

March 31, 2019

St. John - Hill U.C.C.

620 Hill Church Road, Boyertown, PA 19512

610-367-8114 · www.stjohnhillucc.org

4th Sunday in Lent

March 31, 2019

(+) *Those who are able please stand* **Bold - congregation responds as able**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

arr. by J. Scriveyner

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

CALL TO WORSHIP

+HYMN

Blue Hymnal No. 476

"Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing"

+CALL TO CONFESSION

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Holy God, we confess

**that in the thoughts of our minds,
in the desires of our hearts,
in the words of our lips,
and in the deed we have done,
we have sinned against you.**

We acknowledge our sins of omission and negligence:

**the duties we have shirked,
the opportunities we have missed,
the words of encouragement
and witness we have not spoken,
the deed of helpfulness
and love we have not performed.**

**We are truly sorry for every way in which we have
displeased you.**

**Have mercy on us and forgive our sins,
as we freely forgive those
who have sinned against us.**

continued →

**Cleanse our hearts
and so strengthen us by your Holy Spirit,
that we may from now on,
walk in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

+SILENT CONFESSION

+WORDS OF ASSURANCE

+RESPONSE OF PRAISE

"There is a Green Hill"

Blue Hymnal No. 149

"There is a Green hill" words and music by C. Alexander ©1878 CCLI License #11085161

***He died that we might be forgiven, He died to make us
good, That we might go at last to heaven, Saved by
His precious blood.***

***O dearly, dearly has He loved, And we must love Him
too, And trust in His redeeming blood, And try His
works to do.***

RECEPTION OF A NEW MEMBER

Congregation, respond in unison when asked:

**We welcome you with joy as partners in the common
life of this church. We promise you our friendship
and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of
the church of Jesus Christ. God grant, that
together we may continue to grow in His
knowledge and love be witness of our risen Lord.**

Prayer in unison when directed:

**Eternal God, we praise you for calling us to be your
servant people, and for gathering us into the Body
of Christ. We thank you for sending to us these
fellow believers that we may work together in
serving you. Confirm in us the power of your
covenant that we may live in your spirit and so
love each other that we may have among us the
same mind which was in Christ Jesus, to whom be
all honor and glory. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

O God, your Word is more precious than fine gold, as sweeter than purest honey. As we turn to your Scripture, send your Holy Spirit to infuse your Word with truth and grace - so that the good news of your love would shine before our eyes and delight our senses...so that we cannot help but respond with wonder, faith and trust. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 32:1-11 [OT page 488]

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 15:1-32 [NT page 74]

SERMON "Our Joyful God" Pastor Chuck Maxfield

+STATEMENT OF FAITH (unison) Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hades; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

ANTHEM "Take Up Your Cross" arr. by H.H. Hopson

+OFFERING RESPONSE

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Blue Hymnal No. 158

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" words & music by Isaac Watts ©1707 CCLI License #11085161

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all.

+OFFERING PRAYER

PRAYER HYMN

Faith & Praise No. 129

“Amazing Grace”

SHARING PRAYER JOYS & CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER

+HYMN

“Blessed Assurance”

Faith & Praise No. 480

+COMMISSION & BENEDECTION

+RESPONSE

*God be with you till we meet again. By His counsels
guide uphold you, With His sheep securely fold you.
God be with you till we meet again.*

+POSTLUDE

“Beautiful”

B.E. Warren



* Large print bulletins are available in the Narthex.

* The weekly Communitas are available in the Narthex.

Welcome Visitors – We warmly welcome you and ask that before you leave today, please make sure to sign the guestbook on the podium out in the Narthex.

+ *Welcome*
New Members

Today we welcome Paul Shirk as a member of St. John-Hill U.C.C.

Grocery Gift Cards to Support Missions: Giant, Redner’s, & Weis – See Connie Hile

Cemetery Flowers – Please remove all flowers from grave sites by TODAY. Thank you!

Women's Retreat – April 13th from 8:30 am – 3 pm at St. Paul's UCC in Douglasville. Tickets are \$25 and included breakfast & lunch. Theme is "Friendship" Sisters for a Journey with speaker, Jessie Seneca. Contact Connie Hile for more info.

Fundraiser – Contact our sexton, Charles Anhalt, for discounted in-house tile and carpet cleaning. 20% of all proceeds received will be donated to our church in honor of you. Contact Charles at 484-333-1424.

Spring Cleaning – Think warm thoughts...April 6 will be our annual Spring Cleaning. Please plan on coming out to help keep our beautiful church clean. Many hands will make light work! We will begin cleaning around 8:00 am. Supplies will be available, but please feel free to bring your own.

Easter Egg Hunt – The annual community egg hunt is April 20th at 10 am. Donations of goodies (individually wrapped candy, stickers, toys, etc) to fill plastic egg will be accepted until April 14th. Boxes for donations are in the Sunday School hallway and in the Narthex. We will fill the eggs following worship on 4/14.

Help Wanted! – Would you like to help during the worship service with announcements and reading scripture? See Nikki if you are interested in helping out as a Worship Assistant!

Membership Update - The consistory has decided to go through our membership list to update addresses, phone numbers, & emails. You may receive a phone call or post card to fill out and return to the church. We would like to have the list completed and ready for when we call our new pastor. We are asking for volunteers to form a committee to complete this task. Please contact Terry Shane if you are interested. Thank You for your cooperation.

VBS Fundraiser - We are asking YOU to be a part of VBS this year. Help us by participating in our ROARing contest by making an African Drum. You can use any materials you want and make it any size you want. Please bring your drum to church by April 14 so we can get them displayed and ready to vote on by Easter Sunday. An example is in the Narthex for you to see, but please be creative and use your imagination. To vote you can place money in a jar by the drum you want to win - all "votes" will be used to purchase music CDs for each VBS family. The winning drum maker will receive a VBS t-shirt! Voting will take place from April 21-May 5!

April Sponsorship Opportunities

Altar Flowers: 14, 28

Bulletins: 28

If you would like to sponsor an upcoming Sunday, please sign up in the Narthex or contact Nikki in the church office.



Midweek Worship at 7 pm

Lenten Theme: Perfect Love Casts Out Fear

April 3 at St. Joseph's (Hill) Lutheran Church

1 Corinthians 13:1-13; John 14:15-31

April 10 at St. John - Hill U.C.C.

Deuteronomy 7:7-13; 1 John 4:7-21

Maundy Thursday at 6:30 pm

April 18 Seder Meal at St. John - Hill U.C.C.

Good Friday

April 19 at St. Joseph's (Hill) Lutheran Church

Prayer Vigil (*sign up in the Narthex*)

7 pm Joint Cantata "The Living Last Words"

EASTER

Sunrise Outdoor Worship 6:15 am

At the flagpole in the cemetery • Bring your own chair

Easter Worship 9:30 am

in the sanctuary

Holy Communion will be celebrated at both services.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Sunday - March 31

8:30 am Sunday School
9:30 am Worship Service

Monday - April 1

9 am Bible Study
7 pm Sunday School Meeting

Wednesday - April 3

6:15 pm Choir Rehearsal
7 pm Lent Service
7:30 pm Cantata Rehearsal

Saturday - April 6

8 am Spring Cleaning

HAPPENING NEXT WEEK:

Sunday - April 7

8:30 am Sunday School
9:30 am Worship Service
w/ Holy Communion

Monday - April 8

9 am Bible Study

Tuesday - April 9

7 pm Consistory Meeting

Wednesday - April 10

6:15 pm Choir Rehearsal
7 pm Lent Service
7:30 pm Cantata Rehearsal

Saturday - April 13

6:30 am Men's Breakfast
8 am Workday

"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" ~1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



Prayer Concerns:

Please pray for the men and women in the military, your neighbors and community, and our church. Pray for all those celebrating miracles. Prayers for all those who are suffering from violence, fear for their lives, those who have been affected by violent acts, those suffering from wounds and most importantly those who have lost a loved one.

Help us keep our prayer list up to date. To add, remove, or update a prayer request, please contact the church office or place a colored prayer request slip from your pew in the offering plate. Prayer requests are kept on the list for a 4 week period, if you would like the person to remain on the list for an additional 4 weeks, please contact Nikki with an update.

Brad Kolb (Geneva Kolb's Son) ----- disabled

Krista Miller -----undergoing testing for health concerns

Vaughn Skoog-----in rehab after bad fall

Serving Today

Consistory Helpers for March: Terry Shane & Ray Kochey

Worship Assistant: Dale Fronheiser

Nursery Caregivers: Tracy Kochey & Roxanne Anhalt

This week's flowers & bulletins are sponsored in memory of
Bea Kingree.

Next week's sponsors:

Bulletins: Kochey's

Flowers: Kochey's

2019 Flower & Bulletin Sign-up sheets are posted on the Narthex bulletin board. If you sponsor flowers for the week, please remember to take them with you after the service; if you do not want to take your flowers home, please let Nikki know and she will make sure they get to a shut-in to enjoy.

Last Week

Last Week's Attendance:

Church: 54

Last Week's Offering: \$6,287.00

2019 Weekly Budgeted Expenses: \$2,975.29

+

Rev. Charles Maxfield, Interim Pastor

215-896-0196 e-mail: chuckmaxfield@gmail.com

Elmer Miller, Organist

610-367-5613 e-mail: elmerhm@dejazzd.com

Nikki Weller, Secretary

610-367-8114 e-mail: nikki@stjohnhillucc.org

Nikki's Office Hours:

Mon. 11 am – 3 pm; Tues. & Thurs. 9 am – 3 pm

Wendy Shane, Treasurer

610-468-9772 e-mail: niah4444@dejazzd.com