**Hillside UMC Sermon Prep Sheet**

***Pastor Chris Neikirk***

**Date: Sunday, September 25, 2016**

**Sermon Title: Hillside, a Church on a Mission**

**GO Live Out Your Faith: Works of Grace & Mercy**

**Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-10** *(New International Version)*

1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. 4But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. 6And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. 8For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9not by works, so that no one can boast. 10For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

**Call to Worship: (8:30 only) – Based on Psalm 92**

Leader: It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High, proclaiming your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night.

**People: How great are your works, Lord, how profound your thoughts!**

Leader: For you make me glad by your deeds, Lord; I sing for joy at what your hands have done. Senseless people do not know, fools do not understand… But you, Lord, are forever exalted.

**All: May our lives bring glory to you, O God, as we seek live out our faith!**

**Basic Theme: *Churches are groups of individuals who are stronger together and can accomplish more together than any one person could be alone. The mission of the Church is outlined by Jesus in Matthew 28:18-20, known as the Great Commission. Having received the Holy Spirit, we are to carry the Good News of Jesus Christ into our world, teach others about Him, and baptize new believers into the faith. The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. As part of both the Church and the United Methodist Church, the leadership of Hillside has identified our part of the mission: Hillside is called to LOVE God, SERVE others, GROW in Christ, and GO live out our faith.***

**Sermon Snapshot (Key Points): The final part of Hillside’s mission is to GO live out our faith. Our faith is not something that is only meant to be experienced in the safe confines of a church building on Sunday mornings. Our faith is intended to be an active part of our daily lives. Our faith is not just be something that we do, our faith is who we are. Because we have received God’s love, our faith compels us to share that love through works of grace and mercy.**

**So What? As you GO, does your faith GO with you? What does living out your faith look like for you? What works of grace and mercy will you identify that may go undone if you do not do them? Are your actions an expression of your faith? Will you claim your part of the mission to GO live out your faith?**