

Book of Judges

SERMON SERIES



Huntingdon Valley Presbyterian Church February 9, 2025

9:00 a.m. – Portuguese worship service
10:20 a.m. – Sunday school for all ages
11:15 a.m. – English worship service

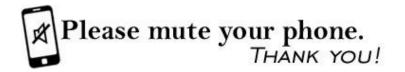
We are glad you have joined us today!

We offer a special welcome to our visitors today. Please pick up a gift bag from the Welcome Table in the hallway. If you are looking for a church home or would like to meet with the pastor or have a prayer request, please fill out the connection card in your pew or in the welcome bag and place it on the collection plate. Take advantage of our weekly Christian Education offerings! At 10:20 a.m. we have a Sunday school class for every age.

• **Toddlers: Ages 2-5** – During Sunday School, meets in the Nursery in the foyer.

Teachers: Deb Jack and Sonia and Pamella Sousa.

- Early Elementary: Kindergarten to Grade 2 Upstairs, Room #304. Teachers: Crystal Goretti, Laura Haines, and Elaine Ticker.
- **Upper Elementary: Grades 3-5** Upstairs, Room #306. Teachers: Naomi Trask and Jordan Goretti.
- **Middle School: grades 6-8** Upstairs, Room #305. Teachers: Rosie Bruce, Eva Morrison, Rebekah Bramer, and Sarah Pannapacker.
- **High School: Grades 9-12 (and beyond)** Upstairs, Room #308. Teachers: Charles Foster and Matheus Schaper.
- Adult Sunday School: We have adult Sunday school classes in both English and Portuguese. English class meets in the Lounge, Room #209 and is covering the Book of Genesis; Portuguese class meets in the Boyer Fellowship Hall, Room #201.
- We also provide nursery care during both services (birth to age 3). When the nursery is not being used by young children, we will continue to have the service streamed into the room. Please feel free to use it as a family room for children up to age 5 if staying in the service is not a possibility. There will be a nursery worker with your child at all times.



ORDER FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

* = The congregation is invited to stand.

☐ Prelude He Will Hold Me Fast

Organ

Words of Welcome Charlene Crawford

Minute for Missions Ray Wiesen

*Unison Call to Worship Psalm 3 (ESV) Charlene Crawford

- ¹O LORD, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me;
- ² many are saying of my soul, "There is no salvation for him in God."
- ³ But you, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.
- 4 I cried aloud to the LORD, and he answered me from his holy hill.
- ⁵ I lay down and slept; I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.
- ⁶ I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around.
- ⁷ Arise, O LORD!Save me, O my God!For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;you break the teeth of the wicked.
- ⁸ Salvation belongs to the LORD; your blessing be on your people!

Opening Prayer

Jon Haines

*\(\) Lead on, O King Eternal (Hymn #457)

All

Lead on, O King Eternal, the day of march has come; Hence-forth in fields of conquest, your tents shall be our home. Through days of preparation, your grace has made us strong, And now, O King Eternal, we lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King Eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease, And holiness shall whisper the sweet Amen of peace; For not with swords load clashing, nor roll of stirring drums, With deeds of love and mercy, the heav'nly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King Eternal, we follow, not with fears; For gladness breaks like morning, where'er Your face appears; Your cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light: The crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might. Amen.

Call to Confession

Eva Morrison

Prayer of Confession

Eva Morrison

Almighty and merciful God,

We have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.

We have offended against your holy laws.

We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;

And have done those things which we ought not to have done.

O Lord, have mercy upon us.

Spare those who confess their faults.

Restore those who are penitent,

According to your promises declared to the world

In Christ Jesus our Lord.

And grant, O merciful God, for his sake,

That we may live a holy, just, and humble life

To the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Eva Morrison

First Reading

Judges 15 (ESV)

Eva Morrison

*\$\mathbb{I}\$ 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

All

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul Worship His holy name Sing like never before O my soul I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning It's time to sing Your song again Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me Let me be singing when the evening comes

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger Your name is great and Your heart is kind For all Your goodness I will keep on singing Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

And on that day when my strength is failing The end draws near and my time has come Still my soul will sing Your praise unending Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Worship Your holy name Lord I'll worship Your holy name

CCLI Song # 6016351 "10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)"
Words and Music by Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman
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*Passing of the Peace

All

* There's a Quiet Understanding (Hymn #204)

All

There's a quiet understanding, When we're gathered in the Spirit It's a promise that He gives us, When we gather in His name.

There's a love we feel in Jesus, There's a manna that He feeds us, It's a promise that He gives us, When we gather in His name. And we know when we're together, Sharing love and understanding, That our brothers and our sisters, Feel the oneness that He brings.

Thank You, thank You, thank You Jesus, For the way You love and feed us, For the many ways You lead us, Thank You, thank You, Lord.

Offering Jon Haines

Offertory Be Still and Know Josh and Christie Bruce

*J Doxology Doxology (Hymn #572) & Prayer Dan Morrison

Second Reading James 1:2-20 (ESV) **Dan Morrison**

Sermon Undisciplined Strength Gives Birth to Death **Dan Morrison**

Installation of Ruling Elder Judy Scott

Dan Morrison

* 1 Lay Me Down

All

With this heart open wide From the depths from the heights I will bring a sacrifice

With these hands lifted high Hear my song hear my cry I will bring a sacrifice I will bring a sacrifice

I lay me down
I'm not my own
I belong to You alone
Lay me down lay me down
Oh hand on my heart this much
is true
There's no life apart from You
Lay me down lay me down

(Oh lay me down lay me down)

Letting go of my pride Giving up all my rights Take this life and let it shine Take this life and let it shine

Oh lay me down lay me down Lay me down

It will be my joy to say Your will Your way It will be my joy to say Your will Your way It will be my joy to say Your will Your way always (REPEAT)

*I How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds (Hymn #68)

All

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear! It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds, and drives away his fear.

Dear name! The rock on which I build, my shield and hiding place, My never failing treasury, filled with boundless stores of grace.

Jesus, my Shepherd, Brother, Friend, my Prophet, Priest, and King, My Lord, my life, my way, my end, accept the praise I bring.

Weak is the effort of my heart, and cold my warmest thought; But when I see Thee as Thou art, I'll praise Thee as I ought.

Till then I would Thy love proclaim with every fleeting breath; And may the music of Thy name refresh my soul in death. Amen.

*Benediction Bruno Sousa

First Reading: Judges 15 (ESV)

¹ After some days, at the time of wheat harvest, Samson went to visit his wife with a young goat. And he said, "I will go in to my wife in the chamber." But her father would not allow him to go in. ² And her father said, "I really thought that you utterly hated her, so I gave her to your companion. Is not her younger sister more beautiful than she? Please take her instead." 3 And Samson said to them, "This time I shall be innocent in regard to the Philistines, when I do them harm." 4 So Samson went and caught 300 foxes and took torches. And he turned them tail to tail and put a torch between each pair of tails. 5 And when he had set fire to the torches, he let the foxes go into the standing grain of the Philistines and set fire to the stacked grain and the standing grain, as well as the olive orchards. ⁶Then the Philistines said, "Who has done this?" And they said, "Samson, the son-in-law of the Timnite, because he has taken his wife and given her to his companion." And the Philistines came up and burned her and her father with fire. 7 And Samson said to them, "If this is what you do, I swear I will be avenged on you, and after that I will guit." 8 And he struck them hip and thigh with a great blow, and he went down and staved in the cleft of the rock of Etam.

⁹Then the Philistines came up and encamped in Judah and made a raid on Lehi. ¹⁰And the men of Judah said, "Why have you come up against us?" They said, "We have come up to bind Samson, to do to him as he did to us." ¹¹Then 3,000 men of Judah went down to the cleft of the rock of Etam, and said to Samson, "Do you not know that the Philistines are rulers over us? What then is this that you have done to us?" And he said to them, "As they did to me, so have I done to them." ¹²And they said to him, "We have come down to bind you, that we may give you into the hands of the Philistines." And Samson said to them, "Swear to me that you will not attack me yourselves." ¹³They said to him, "No; we will only bind you and give you into their hands. We will surely not kill you." So they bound him with two new ropes and brought him up from the rock.

¹⁴ When he came to Lehi, the Philistines came shouting to meet him. Then the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon him, and the ropes that were on his arms became as flax that has caught fire, and his bonds melted off his hands. ¹⁵ And he found a fresh jawbone of a donkey, and put out his hand and took it, and with it he struck 1,000 men. ¹⁶ And Samson said,

"With the jawbone of a donkey, heaps upon heaps, with the jawbone of a donkey have I struck down a thousand men."

- ¹⁷ As soon as he had finished speaking, he threw away the jawbone out of his hand. And that place was called Ramath-lehi.
- ¹⁸ And he was very thirsty, and he called upon the LORD and said, "You have granted this great salvation by the hand of your servant, and shall I now die of thirst and fall into the hands of the uncircumcised?" ¹⁹ And God split open the hollow place that is at Lehi, and water came out from it. And when he drank, his spirit returned, and he revived. Therefore the name of it was called En-hakkore; it is at Lehi to this day. ²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

Second Reading: James 1:2-20 (ESV)

- ² Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.
- ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. ⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.
- ⁹ Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, ¹⁰ and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. ¹¹ For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits.
- ¹² Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴ But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵ Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.
- ¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸ Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.
- ¹⁹ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.



We are looking for one or two people to assist in planning the VCS 50th Year Gala on May 4, 2025, at Philmont Country Club to celebrate "A Legacy of God's Faithfulness, A Future of Kingdom Impact." Some of the work will include the following:

- 1. Event Planning, Logistics, and Guest Experience
- 2. Sponsorship, Silent Auction, and Marketing
- 3. Design and Communications
- 4. Programming and Content
- 5. Post-event Follow-up and Donor Relations

Please consider volunteering to help. Contact the Church Office at 215-947-5500, office@hvpc.org.



Happy Birthday to those born in February!

Josh Bruce, 4th
Ana Crawford, 4th
Christie Bruce, 6th
John Stiles, Jr., 7th
Abner Mendes de Oliveira, 7th
Susan Clark, 8th
Joan Clover, 9th
Nidiane Resende, 10th
Celia Regina Dal Santos, 11th
Abraham Lincoln, 12th

Beatriz Carvalho, 12th
Melanie Belinsky, 14th
Elaine Holmes, 15th
George Washington, 22nd
Edimar Jose dos Santos, 22nd
Luisa Brandao, 24th
Angelo Martins Carvalho, 25th
Christine Everly, 27th
Naomi Crawford, 28th





HVPC accepts cash or check as well as PayPal and Zelle.
Please scan to give with Zelle.

Small Groups

- **Anchored Bible Study** Next meeting is February 14. The following are the dates for the group through June: February 14 and 28, March 14 and 28, April 11 and 25, May 9 and 23, and June 13. Contact Deb Jack (jackfam5@comcast.net; 215-260-4564).
- **Circle of Hope** Next meeting is February 10. Circle of Hope meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The group watches an episode and then discusses the Chosen. Any questions, call Judy Scott (jtscott2022@comcast.net; 215-500-2747).
- **Miriam Circle** Next meeting is February 13. This women's Bible study small group meets the 2nd Thursday of each month from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. at the church in the Lounge Room #209. For more information, contact Pat Sarajian (sarajian@comcat.com; 215-485-0184).
- **Daughters of the King** Next meeting is February 10. This combination Zoom and in-person group meets the first three Mondays of the month from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Contact Charlene Crawford (godlydiva@aol.com; 267-279-9858).
- **Presbyterian Stogie Society** Next meeting is February 10. This cigar-friendly men's group meets every other Monday at 7:00 p.m. at the Ungerman Barn. Contact Jordan Goretti (creelowns@gmail.com; 610-554-0259).
- **Valley Youth Group** Next meeting is February 14. Contact the church office (office@hvpc.org; 215-947-5500).
- **Women's Bible Study** Next meeting is February 19. The group meets every other week. Childcare is available. Contact Naomi Trask (trasknaomioo1@gmail.com; 215-630-6186).
- **Connections Discipleship Group Study** Next meeting date to be determined. Contact Cynthia Cornish (<u>cynthiagrantcornish@yahoo.com</u>; 484-640-9856).

This Week of 2/9 @ HVPC

Fellowship Presbyterian Church	Tonight	6:00 p.m.	Contact Bruno Sousa
Daughters of the King	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Contact Charlene Crawford
Presbyterian Stogie Society	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Contact Jordan Goretti
Online Prayer Meeting	Wednesday	7:00 a.m.	Contact Shari Hofstetter
Miriam Circle	Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Contact Pat Sarajian
Choir Practice	Thursday	5:30 p.m.	Contact Susan Clark
Praise Band Practice	Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Contact Jon Haines
Online Prayer Meeting	Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Contact Shari Hofstetter
Anchored Bible Study	Friday	10:00 a.m.	Contact Deb Jack
Online Prayer Meeting (Missions)	Friday	5:00 p.m.	Contact Shari Hofstetter
Valley Youth Group	Friday	7:00 p.m.	Contact Bruno Sousa
ELL Program	Friday	7:00 p.m.	Contact Bruno Sousa

Contact the church office for information (office@HVPC.org; 215-947-5500).

Food Bank Collection

Bring the food! For February, there is a great need for baby food and diapers. Please also consider donating other non-perishable foods as well, such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, diapers, baby food and baby wipes, etc. If you have any questions, please contact Crystal Goretti; acheeg85@gmail.com, 201-213-2758.

Online prayer meetings: Shari Hofstetter hosts prayer meetings on Google Meet on Wednesdays at 7:00 a.m. and Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., and prayer for Missions each Friday at 5:00 p.m. For info, contact Shari Hofstetter chaplainshari94@gmail.com. Use the link meet.google.com/bqw-vgnh-wnx for Wednesday, meet.google.com/kex-umjj-czk for Thursday, and meet.google.com/kex-umjj-czk for Thursday, and meet.google.com/cfg-xnje-axt for Friday.

Greeters: This important ministry is seeking volunteers, whether you have or have not volunteered before. The sign-up page is http://bit.ly/HVPCgreeting. You may also contact Joyce Codispoti directly at 215-478-3299, jjcods@verizon.net.

The toddler Sunday school needs a way to play the DVDs that go with our curriculum. Do you have an old laptop that can play DVDs that you are willing to donate to us? See Naomi Trask or Deb Jack if you can help.

Karen Daniel's new address is: 1551 Huntingdon Pike, Apt. A-110, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19001. Phone: 215-801-2908

Prayer Requests & Praises

NOTE: If you have a prayer request to be added, updated, or removed please contact the Church Office (office@HVPC.org; 215-947-5500).

- Berkenstock, Caroline –
 Caroline fell and broke her pelvis.

 Please keep her in prayer as she recovers.
- Clover, Joan –Pray for Joan as she continues to struggle with nerve pain.
- Good, Barb Pray for Barb as she fell and broke her hip. Pray that God bring healing to her and an added measure of strength to Rich as he cares for his wife.
- **Holmes, Bert** Lift Bert up in prayer. He is back home and is receiving antibiotics. Pray for Bert as he recovers.
- James, Karen Keep Karen James in your prayers. Tuesday night, she was at work and had a stroke. It was a mild stroke. She has all of her motor skills, and she got her speaking skills back, but they're thinking it's her heart. That was messing with her brain and that's why she had a stroke. She's in Abington hospital now, so just keep her in prayers. She's actually looking really good now, and she may be discharged tomorrow.
- Jasinski, Mil and Walt Pray for Mil and Walt as Walt is dealing with pain and for Mil as she cares for her husband.
- Johnson, Ethel Lift up Ethel

- Johnson in your prayers as she has been recovering from a stroke. She is recovering and doing quite well. She is located at Wesley Enhanced Living, Room 105. The address is 200 Veterans Lane, Doylestown, PA 18901. Her number is 267-927-8304.
- Morrison, Eva Please keep Ulla in your prayers. She is recovering from surgery and faces recovery from cancer. Her husband, Wieland, has Alzheimer's and is unable to care for her. May her family and friends continue to provide companionship and comfort.
- **Marron**, **Gail** Remember Gail Marron in your prayers as she suffers with lower back pain.
- **Scaffidi**, **Barb** Barb's Mom continues to struggle with cancer. Also, Barb's Sister-in-law, Sue, is fighting breast cancer. Please pray for their health and that their walks with Christ be strengthened.
- Trask, Naomi Lift Naomi up in your prayers. We thank God that the test results show that Naomi's cancer has not returned. Also, Anna, her daughter-in-law's cousin's five-year-old has been diagnosed with leukemia.

Our Mission Statement

For God's glory, and by His power, we are a fellowship of sinners who worship God, study God's word, love all people, and share the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

HVPC Staff

Senior Pastor:

Dr. Dan Morrison | 267-847-0766 | pastor@HVPC.org

Assistant Pastor:

Dr. Thiago Bruno Sousa | 267-709-3931 | jamesbsousa81@gmail.com

Church Secretary:

Jordan Goretti | 215-947-5500 | office@HVPC.org

Archivist:

Rebekah Bramer | 215-316-8291 | rnt19755@aol.com

Director of Traditional Music:

Susan Clark | 904-612-5072 | worship@HVPC.org

Minister of Celebrations:

Charlene Crawford | 267-279-9858 | GodlyDiva@aol.com

Head of School/VCS:

Dr. Chelsea Foster | 215-947-4581 | fosterc@vcskids.com

Director of Contemporary Music:

Jon Haines | 267-229-7160 | praise@HVPC.org

Director of Children's Ministry:

Naomi Trask | 215-630-6186 | <u>TraskNaomioo1@gmail.com</u>

Sexton:

Doug Landersz | 267-625-7355 | sexton@hvpc.org

Bookkeeper:

Elizabeth Rozarto | 215-264-6107 | books@HVPC.org

HVPC Elders

George Hindley (Administration)

Jon Haines (Administration)

Matheus Schaper (Outreach,

Communications)

Jordan Goretti (Clerk of Session, Worship)

Deb Jack (Christian Education)

Dr. Dan Morrison (Teaching Elder)

Dr. Thiago Bruno Sousa (Teaching Elder)

Ariadne Azevedo (Assistant Treasurer)

Cheryl Waring (Nominating)

Judy Scott

Maria Eliza Schaper

HVPC Deacons

Josh Bruce (Moderator,

Ministry Through Giving)

Ginny Aikens (Transportation)

Dwayne Cornish (Food Bank)

Crystal Goretti (Secretary)

Shari Hofstetter (Treasurer)

Joyce Codispoti (Greeting)

Anne Caulfield

Linda Cifelli (Card Ministry)

Elaine Mendes

Huntingdon Valley Presbyterian Church is a member of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (www.EPC.org). The EPC motto is: "In Essentials, Unity. In Non-Essentials, Liberty. In All Things, Charity. Truth in Love." The EPC has set forth the following statements of what they believe in common.

Scripture is self-attesting and being Truth, requires our unreserved submission in all areas of life. The infallible Word of God, the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is a complete and unified witness to God's redemptive acts culminating in the incarnation of the Living Word, the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible, uniquely and fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, is the supreme and final authority on all matters on which it speaks. On this sure foundation we affirm these additional Essentials of our faith:

- **1.** We believe in one God, the sovereign Creator and Sustainer of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. To Him be all honor, glory and praise forever!
- **2.** Jesus Christ, the living Word, became flesh through His miraculous conception by the Holy Spirit and His virgin birth. He who is true God became true man united in one Person forever. He died on the cross a sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures. On the third day He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, where, at the right hand of the Majesty on High, He now is our High Priest and Mediator.
- **3.** The Holy Spirit has come to glorify Christ and to apply the saving work of Christ to our hearts. He convicts us of sin and draws us to the Savior. Indwelling our hearts, He gives new life to us, empowers and imparts gifts to us for service. He instructs and guides us into all truth, and seals us for the day of redemption.
- **4.** Being estranged from God and condemned by our sinfulness, our salvation is wholly dependent upon the work of God's free grace. God credits His righteousness to those who put their faith in Christ alone for their salvation, thereby justifies them in His sight. Only such as are born of the Holy Spirit and receive Jesus Christ become children of God and heirs of eternal life.
- **5.** The true Church is composed of all persons who through saving faith in Jesus Christ and the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit are united together in the body of Christ. The Church finds her visible, yet imperfect, expression in local congregations where the Word of God is preached in its purity and the sacraments are administered in their integrity; where scriptural discipline is practiced, and where loving fellowship is maintained. For her perfecting, she awaits the return of her Lord.
- **6.** Jesus Christ will come again to the earth-personally, visibly, and bodily-to judge the living and the dead, and to consummate history and the eternal plan of God. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." (Revelation 22:20)
- 7. The Lord Jesus Christ commands all believers to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world and to make disciples of all nations. Obedience to the Great Commission requires total commitment to "Him who loved us and gave Himself for us." He calls us to a life of self-denying love and service. "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:10).



Our Facebook page:

http://www.facebook.com/hvpchurch ("Like" the page!)

Online news:

Read the latest at www.HVPC.org/news

Our Instagram account:

www.instagram.com/hvpchurch

Online calendar:

See what's happening at www.HVPC.org/events

Our email news:

You can subscribe to our News emails by going to <u>eepurl.com/cb8YAT</u> and completing the online form.