

HILL UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MAY 5, 2024 - 10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

6th 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

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

PRELUDE

Meditation on “Near to the Heart of God”

Nancy Slezak

arr. by John Dixon

***CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)**

Elder Maryanne Puente

ONE: We gather to worship the One who crafted creation out of chaos.

ALL: Our cries of joy join the anthems of the universe.

ONE: We gather to lift our praise to the God who gives us voice.

ALL: We bring the songs which have echoed in our hearts all week long.

ONE: We gather as children of God, our joy unbroken in God’s love.

ALL: Young and old, tone deaf and perfect-pitched, we sing our songs of faith.

***OPENING PRAYER (UNISON)**

Elder Maryanne Puente

Holy God, you gently begin the concerto of creation: birds carry the melody while stars keep the beat; mountains dance in merriment and little children clap their hands with joy. You invite us to sing to a world deafened by despair. May we be unafraid to join the chorus of praise during this time of worship and beyond. Amen.

***HYMN #218**

“New Songs of Celebration Render”

RENDEZ À DIEU

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Rev. Leigh Benish

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)**

Rev. Leigh Benish

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you; you call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped up in our own concerns. We have gone along with evil, with pride, quarrelling, and divisiveness. Holy God, help us to face up to ourselves, so that, as you move toward us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive mercy. 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 Maryanne Puente

EPISTLE READING

Psalm 98 (TIB)

Elder Maryanne Puente

ANTHEM

“Our Father in the Heaven Who Art”

Nancy Slezak

by J.S. Bach

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

**ACTS OF THE APOSTLES
SERMON**

**John 15:9-17 (NRSVUE)
"Friendship"**

**Rev. Leigh Benish
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 Maryanne Puente

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)**

Elder Maryanne Puente

Generous God, bless the offerings we bring to you today. Bless the money in the plates, that it might be stewarded in ways that honor you. Bless the tasks we undertake, that we might be coworkers in your coming kingdom. Bless the hours of our week, that our lives may be our offering to you. Bless us to be blessings in this world. 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.*

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

SHARING IN THE LORD'S SUPPER

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (UNISON)**

Elder Maryanne Puente

Amazing God, thank you for your presence in this meal and for giving us a taste of your Kingdom. May this food strengthen us to be your joyful and hopeful Resurrection Community, sharing and experiencing your love, justice, and mutuality. Flow through us, healing God, we pray. Amen.

◆————— **WE GO OUT TO SERVE** —————◆

***HYMN #343**

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

BEECHER

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Leigh Benish

***POSTLUDE**

"Moderato in B flat" by J. Bernards

Nancy Slezak

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

TUESDAY, 5/7: Women's Bible Study, Hall Lounge/Zoom, 9:30-11:00 am
Deacons' Meeting, Deacons' Room, 7:00 pm
Overeaters Anonymous (OA), Hall Lounge, 7:00 pm

WEDNESDAY, 5/8: Community Dinner @ St. Andrews UP, 5:00 pm

THURSDAY, 5/9: Administration Committee Meeting, Hall Lounge, 9:30 am
Stewardship Committee Meeting, Hall Lounge, 5:30 pm
DMin Resource Team, Hall Lounge, 6:30 pm

FRIDAY, 5/10: Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Handbell Room, 10:00 am

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

SUNDAY, 5/12: Worship Service, 10:30 am

Ascension Sunday **Elementary Sunday School, Art Room, 11:30 am**

Mother's Day **Fellowship Hour, Fellowship Hall, 11:30 am**

Community Lunch @ St. Andrews UP, 12:00 noon

VOLUNTEERS & LEADERS TODAY

OPENER/CLOSER: Janet Edinger

LITURGIST: Maryanne Puente

ORGANIST: Nancy Slezak

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Tom Graham

ACOLYTE: Jackson Harper

GREETERS: Bob Scott & Norbert Slezak

FELLOWSHIP: Marsh Miller

COUNTERS: None

CHANCEL FLOWERS: TBD

FLOWER DELIVERY: Kyle Nevel & Becky Bayne

MAY 12 VOLUNTEERS & LEADERS

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: Dave Olenic & Doug Hall

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

FLOWER DELIVERY: Sherry Neely &
Ray Dougherty

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 Maryanne Puente
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 CHURCH BOOK CLUB

The Hill Church Book Club will be meeting **TODAY** following worship to discuss “Playing for Pizza” by John Grisham. ALL are welcome!

PENTECOST MUSICAL ENSEMBLE

ATTENTION ALL SINGERS

We are looking for some volunteers to put together a vocal ensemble for worship on **Pentecost Sunday, May 19**. There will be two rehearsals: **TODAY, May 5 immediately following worship** and **Sunday, May 19 at 9:30 am**. ALL voices are welcome (seriously)!

NOT A SINGER? COME PLAY A BOOMWHACKER!

Join our children and youth as they play Boomwhackers, hollow tubes of varying lengths that make noise when “whacked” on the ground. Rehearsals will be during Sunday School and on **Sunday, May 19 at 10:00 am**.

Want to know more? See Nancy Slezak or Kathleen Davis.

ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL

ALL youth in grades K-6 are invited to Sunday School **following worship**. Students are invited to 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 all the way 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.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday, May 7 will be the final gathering for the Tuesday Morning Bible Study before summer break. ALL women are welcome to come at 9:30 as we finish up the Gospel of John, and then head to Villa Grande lunch together.

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.

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. Wear something red, orange, or yellow to commemorate the day!

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.

◆ ————— **ANNOUNCEMENTS: MAY 5, 2024** ————— ◆

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.

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!

TWO STORIES OF EXILE

The Butler Area Public Library will be presenting two opportunities to learn more about the Holocaust Era with two “Stories of Exile.”

Wednesday, May 8, 6:00 pm @ Congregation B’nai Abraham Synagogue:

Memoir Poetry readings and open forum from Holocaust survivors

Thursday, May 16, 6:00 pm @ the Butler Public Library:

“A Story of Love & Resilience.”

More information can be found on the church’s main bulletin board or by calling the Butler Area Public Library at (724) 287-1715.



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.



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 12, 2024 | Ascension Sunday | Mother’s Day
Readings: Psalm 47; Luke 24:44-53 | Rev. Leigh Benish**