

*Hillside Presbyterian Church
Always Welcomes You!*

Come let us
Adore
Him



**Epiphany Sunday
January 6, 2019**

“...the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.”

(Ephesians 3:6b)

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Hillside Presbyterian Church

Epiphany Sunday

January 6, 2019

Pastor: Rev. Sylvia Wilson

Choir Director/Organist: Ms. Bernice Hall

Liturgist: Rev. Robert Howell

LET US APPROACH GOD

(“*” Indicates those who are able will stand; “#####” Indicates Ushers will seat persons arriving late)

Epiphany is celebrated 12 days after Christmas on 6th January and is the time when Christians remember the Wise Men (also sometimes called the Three Kings) who visited the baby Jesus. Epiphany means ‘revelation’ and both the visit of the Wise Men and his Baptism are important times when Jesus was ‘revealed’ to be very important to Gentiles, as well as, Jews.

PRELUDE *Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light (Bach)* Organist

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

INTROIT *His Glorious Name* Chancel Choir

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RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (Please remain seated) Rev. Robert Howell

Liturgist: God whose love reaches to the highest heavens

People: how can we keep silent?

Liturgist: God whose righteousness stands like the tallest mountain

People: how can we keep silent?

Liturgist: God whose justice is deeper than any ocean

People: how can we keep silent?

Liturgist: God whose grace flows like a never-ending river

People: how can we keep silent?

Liturgist: How can we not proclaim Your majesty from generation to generation?

People: How can we not raise the lamp of Your salvation for all the world to see?

Liturgist: God whose love reaches to the highest heavens

ALL: We praise Your mighty name!

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*OPENING HYMN *As With Gladness Men of Old (No. 63, PH)* Choir/Congregation

*CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Robert Howell

Although God has given the church the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ, we fall short of God’s call to be salt of the earth and light of the world. Let us confess our shortcomings before God.

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You and one another in both our actions and our inactions. We recognize that in Jesus our light has

other believers. As the church, we are the salt of the earth. We are the light of the world. We are entrusted with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ. As the church, we are witnesses by both word and deed. We proclaim the new heaven and the new earth, in which righteousness dwells. As the church, we proclaim that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered sin and death. God conquers separation, hatred and bitterness. As the church, God's life-giving Word and Spirit enable us to live in a new obedience, God opens new possibilities of life for society and the world. We declare ourselves ready to venture out on the road of obedience and reconciliation – servants of the God who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people.

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GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING *Hail Mary (Negro Spiritual, arr. W. Dawson)* Philip J. Rogers

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE *Praise God, from Whom...(No. 592, PH)* Choir/Congregation

*Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

We bring You only what is Yours, Creator God, that You might use this offering and the giver for the building up of Your kingdom and the glory of Your name. Amen.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

(Communion will be by Intinction. Ushers will guide rows forward.)

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE:

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! The Bible promises that people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at the table in the kingdom of God. This is the Lord's Table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to come to the Table, which he has prepared for us all. And may our eyes be opened!

People: We have come asking for the child – Wondering where love might be born in human flesh. Seeking that joy that might satisfy our thirst and that peace that passes understanding. Wandering through the darkness of so many mistakes.

Pastor: We have come to this place where wise people and shepherds and young women met. We have come to this place called Bethlehem. To this place where our hearts rise like yeast. To this place where we meet our newborn hope. To this place where we taste our deepest joy.

People: In Bethlehem, where we assumed the worst, imagining that no good can come from "those" people, living in "that" place.

Pastor: Bethlehem. Lehem meaning bread. Bethel meaning house. There is something here

that will satisfy our hunger. No matter how long we have wandered. It is here that our hearts arise. Our light has come. In this bread and in this cup, we celebrate something we can't quite understand.

People: Because God has made a house at this table. Because God satisfies our hunger in the most unlikely places. Because God comes to be with us. Now and always.

Pastor: It is with this expectation that we come to the table to taste and see that God is here. Let us pray:

ALL: Holy Spirit, come into this bread and this cup. Transform these ordinary objects, as you change our hearts, to shape and form your world with the joy you promise. Pour your grace upon us, so we overflow with your love. Help us to remember how a newborn baby might grow into a little child that would one day offer himself to his hope-filled friends in an upper room...

Pastor: Pour out Your Holy Spirit on us now, and on these sacraments of bread and wine. May they become for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may become the body of Christ striving always to heal the sickness and suffering of our world. As we eat and drink today renew our communion with all Your saints, on earth and in heaven, we pray, in Christ's name. Amen.

*Elders serving Communion (approach the Table):
Jasman Howell, Ava Johnson, E. Douglas Kinsey, Janice Peters*

CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS (Juice in silver cup. Wine in gold cup.)

COMMUNION MUSIC *I Come with Joy* No. 507, PH
O Come, Let Us Adore Him (words on screen, words & music on next page) No. 173, AAHH

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have revealed yourself to us. Send us out into the world to see and bear witness to your revelation in all things, and invite all to come, taste and see your saving power; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN *Till We Gather Again (No. 638, AAHH)* Choir/Congregation

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing (Sicilian melody, 18th cent.)* Organist

You are invited for conversation and light refreshments in the Fellowship Hall after Worship Service.

WORSHIP ENDS – FELLOWSHIP BEGINS – KINGDOM SERVICE CONTINUES

Ushers: Elders Ralph Sims, Terry Brantley, Castell Jackson, Robert Rounsaville Jr.
Media Specialist: Justin Killings



ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Bulletin Submission Deadline: Wednesdays, 3:00 p.m.; CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM)

PLEASE BE COURTEOUS

Turn off and put away ALL mobile phones and any other devices with audible tones.

REMEMBER TO SIGN THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER

This is found on the end of each pew. Please sign this so that we can be in touch with you.

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Chancel today are given by **Stephen Lewis**, to the glory of God and in memory of his father, William Lewis.

HILLSIDE FOOD PANTRY

DECEMBER: 126 families/ 370 individuals; 3,337 pounds distributed. *Bring loaves of bread for the pantry on First Sundays; place them inside baskets in front of the first pews.*

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2019

It will be held in the Sanctuary, immediately following the morning Worship Service. We look forward to sharing our accomplishments and hearing from you at this meeting.

AN INVITATION

Justin L. Killings and Angelic M. Brazil wish to invite the Hillside family to be with them on the blessed occasion of their marriage at Hillside on Saturday, January 19 at 5:30 p.m.

The ensuing reception will be held at a different location, and is by invitation only.



Mission Statement

The mission of Hillside Presbyterian Church is that of the church universal: to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ for the salvation of humankind. We are committed to being an inclusive, intergenerational church by creating a caring, Christian community. Hillside reaches out to diverse ethnic and religious groups in our community and beyond to foster a better understanding of all people. We are a servant people, responding to those in need, doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with our God.