

*Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday*  
*“The Grace of God Has No Boundaries”*



*Sunday, March 10, 2019*  
*11:00 a.m.*

**Hillside Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CO-MODERATORS

Greetings and welcome to our annual Women's Day Program, in which we celebrate the gifts of women. This year, our theme is *"The Grace of God Has No Boundaries"*.

Presbyterian Women (PW) is the national women's organization of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Women come together to work for global as well as local mission causes. In our work, we strive to manifest the principles set forth in our mission statement:

*"Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit we commit ourselves:*

- *to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,*
- *to support the mission of the church worldwide,*
- *to work for justice and peace, and*
- *to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom."*

Hillside PW is involved in many projects throughout the year and; we know that many of you support us in our endeavors, either directly or indirectly. We work in the Hillside Food Pantry, at Breakthrough House, Hagar's House, Mountain View Personal Care Home, Childspring International, and wherever else we are needed.

We always seek to find ways to help others, because of our personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ, which is fostered by our Bible Study and prayer.

**Our Bible study (11:00 a.m.) is held on the fourth Saturday of each month, following our general meeting (10:00 a.m.); it is led by Elder Alice Moore. Consider this your standing invitation to join us for fellowship and reflection!**

On behalf of the Hillside Presbyterian Women, enjoy the Service and; we wish you continued peace and God's blessings. Again, thank you so much for your support!

Mrs. Tonya Groomes and Elder Dorothy L. Hill  
Co-Moderators



**Dr. Trudi A. Williams** has been dedicated to education for 40 years. As a graduate of Clark Atlanta University, in Atlanta, Georgia, she received her Doctor of Education Degree in Educational Leadership, and served as adjunct professor, in the School of Education. She earned a Master of Science Degree in Guidance and Counseling from Youngstown State University, Youngtown, Ohio, and Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary and Special Education from Kent State University, Kent Ohio. Due to her determination and commitment to education, she graduated Magna Cum Laude.

While living in Ohio, she served as an elementary and middle school teacher in the East Liverpool School District. Her strong desire to improve civil and human rights for minorities, lead to her being elected as the N.A.A.C.P. youth advisor, for the state of Ohio. Her commitment to the youth and college chapters throughout the state, earned many recognitions.

For twenty five years Dr. Williams served the Atlanta Public School System, in a variety of roles including: elementary and middle school teacher (specializing in special education), a middle school counselor, and in-service facilitator for teachers and counselors (specializing in professional development). She retired in 2007, after a fulfilling career. However, her devotion to education, compelled her to accept the challenge to teach and supervise students in higher education at her alma mater, Clark Atlanta University. During this time, she also accepted a position as a Program Manager for the Anti-Prejudice Consortium, a non-profit diversity organization. While she worked at the Consortium, she was afforded the opportunity to develop a diversity education program for middle school teachers and students in Atlanta, Georgia and surrounding areas.

The passion Dr. Williams has for helping others, extends to her involvement and devotion to working with several church ministries, as well. She is an active member of The Historic Ebenezer Baptist Church, where she served as: Woman's Day Program Chairperson, Vice President of her birth month club, and Children's Chapel Middle School Coordinator. For many years, she was actively involved as a parent volunteer at her daughter's schools.

As a consultant, she is widely known for addressing critical issues in education. She has been a speaker for various churches, schools and organizations, and participated in many panel discussions. In addition, she has conducted numerous workshops regarding best practices in education, diversity training, conflict resolution, and classroom management. She has been recognized several times for her contributions to education, civil and human rights.

Her unique experiences as a parent and educator will be shared in a book, she is currently writing. She hopes to motivate other adults to become change agents who seek to train the next generation to utilize their God-given gifts and talents to make the world a better place.

Dr. Williams is married to Mr. David L. Williams, a successful entrepreneur, and they are the proud parents of one daughter, Chantel Da'Vanna Williams, a freshman honor student at the prestigious Howard University, in Washington, DC.

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**ORDER OF SERVICE**

**Speaker:** Dr. Trudi A. Williams

**Pastor:** Rev. Sylvia Wilson

**Liturgist:** Elder Sonja McMullen

**Music Director:** Ms. Bernice Hall

**Handbell Choir Director:** Ms. Althea Brown

**Chime Choir Director:** Ms. Allean Brown

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**LET US APPROACH GOD**

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

PRELUDE *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* Organist

CHIMING OF THE HOUR Chime Choir

LIGHTING THE CANDLES & PROCESSIONAL Faith George

INTROIT *Welcome to My Father’s House* Women’s Day Choir

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Elder Sonja McMullen

Liturgist: Let us praise the God of glory and of strength.

**People: Let us worship the God of grace.**

Liturgist: For the voice of God goes out across all the earth.

**ALL: And in God’s temple all the people say, “Glory.”**

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\*A LITANY FOR WOMEN WHO CARRY GOD’S GRACE ACROSS BOUNDARIES

Liturgist: For Rahab’s red cord and for all who risk their lives to give refuge to your people,

**ALL: We thank you, O God.**

Liturgist: For Ruth’s loyalty and Esther’s courage, and for all who serve you in foreign lands,

**ALL: We thank you, O God.**

Liturgist: For Deborah’s leadership and Miriam’s dance and for all who break glass ceilings,

**ALL: We thank you, O God.**

Liturgist: For Sarah’s faithfulness and Jael’s fierceness and for all who take things into their own hands,

**ALL: We thank you, O God.**

Liturgist: For Hagar and all the unnamed (AFRICAN) women who survived to do your will in the wilderness,

**ALL: We thank you, O God.**

Liturgist: For the Alabaster Jar Woman and for all who flout convention in your name,

**ALL: We thank you, O God.**

Liturgist: For Mary Magdalene's heart and for all who linger at the cross,

**ALL: We thank you, O God.**

Liturgist: For all the grace-filled women who cross borders and dismantle fences, who face down soldiers and walk picket lines, who like Mary the Mother of Jesus carry your love into the world,

**ALL: We thank you, O God.**

\*MORNING HYMN *Come, Sing, O Church, In Joy! (No. 430, PH)* Choir/Congregation

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Wilson

Pastor: Not one of us is perfect.

**ALL: No, not one.**

Pastor: Not one of us is full of grace.

**ALL: No, not one.**

Pastor: Not one of us is spotless.

**ALL: No, not one.**

Pastor: There is no one who knows God's fullness or rests completely in God's grace.

**ALL: Therefore, let us approach God's throne together.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sin.

#### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, You know us better than we know ourselves. Find in us, we pray, the pockets of resistance and patches of coldness that keep us closed to Your movement among us. Root them out and open us that we may be agents of Your grace and channels of Your love. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*(Time for quiet, personal confession)*

#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

As far as the East is from the West, so far has God removed our sin from us. As near as hands and feet and breath, so near does God stand with us. As close as the Spirit's tether can draw, so close does God bring us together. Friends, believe the Good News; in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

\*RESPONSE

*Gloria Patri (No. 579, PH)*

Choir/Congregation

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Elder Myra Miller

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Sonja McMullen

\*PASSING THE PEACE

Rev. Wilson

MUSIC

*Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho (arr. Kristy Mitchell)*

Handbell Choir

## LET US LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION led by Alexxis Ector

**Be in our words, O God, and in our understanding. Be in our hearts and in the love we bring. Be in our lives and set us to praise, we pray. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON *Psalm 29* (p. 477) Alexxis Ector

INSPIRATIONAL SONG *Order My Steps* Women's Day Choir

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON *Acts 10:34-43* (p. 121) Drew Eikner

MESSAGE "God's Grace Is Powerful" Dr. Trudi A. Williams

## LET US RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP Rev. Wilson

*(Please come forward if you would like to receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior, become a member of Hillside, or rededicate your life to Christ. You can also speak to the pastor or an Elder after the service.)*

\*INVITATIONAL HYMN *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* Choir/Congregation

\*UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Rev. Wilson

**We believe in the goodness and value of women, in our strength and health, in our capacity to cry, in our capacity to sustain each other instead of being rivals, in our capacity to respond to the demands of children and carry the weight of daily life, in our openness and desire to continue working, in our spiritual and earthly being, full of life – birth, death and resurrection.**

**We expect a future of faith and hope, working for the day to come in which we and all our sisters will no longer have to adapt to a stereotype because we will be free to express ourselves as we are and we will be free to share in all the benefits of human life and work.**

**We hope for a time of peace, when violence will disappear and men and women can love and be loved, and the work and riches of our world can be justly shared.**

*Adapted from an affirmation written by women of the Presbyterian Church in Colombia*

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Sisters In Christ* Women's Day Choir

\*DOXOLOGY *Praise God from Whom...(No. 650, AAHH)* Choir/Congregation

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER Rev. Wilson

**LET US RETURN TO GOD'S WORLD**

*CLOSING HYMN	<i>We Are One (No. 323, AAHH)</i>	Choir/Congregation
*CHARGE & BLESSING		Rev. Wilson
*RESPONSE	<i>Threefold Amen</i>	<i>No. 646, AAHH</i>
POSTLUDE	<i>It's A High Way to Heaven</i>	Organist

*Reception immediately following Service.*

**WORSHIP CONTINUES THROUGH OUR LOVE AND SERVICE**

**Acolyte:** Faith George

**Ushers:** Lelia Crawford, Shirley Anderson, Norma McKenzie, Georgia Washington

**Women's Day Planning Committee Members:**

Dorothy Hill, Ava Johnson, Felecia Mitchell, Bettie Rounsaville



**REFLECTIONS:**