



27 April 2025

The  
*Lord's*  
Day

**HILLCREST**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**John 20:19-31**

*"Hillcrest Baptist Church  
exists to magnify Jesus by  
declaring His glory,  
sharing His salvation,  
preparing His disciples,  
bearing with one another  
and caring for others"*

Every **Member**

*Ministers*

**Dr. Curtis Flemming**

*Pastor*

**Leah Goslen** (510) 734-7624

*Minister of Music*

**Jose Sabas** (510) 390-4837

*Deacon of the Month*

<sup>19</sup>Now when it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were together due to fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst, and \*said to them, "Peace be to you."

<sup>20</sup>And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>So Jesus said to them again, "Peace be to you; just as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." <sup>22</sup>And when He had said this, He breathed on them and \*said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained."

<sup>2</sup> But Thomas, one of the twelve, who was called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples were saying to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup>Eight days later His disciples were again inside, and Thomas was with them. Jesus \*came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be to you."

<sup>27</sup>Then He \*said to Thomas, "Place your finger here, and see My hands; and take your hand and put it into My side; and do not continue in disbelief, but be a believer."

<sup>28</sup>Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus \*said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you now believed?"

Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed!" <sup>30</sup>So then, many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that by believing you may have life in His name.

# OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

## TODAY, April 27

Business meeting and Potluck

## THURSDAY, May 1

National Day of Prayer . . . . . 7:00 PM

## SATURDAY, May 3

Sister Share . . . . . 11:00 AM

## SUNDAY, May 4

Sunday School Bible Study (*All level*) . . . . . 9:45 AM

## SUNDAY, May 11

Mother's Day Breakfast . . . . . 9:00 AM

Lord's Supper

## SUNDAY, May 18

Deacon Election

Sunday School Teachers meeting

## Other Announcements

- ❖ If you would like to donate to God's work via the internet, please visit our church website at [www.hillcrestbaptist.net](http://www.hillcrestbaptist.net) and click on the "GIVE" button to access our secure online giving portal.
- ❖ You can also give via PayPal: Use [3400hillcrest@gmail.com](mailto:3400hillcrest@gmail.com)
- ❖ **Ministry Leaders**—as we prepare for our semi-annual Business Meeting on April 27, please update your annual budget request and submit to our Treasurer, Herbert Aromin. We need accurate amounts based on current ministry needs.

# THE PATH TO PENTECOST

This Sunday, we will start the journey to Pentecost and the beginnings of the Church.

**OBJECTIVES:** Learning to lean into God's new reality brought on by Jesus's resurrection.

**SCRIPTURE:**

Primary Scripture: *John 20:19-31*

Secondary Scripture: *Psalms 118:14-29; Revelation 1:4-8.*

1. Singing an old song a new way.  
*Psalms 118:14-29.* This victory song has now been fulfilled, the sacrifice accepted, and the battle won!

2. Jesus, our victorious King!

*Revelation 1:1-4*

3. The Disciples are becoming a new humanity through faith and teaching.

*John 20:19-31*

**CONCLUSION:** *Apostle Paul's summation.*

“Friends, let me go over the Message with you one final time—this Message that I proclaimed and that you made your own; this Message on which you took your stand and by which your life has been saved. (I’m assuming, now, that your belief was the real thing and not a passing fancy, that you’re in this for good and holding fast.) The first thing I did was place before you what was placed so emphatically before me: that the Messiah died for our sins, exactly as Scripture tells it; that he was buried; that he was raised from death on the third day, again exactly as Scripture says; that he presented himself alive to Peter, then to his closest followers, and later to more than five hundred of his followers all at the same time, most of them still around (although a few have since died); that he then spent time with James and the rest of those he commissioned to represent him; and that he finally presented himself alive to me. It was fitting that I bring up the rear. I don’t deserve to be included in that inner circle, as you well know, having spent all those early years trying my best to stamp God’s church right out of existence. But because God was so gracious, so very generous, here I am. And I’m not about to let his grace go to waste. Haven’t I worked hard trying to do more than any of the others? Even then, my work didn’t amount to all that much. It was God giving me the work to do, God giving me the energy to do it. So whether you heard it from me or from those others, it’s all the same: We spoke God’s truth and you entrusted your lives. Now, let me ask you something profound yet troubling. If you became believers because you trusted the proclamation that Christ is alive, risen from the dead, how can you let people say that there is no such thing as a resurrection? If there’s no resurrection, there’s no living Christ. And face it—if there’s no resurrection for Christ, everything we’ve told you is smoke and mirrors, and everything you’ve staked your life on is smoke and mirrors. Not only that, but we would be guilty of telling a string of barefaced lies about God, all these affidavits we passed on to you verifying that God raised up Christ—sheer fabrications, if there’s no resurrection. If corpses can’t be raised, then Christ wasn’t, because he was indeed dead. And if Christ weren’t raised, then all you’re doing is wandering about in the dark, as lost as ever. It’s even worse for those who died hoping in Christ and resurrection, because they’re already in their graves. If all we get out of Christ is a little inspiration for a few short years, we’re a pretty sorry lot. But the truth is that Christ has been raised up, the first in a long legacy of those who are going to leave the cemeteries. There is a nice symmetry in this: Death initially came by a man, and resurrection from death came by a man. Everybody dies in Adam; everybody comes alive in Christ. But we have to wait our turn: Christ is first, then those with him at his Coming, the grand consummation when, after crushing the opposition, he hands over his kingdom to God the Father. He won’t let up until the last enemy is down—and the very last enemy is death!

## OFFERING UPDATE

T&O FOR APRIL 20:	\$436
ON LINE T&Os FOR WEEK:	\$0
T&Os NEEDED FOR YEAR:	\$179,949
T&Os RECEIVED FOR YEAR:	\$141,196
T&Os SHORT FOR YEAR:	(\$38,753)
SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR APRIL 20:	38

## COUNTERS

Tom & Jose—APRIL 27  
Steve & Jose—MAY 4  
Tom & Steve—MAY 11  
Tom & Jose—MAY 18  
Steve & Jose—MAY 25

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS

THIS WEEK (4/27)	NEXT WEEK (5/4)
Lynda Bishop	Aileen Majano
Brian Lawson	Myra Sabas

# WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READING

## READ THE SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

- ❖ What does God's Word say?—*List the facts.*
- ❖ What does God's Word mean?—*Learn the lessons.*
- ❖ What does God's Word mean to me?—*Listen to His voice.*
- ❖ How will I respond to God's Word?—*Live it out!*

*Esther Chapters 9–10*

