**Hillside UMC Sermon Prep Sheet**

***Pastor Chris Neikirk***

**Date: Sunday, March 11, 2018 – The Fourth Sunday of Lent – Holy Communion**

**Sermon Title: I Am: I Am the Bread of Life**

**Scripture: Exodus 3:14-15 (NIV)** 14God said to Moses, “I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I am has sent me to you.’” 15God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’ “This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.

**John 6:35 (NIV)** 35Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

**Revelation 1:8 (NIV)** 8“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

**Call to Worship: (8:30 only) *faithandworship,com***

**Lord, grant us simplicity of faith  
and a generosity of service  
that gives without counting cost.  
A life overflowing with Grace  
poured out from the One  
who gave everything,  
that we might show  
the power of love  
to a broken world,  
and share the truth  
from a living Word.  
Lord, grant us simplicity of faith,  
and a yearning to share it.**

**Basic Theme:** **Lent is “season” in our faith that leads us to Easter. The purpose of Lent is to be a season of fasting, self-denial, Christian growth, penitence, conversion, and simplicity. Lent, which comes from the Teutonic (Germanic) word for springtime, can be viewed as a spiritual spring cleaning: a time for taking spiritual inventory and then cleaning out those things which hinder our corporate and personal relationships with Jesus Christ and our service to him. Lent is a time to acknowledge who God is and who we are in Jesus Christ. The “I Am” is our reason for being.**

**Sermon Snapshot:When Jesus Christ said to the disciples, “I am the bread of life,” he was communicating that receiving God and believing in the one sent is the only thing that will satisfy the hunger we all have for truth and love. Just as bread nourishes our physical bodies, Jesus Christ nourishes our souls.**

**So What? Do you have a hunger that remains unsatisfied? What will it take for you to receive the bread of life that is offered to you so that you hunger no more?**