENTION ALL SINGERS

There will be one final rehearsal on **Sunday, May 19 at 9:30 am**. ALL voices are welcome (seriously)!

NOT A SINGER? COME PLAY A BOOMWHACKER!

Only two rehearsals left! **TODAY** during Sunday School & **Sunday, May 19 at 10:00 am**. Want to know more? See Nancy Slezak or Kathleen Davis.

DEACONS' CHILI COOK-OFF

Join the Deacons on **Pentecost Sunday, May 19**, for a “Tongues of Fire” chili cook-off following worship! Stay to sample the various offerings and vote for your favorite! To enter a pot of your special chili, please see Deacons Becky Bayne, Sherry Neely, or Barb Kamerer. Along with chili, enjoy some cornbread (regular and jalapeño), “fruit of the spirit” salad, and your choice of Angel Food or Devil’s Food cake. Wear something red, orange, or yellow to commemorate the day!

ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL

ALL youth in grades K-6 are invited to the final Sunday School school class of the spring semester **following worship**. Grab a snack and take it directly to the Art Room.

HONORING GRADUATES

If you have a loved one graduating from an educational program (from preschool to graduate school) please let the Christian Education committee know ASAP so they can be celebrated! See Elders Karen Earhart, Gerry Graham, or Lauren Nace.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY MAY REQUEST:

Condiments; Cooking oil/spray; and Herbs & Spices.

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

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!

WILLING WORKERS

The Willing Workers meet the first Wednesday of every month to make small crafts to be delivered to Meals on Wheels recipients. ALL are welcome to join the fun! The next meeting is on **Wednesday, June 5 at 9:30 am**, in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please see Nancy Luellen.

STORIES OF EXILE

The Butler Area Public Library presents “Stories of Exile,” an opportunity to learn more about the Holocaust Era. All are welcome to hear “A Story of Love & Resilience” on **Thursday, May 16, 6:00 pm** at the Library. More information is on the church’s main bulletin board, or call the Library at (724) 287-1715.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY: NOTE OF THANKS

A very heartfelt thank you to the Tuesday Morning Bible Study women for the delicious lunch, the extremely generous gifts, and my quirky new gnome lamp. Earlier this spring, we redid the living room in shades of blue, so he and his happy sunflowers look right at home this summer. An even greater thank you for your faithful attendance and deep consideration of the text. Across the fifteen or so years that I have been blessed to teach the class, the faces have (mostly) changed but the challenge of such serious, receptive students has always remained.

Respectfully, Kathleen Davis



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.

ON THE HORIZON...

June 2-30: “Prophet Margins”

Joins us for a 5 week worship series on the role of prophets in society and church

July 10-18: Pastor Leigh on Vacation

July 21-August 18: “Connecting the Dots”

Join us for a 5 week worship series connecting well-known Gospel stories with their Old Testament references.

August 25: Worship Without Walls

October 6: Children’s Sunday