

Welcome to Hilltop Church

The First Presbyterian Church
of Mendham, New Jersey

“Proclaiming Christ’s Presence and
Continuing Christ’s Work since 1738”

May God be
gracious to us
and bless us
and make his
face shine on us.

-Psalm 67:1

PsalmQuotes.com

MINISTERS

All the Members of Hilltop Church

OUR MISSION

The purpose of the First Presbyterian Church, Mendham, NJ is to
acknowledge and proclaim the presence and power of God and
to continue the work of Jesus Christ by loving God,

God’s world, each other and ourselves.

We are committed to the growth of faith,
the spreading of the good news,

and the mission of caring for those near and far.

We fulfill these commitments through prayers, study, sharing,
teaching and serving.

ASSEMBLING IN GOD'S NAME AND LIFTING OUR VOICES

Prelude

"Comfort"

Richard Lloyd

Psalm 67

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, ²that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations. ³Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. ⁴Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. ⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. ⁶The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us. ⁷May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

Welcome, Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship

We have been in the wilderness

Discerning and working, seeking and dreaming.

We have been in the wilderness

Grieving and wondering, praying and hoping.

We have been in the wilderness

Longing and running, creating and waiting.

We have been in the wilderness, but we have not been alone; for God walks with us, every step of the way.

Let us worship the God of our darkest nights and our brightest days.

***Hymn#65 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"**

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.

2 Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.

Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.

*Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.*

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.

Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.

Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee; I will ever give to thee.

***Prayer of Adoration**

CONFESSING OUR SIN, RECEIVING CHRIST'S ASSURANCE
AND EXTENDING CHRIST'S PEACE

Call to Confession & Unison Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, You invite us to plant a garden of love and harmony, but we grow weeds of prejudice and hatred. You invite us to sow joy and gratitude, but we scatter seeds of greed and envy. You call us to tend the soil of fear and denial, but instead we close our eyes and let the earth suffer. Forgive us. You invited us to plant a garden, and we lost ourselves in the wilderness. Clear our hearts. Breathe life into these weary bones and grant us a fresh start...

-Silent Personal Prayer-

Assurance of Pardon:

Elder: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

***Gloria Patri #581 "Glory Be to the Father"**

***Extending Christ's Peace**

The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

And also with you.

As Jesus shared His peace with us let us share His peace with one another.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

God, author of our lives, as we listen now to the words of your story in scripture, we ask that you might continue your story in us. As we listen, guide our understanding. And as we understand, guide our lives as we seek to respond in faith. Amen.

1st Reading

Isaiah 35:1-4 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ² it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. ³ Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

2nd Reading

Deuteronomy 8:1-11 This entire commandment that I command you today you must diligently observe, so that you may live and increase, and go in and occupy the land that the LORD promised on oath to your ancestors. ² Remember the long way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, in order to humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commandments. ³ He humbled you by letting you hunger, then by feeding you with manna, with which neither you nor your ancestors were acquainted, in order to make you understand that one does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. ⁴ The clothes on your back did not wear out and your feet did not swell these forty years. ⁵ Know then in your heart that as a parent disciplines a child so the LORD your God disciplines you. ⁶ Therefore keep the commandments of the LORD your God, by walking in his ways and by fearing him. ⁷ For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, ⁸ a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, ⁹ a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. ¹⁰ You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you. ¹¹ Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Reverend Dr. Merideth Mueller-Bolton

"Wilderness Wanderings"

Moment for Quiet Reflection

RESPONDING IN GRATITUDE AND PRAYER

Invitation to the Offering

Anthem

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Recognition of High School Seniors

Caroline Buchanan

Owen Genrich

James Kociancic

Grace Lombardi

Carolyn Malman

Tyler Morrison

Abigail Smith

Jack Warman



Presentation of the 2022 Fischer Scholarship

Wendy Whiting

Moment for Mission

Sharon Betz

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

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.

***Hymn #772 "Live Into Hope"**

*1 Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!*

*2 Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight and with clarity,
removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.*

*3 Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be,
the right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.*

*4 Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.*

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

***Benediction**

Postlude

"Spanish Military March"

Humphrey J. Stewart

*(Many people at Hilltop prefer to be seated to listen to the Postlude.
If you need to leave, please do so quietly. Thank you.)*

SERVING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

Greeting you at the front door are John Blumers and Cassandra Tarentino.

The Church Officer of the Day this morning is Elder Laura Grzanka.

Our Usher Coordinators are David Kerr.

Operating our Sound System is Bob Willis.

The flowers on the table are given the glory of God by the Malman Family in honor of all the Hilltop graduating high school seniors.

PRAYING TOGETHER AT HILLTOP:

If you wish to speak to the Pastor Reverend Dr. Merideth Mueller-Bolton you can email her at pastormerideth@gmail.com or call her cell phone at (609) 303-0500.

If you are aware of anyone who is hospitalized or is in need of special care, please contact our Stephen Ministers Lissa Anderson (973)543-1702 or Liz Siminoff (973)543-0019

Area of Ministry: Nurture, Education and Discipleship

Local Mission: Family Promise

National Mission: Intercultural Ministries

International Mission: Presbyterian Missionaries

International Mission: World Vision's 30 Hour Famine

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING SERVICE TODAY

This morning the Deacons join the rest of the congregation in honoring our 8 high school seniors. Five years ago they were all together in a confirmation class and now they are being recognized as high school graduates. There is a celebration after the service in the Fletcher Room with a special cake honoring them, please join them.

**(Indicates the Congregation will please stand as you are able.)*

COMING UP AT HILLTOP...

INQUIRER'S CLASS THIS SPRING!

Christian fellowship is a key aspect of church life. Believers in Christ come together in love, faith, and encouragement. If you are searching for a new church home, we invite you to learn more about the mission and ministry of Hilltop.

· **Sunday, May 22 after worship:** "Presbyterian 101" – a brief introduction to all things Presbyterian.

· **Sunday, June 5, Pentecost, during worship:** new members are received into the church.

United under Christ's Lordship all members of Hilltop are encouraged to follow Christ in Faithful Discipleship and to:

*Confess Christ Publicly • Worship God Regularly • Serve Christ Eagerly •
Give Generously • Study Intentionally • Live Worthily*

Please call or email the church office and let us know if you're planning to attend: office@hilltopchurch.org, 973-543-4012

DEACON NEWS - SAVE THE DATES

June 11th - The Deacons' Estate and Treasure Sale (yes, we have renamed it) is scheduled for Saturday, June 11th from 8am-3pm and we invite everyone to come and make it a success by either donating saleable items or helping work at the sale! Donations of household items, gently used/clean clothing, sporting goods, toys, etc. can be dropped off in Fellowship Hall on Thursday, June 9th from 2-5pm and on Friday, June 10th from 2-7 pm. Other arrangements can be made if those times do not work for you. No electronic items will be accepted this year. Large furniture/upholstered items on a limited basis only. This year we are also encouraging visitors to consider bringing their own plastic/canvas bags when shopping given that plastic bags will no longer be available in our grocery stores as of May 4th. No need to price your items. We have received some wonderful donations from local estate sales in recent weeks so we hope you will come out and enjoy a little shopping with us on June 11th. Please do not hesitate to contact Megan Nervi at megnervi@gmail.com or 908-868-7431 with any questions.



Come to the



Church Picnic

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June 5, 2022

After Worship
@ Hilltop House
(Rain or Shine)

On the go after church? Take-out available!

Free Admission

Sponsored by the Deacons

THIS WEEK AT HILLTOP _____

Monday, May 23rd

Tuesday, May 24th

7:00 pm Deacons Meeting

Wednesday, May 25th

Thursday, May 26th

9:45 am Women's Bible Study

Friday, May 27th The Church Office is Closed on Fridays

8:30 p.m. AA in the Steelman Room

Saturday, May 28th

8:30 am Men's Bible Study

Sunday, May 29th

10:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary

11:15 am Adult Ed and Fellowship at the Black Horse Pub

NEXT SUNDAY:

May 29th, 2022

Rev. Dr. Merideth Mueller-Bolton to Preach

***Please watch your email and church website
for updates on virtual and in-person worship.***

**To worship with us online at 10 am (or anytime
after) please visit the homepage of our website
for the link and bulletin:**

https://www.hilltopchurch.org/t_homepage.asp

**Subscribe to our channel here: [https://www.youtube.com/c/
HilltopChurchMendham](https://www.youtube.com/c/HilltopChurchMendham)**

**Please join us for informal fellowship at the Black Horse Pub
following worship on May 29th. The event is organized by
Adult Ed and all are welcome. Stop in for a quick hello, or
join us for a bite to eat!**

SERVING CHRIST AND YOU AT HILLTOP

Rev. Dr. Merideth Mueller-Bolton - Interim Pastor/ Head of Staff

James Wynne - Director of Music Ministries

Cathy Malman - Director of Children's and Family Educational Ministries

Tori Legacki- Director of Hilltop Christian Nursery School

Cliff Lee - Clerk of Session Brian Elliott - Treasurer

Dane Manchester & Walter Perkins - Assistant Treasurers

Megan Nervi Moderator of the Board of Deacons

Liz Siminoff & Lissa Anderson- Stephen Leaders

Bob Willis - Organ Curator

Danielle Doyle - Office Manager

John Andrews - Facilities Manager

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