**Hillside UMC Sermon Prep Sheet**

***Susan Carey***

**Date: Sunday, June 3, 2018**

**Sermon Title: Series: Who Am I?**

**I Am a New Creation**

**Scripture: Colossians 2:9-15 *(New International Version)***

9 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, 10 and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. 11 In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, 12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins,14 having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. 15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

**Call to Worship: (8:30 only)**

Leader: Our God is a God of power and strength!

**People: God has created each of us** **with tender care.**

Leader: Our God is a God of majesty and awe!

**People: God walks with each of us** **every step of the way.**

Leader: Our God is a God of glory and wonder!

**People: God loves each of us** **with tenderness and passion.**

Leader: Our God calls us each by name.

**All: We are known, loved, and made whole by our God who calls each of us to unite in worship together!**

**Basic Theme: *Who am I? We ask this question during different stages and seasons of life and***

***the answer likely changes each time we ask. As children, we develop our identity by what we are told from trusted adults. As teenagers, our peers and talents often define our identity. Later in life, jobs, marital status, and parenthood define who we are. These definitions shape our attitudes and behaviors. However, our true identity lies in the Word of God, and when we understand and embrace who God says are, we live in true freedom.***

**Sermon Snapshot (Key Points): No life is free from mistakes, yet we carry burdens, shame and guilt for far too long. They mistakenly shape our identity and interfere with our ability to move forward in a relationship with God through Jesus Christ and in healthy relationships with others. The good news of the Gospel is that we are a new creation in Christ Jesus. When we accept him as our Lord and Savior, we are washed clean of the sins from our past and free to move forward as His beloved. Embrace that freedom!**

**So What? Are you haunted by sins of your past? What lies do you need to replace with truth in order to move forward? What do you need in order to embrace that Christ brings new life? The old is gone; you are a new creation!**