

*Hillside Presbyterian Church
Always Welcomes You!*



January 26, 2020

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light..."

Isaiah 9:2a

Hillside Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
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January 26, 2020

Pastor: Rev. Sylvia Wilson

Liturgist: Sherry Archer

Music Director: Ms. Bernice Hall

LET US APPROACH GOD

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

PRELUDE *Great Is Thy Faithfulness (William Marion Runyan)* Organist

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

LIGHTING THE CANDLES AND PROCESSIONAL

INTROIT *Let The Heaven Light Shine On Me* Chancel Choir

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

L: To those who sit in darkness, light has dawned.

P: To those who dwell in gloom and despair, God’s glorious presence has appeared.

L: God is indeed our light and our salvation.

P: We will follow, unafraid, where God leads us.

L: Let us worship our God of light and promise.

P Let us celebrate the hope and joy of our salvation.

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*UNISON OPENING PRAYER (*Please stand*)

God of light and love, we come this morning with eyes stinging from the brightness of your glory. We have become so accustomed to the darkness, that your radiant light sometimes overwhelms us. Open our eyes to the light of your dawn, so our souls may be flooded with love and mercy and joy. Open our hearts to receive your message of comfort and peace and security, so we may find rest in your loving, protective presence. Open our spirits to follow the path you put before us, so we may lead lives committed to your Way. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN *Morning Has Broken* (No. 469, PH)
(*Verse #1 ALL, Verse #2 Women, Verse #3 Men, Repeat Verse #1 ALL*)

*INVITATION TO CONFESION (*Please remain standing.*) Sherry Archer

L: When Christ returns, he will bring light to the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

***RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

L: God of our light and our salvation, sometimes we prefer to live in darkness, embracing the safety and secrecy of the shadows;

P: Sometimes we delight in our divisions, believing we are better than others;

L: Sometimes the yoke of our calling feels too heavy, and we seek to slip out from under the weight across our shoulders.

P: Forgive our fear. Forgive our dislike of the light. Forgive our unresponsiveness to your call. Forgive our willful blindness and deafness to the Way.

ALL: Help us know deep in our souls that you are our light and our salvation, our joy and our wonder, our very life. Hear us as we cry aloud in our need. Amen.

(A time for quiet, personal confession)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: Our God of light and love hears us when we cry out loud. We have nothing to fear. Know that this God of light wraps us in comforting arms, lifts us from the darkness of our guilt and sin, and forgives us once and for all. Know that we will dwell in safety in God's house, now and forevermore.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *Glory To God* Chancel Choir/Congregation

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.*

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Signing Attendance Register)*

Sherry Archer

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Wilson

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LET US LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Sarah Vaughan

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

L: Open the eyes of our hearts, O God, to the dawning light of your words of love and salvation. This is our prayer in the name of Jesus, The Light of the World.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 9:1-4 (pg. 600)

SONG OF INSPIRATION

The Lord Is My Light

Chancel Choir

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NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 4:12-23 (pg. 3)

Rev. Wilson

