



Church of the Hills

“The Dream Comes True”

Genesis 45:1-15

Romans 11:1-2a; 29-32

Pastor Richard Aylor

August 16, 2026

We are a vibrant family of faith rooted in God's Word, gathering together to worship and equipped to share the love of Christ in the world.

Prelude

performed by Sheresa Wilbanks

****Opening Chant**

“You Belong to Christ”

Purple Hymnal 492

You belong to Christ,
in whom you have been baptized.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Welcome

Pastor Richard Aylor

****Call to Worship**

Leader: God has forgiven us and drawn us close, reconciling us through Jesus Christ,
who has lavished upon us the fullness of the blessed Holy Spirit.

People: With glad and grateful hearts, praise the Lord!

****Opening Hymn**

“Baptized in Water”

Purple Hymnal 482

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ our King;
heirs of salvation, trusting the promise,
faithfully now God’s praises we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ our King;
one with his rising, freed and forgiven,
thankfully now God’s praises we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
marked with sign of Christ our King;
born of the Spirit, we are God’s children;
joyfully now God’s praises we sing.

****Invitation to Confession**

Donna Bucholz

Leader: Let us confess our sins without fear to the One who yearns to embrace us, forgive us, protect us, and bless us.

****Prayer of Confession**

Have mercy on us, Lord Jesus; we are tormented! Our lives have been disrupted by the devil and by our own devilish desires and evil exploits. We are dismayed at your presence, anguished by the awful fallout of our own failures. We cannot take back what we have said or undo what we have done or atone for the agony we have caused. We are haunted by the past, plagued by the present, and fearful of the future. We shrink away from your gaze as strangers outside your circle of blessing. Yet the faith you have planted in us reaches out for your favor, returns to your presence, and hungers for your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**** Declaration of Forgiveness and the Peace of Christ**

Leader: Our God kisses us with kindness, forgiving our sins, preserving our lives, and restoring our souls through the abundant provision of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: We receive now that for which faith has hungered: we are forgiven and healed in the name of Jesus the Christ.

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And, also with you.

Leader: Share the Peace of Christ with one another.

****Response to Forgiveness “Just as I Am, without One Plea” Purple Hymnal 442 (v. 1)**

Just as I am, without one plea but that thy
blood was shed for me, and that thou biddest me
come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: Please join me in the Prayer for Illumination.

All: Merciful Savior, your suffering has saved our lives, secured our future, and restored us to relationship with God. Remove the shame and fear that cause us to cower in your presence. By the power of your Spirit, open our eyes and hearts to your Word of love, mercy, healing, and blessing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

New Testament Reading

Romans 11:1-2a; 29-32

11 I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. **2** God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹ for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Ministry of Music

“Change My Heart, O God”

performed by the choir

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 45:1-15

45 Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. **2** And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. **3** Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

4 Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. **5** And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. **6** For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. **7** God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. **8** So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. **9** Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. **10** You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be

near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty.' ¹² And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. ¹³ You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." ¹⁴ Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

Sermon

"The Dream Comes True"

****Response to Sermon**

"We Are One in the Spirit"

Purple Hymnal 300

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

(Refrain)

**and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:

(Refrain)

We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride:

(Refrain)

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:

(Refrain)

Invitation to the Offering and Prayer of Dedication

****Doxology**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Purple Hymnal 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism: Chase Allbritton

Response to Baptism

“I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry”

Purple 488

“I was there to hear your borning cry; I’ll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.”

“When you heard the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on.
You were raised to praise the living Lord to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
I’ll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.”

“In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,
I’ll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I’ve begun.
When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,
I’ll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.”

“I was there to hear your borning cry; I’ll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.”

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

All: 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.

****Closing Hymn**

“Shine, Jesus Shine”

Purple Hymnal 192

Lord, the light of your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us;
set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me; shine on me.

(Refrain)

**Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father’s glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze; set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.**

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness.
Search me; try me; consume all my darkness.
Shine on me; shine on me.

(Refrain)

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness;
ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me; shine on me.

(Refrain)

****Charge and Blessing**

Leader: And the people of God say

People: Alleluia. Amen.

Postlude

*Please join us for Fellowship Time in the Narthex immediately following the Worship Service.
To all of our visitors, you are welcome to join us, and we look forward to getting to know you
during this time.*

For Pastoral Care:

Please contact Pastor Richard at 303-828-8263

A General Note regarding Financial Solicitations:

Please remember that a church leader will never directly solicit you for funds or the transfer of funds. We will only ask for your support of the church through the traditional process of filling out pledge cards and fulfilling that pledge accordingly.

Office Hours:

The Church Office is open Tuesday – Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (aside from staff lunch hours). Friday from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Deadlines:

The deadline for all Church Communication Publications and notifications is Wednesday at 2:30 p.m.

Additionally, please provide advance notice for any special projects you may have, so that time can be accurately allocated, supplies ordered, and quality and fairness can be provided for all parties concerned.

Please be aware that any items received after the deadline will go into the following week's communication publications and job tasks.

Church Officers:

Pastor – Richard Aylor
Office Administrator – Peggy Farnham (and Toby)
Director of Music – Sheresa Wilbanks
Finance Administrator – Tom Maxey
Trustee Permanent Endowment Fund – Neil Snyder
Treasurer – Jerry Bucholz
Clerk of Session – Judy Jensen

Elder at Large – Bob McFadden
Elder – Worship – Shari Gulbrandsen
Elder – Stewardship – Alan Lebsock
Elder – Love in Action – Vicki Kyle
Elder – Christian Education – Heidi Smithson
Elder – Personnel – Michael Marks
Elder – Nominating – Margi Masquelier
Elder – Administration – Tom Scripps
Elder - Communications – Shari Gulbrandsen
Elder – Building & Grounds – John O'Brien

Deacons:

Cherie Braun

Kelly Selva

Marjorie Clinton

Nancy Alexander

Monica Rider

Cindy Sahli

Laura McKnight

Jennie Snyder

A special thank you to Chase Allbritton for helping with the tech.

*Hymnals are indicated for those that may have them at home.

Blue - "The Presbyterian Hymnal"

Red - "Songs for Praise and Worship"

Purple - "Glory to God"

Yellow - "Hymns for the Family of God"

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** Please stand if you are able