



HUDSON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sept 13, 2026

KNOW JESUS | **SERVE** JESUS | **BRING** OTHERS TO JESUS

Pastor Shawn Carafa

Office Phone: 330-650-1626 | Information: www.hudsonpc.org

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *Those who are able are welcome to stand.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 103:17-19, 22 Lay Reader, Mary Anne Schmidt

Leader: But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children,

People: to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.

Leader: The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.

People: Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!

***HYMN OF PRAISE** He Is Exalted Hymn No. 36

***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Eternal God, in You we live and move and have our being. Yet, Your face is hidden from us by our sins, and Your mercy is forgotten in the blindness of our hearts.

Cleanse us, Lord, from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to You, confessing our faults and confiding in Your grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

(Please take a moment to silently confess your sins to the Lord)

***PROCLAMATION OF FORGIVENESS** John 6:47

[47] Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. (ESV)

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end. Amen. Amen.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

(A time to share our Thanksgiving and Requests to the Lord and with our Church family)

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 glory forever. Amen.*

OFFERTORY I Will Sing the Wondrous Story Gordon Young

***DOXOLOGY**

*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!*

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***HYMN OF PREPARATION** They'll Know We Are Christians Hymn No. 429

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON "Esther's Rise" Pastor Shawn Carafa
 Esther 2:1-18

***CLOSING HYMN** Great Is Thy Faithfulness Hymn No. 139

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** "Variations on "Duke Street" arr. Hal Hopson

***FELLOWSHIP** Please join us downstairs in the fellowship hall.

SERMON SCRIPTURE

Esther 2:1–18

[1] After these things, when the anger of King Ahasuerus had abated, he remembered Vashti and what she had done and what had been decreed against her. [2] Then the king's young men who attended him said, "Let beautiful young virgins be sought out for the king. [3] And let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom to gather all the beautiful young virgins to the harem in Susa the citadel, under custody of Hegai, the king's eunuch, who is in charge of the women. Let their cosmetics be given them. [4] And let the young woman who pleases the king be queen instead of Vashti." This pleased the king, and he did so.

[5] Now there was a Jew in Susa the citadel whose name was Mordecai, the son of Jair, son of Shimei, son of Kish, a Benjaminite, [6] who had been carried away from Jerusalem among the captives carried away with Jeconiah king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had carried away. [7] He was bringing up Hadassah, that is Esther, the daughter of his uncle, for she had neither father nor mother. The young woman had a beautiful figure and was lovely to look at, and when her father and her mother died, Mordecai took her as his own daughter. [8] So when the king's order and his edict were proclaimed, and when many young women were gathered in Susa the citadel in custody of Hegai, Esther also was taken into the king's palace and put in custody of Hegai, who had charge of the women. [9] And the young woman pleased him and won his favor. And he quickly provided her with her cosmetics and her portion of food, and with seven chosen young women from the king's palace, and advanced her and her young women to the best place in the harem. [10] Esther had not made known her people or kindred, for Mordecai had commanded her not to make it known. [11] And every day Mordecai walked in front of the court of the harem to learn how Esther was and what was happening to her.

[12] Now when the turn came for each young woman to go in to King Ahasuerus, after being twelve months under the regulations for the women, since this was the regular period of their beautifying, six months with oil of myrrh and six months with spices and ointments for women—[13] when the young woman went in to the king in this way, she was given whatever she desired to take with her from the harem to the king's palace. [14] In the evening she would go in, and in the morning she would return to the second harem in custody of Shaashgaz, the king's eunuch, who was in charge of the concubines. She would not go in to the king again, unless the king delighted in her and she was summoned by name.

[15] When the turn came for Esther the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her as his own daughter, to go in to the king, she asked for nothing except what Hegai the king's eunuch, who had charge of the women, advised. Now Esther was winning favor in the eyes of all who saw her. [16] And when Esther was taken to King Ahasuerus, into his royal palace, in the tenth month, which is the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign, [17] the king loved Esther more than all the women, and she won grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins, so that he set the royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti. [18] Then the king gave a great feast for all his officials and servants; it was Esther's feast. He also granted a remission of taxes to the provinces and gave gifts with royal generosity. (ESV)

NOTES

WEEKLY

SUNDAY

Sunday Studies 9:30am

Worship 10:30am

Youth Group 6:30-8pm

MONDAY

AA 7pm

TUESDAY

Women's Bible Study 10am

THURSDAY

AA 7pm

Men's Bible Study 7pm

DEACON OF THE WEEK

Kristine Dimonte

440-281-0379

CELEBRATIONS

Another Year of Life

Amanda Nicely Millie Constable

Kathy Suschil Juliana Justice

Another Year of Life Together

None this week

NEWS

Operation Christmas Child: September's giving focus is school supplies and personal care items.

Faith and Footsteps: Hike 1 Sunday, Sept 20, 3-4 pm at Hudson Springs Park. Join us for a 1.9 mile main loop trail that circles the water.

2026 Habitat for Humanity Workday:

Saturday, Oct 3: Volunteers have signed up but there is room for more on the crew. Volunteers must be over the age of eighteen, but need not be construction experts. All tasks are completed under the supervision of Habitat Construction professional. Lunch will be provided. Do not miss this opportunity for service and fellowship. Contact Jon Polhamus Jonpolhamu@aol.com or 330-524-8564 or the Church office if you are interested in joining the crew.