

# Hillsdale First United Methodist Church | April 12, 2026

- **IN-PERSON 9:30 am** in the Sanctuary
- **LIVESTREAM** online at **9:30 am on Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/HillsdaleFirstUMC>
- on **YouTube** <https://www.youtube.com/@hillsdalefirstumc-45nmanni2>
- on **our church website** <https://hillsdalefirstumc.com/>

Please stand as you are able during parts of the service indicated with an asterisk. \* | Congregation responses indicated in **bold print**.

## Gathering

### Prelude

Two Settings of *Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus*

M. Burkhardt

### Pastoral Greeting

#### \*Call to Worship

*Rise up, and greet the morning.*

**Cast off your sleep and your doubt.**

*Arise, and meet the risen Christ—*

**who speaks to us words of peace,**

*who calls us to glorious deeds,*

**who makes us live with life everlasting!**

#### \*Hymn of Praise

*Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus*

325

1. Hail, thou once despised Jesus!  
Hail, thou Galilean King!  
Thou didst suffer to release us;  
thou didst free salvation bring.  
Hail, thou universal Savior,  
who hast borne our sin and shame!  
By thy merits we find favor;  
life is given through thy name.

2. Paschal Lamb, by God appointed,  
all our sins on thee were laid;  
by almighty love anointed,  
thou hast full atonement made.  
Every sin may be forgiven  
through the virtue of thy blood;  
opened is the gate of heaven,  
reconciled are we with God.

3. Jesus, hail! enthroned in glory,  
there forever to abide;  
all the heavenly hosts adore thee,  
seated at thy Father's side.  
There for sinners thou art pleading;  
there thou dost our place prepare;  
thou for saints art interceding  
till in glory they appear.

4. Worship, honor, power, and blessing  
Christ is worthy to receive;  
loudest praises, without ceasing,  
right it is for us to give.  
Help, ye bright angelic spirits,  
bring your sweetest, noblest lays;  
help to sing of Jesus' merits,  
help to chant Emmanuel's praise!

Words attr. to John Bakewell, 1757, and Martin Madan, 1760, alt.  
Music: Trad. Dutch melody; arr. by Julius Roentgen, 1906. Public Domain

#### \*Prayer of the Day

*Almighty God,*

*after Christ rose from the dead, he confronted the disciples not with condemnation but with grace.*

**Restore us, O Christ, when we have failed you.**

*Those who had abandoned him, those who had failed him, those who denied him,  
were restored to fellowship and grace.*

**Heal our wounds and speak your mercy over our lives.**

*By your Spirit, give us courage to follow you wherever you lead, even when the way is costly.*

**Make us faithful in love, steadfast in hope, and bold in obedience.**

*Through Jesus Christ, who restores the fallen and calls us still.*

**Amen.**

#### \*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.***

Words: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent. Music: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851. Public Domain

## Proclamation

### Old Testament Reading – Jeremiah 18:1-6

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: <sup>2</sup> “Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” <sup>3</sup> So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. <sup>4</sup> The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him. <sup>5</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to me: <sup>6</sup> Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.

### Sung Response

*Have Thine Own Way*

382, v1

***Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Thou art the potter; I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me after thy will, while I am waiting, yielded and still.***

Words by Adelaide A. Pollard, 1902. Music by George C. Stebbins, 1907. Public Domain

**New Testament Reading – 1 John 1:5-2:2** <sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup> but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup> If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

*My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous, <sup>2</sup> and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.*

### Anthem

*You Chose Me (Peter’s Song)*

C. Brunett

**Sermon Text – John 21:15-19** <sup>15</sup> When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” <sup>16</sup> A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” <sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup> Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” <sup>19</sup> (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

**Response to the Scripture** *This is the Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!*

### Message

*Failing Forward*

Pastor Tomasino

## Response

### \*Hymn of Response

*Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*

358

1. Dear Lord and Father of mankind,  
forgive our foolish ways;  
re clothe us in our rightful mind,  
in purer lives thy service find,  
in deeper reverence, praise.

2. In simple trust like theirs who heard,  
beside the Syrian sea,  
the gracious calling of the Lord,  
let us, like them, without a word,  
rise up and follow thee.

3. O sabbath rest by Galilee,  
O calm of hills above,  
where Jesus knelt to share with thee  
the silence of eternity,  
interpreted by love!

4. Drop thy still dews of quietness,  
till all our strivings cease;  
take from our souls the strain and stress,  
and let our ordered lives confess  
the beauty of thy peace.

5. Breathe through the heats of our desire  
thy coolness and thy balm;  
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;  
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,  
O still, small voice of calm.

Words: John Greenleaf Whittier, 1872. Music: Frederick C. Maker, 1887. Public Domain

## Prayers of the People

### 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

### Sung Prayer Response

*Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil*

2219

**Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate;  
light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death.  
Victory is ours, victory is ours through him who loved us.  
Victory is ours, victory is ours through him who loved us.**

Words: From African Prayer Book, selected by Desmond Tutu. © 1995 Desmond Tutu, admin. by Doubleday (a div. of Random House) and Hodder and Stoughton Ltd.  
Music: John Bell © 1996 WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland) admin, by GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Used under One License A-723218

### Offertory and Church Family News and Notes

*We invite you to sign the attendance pads and pass them to others in your pew.  
An offering plate is located at the back of the sanctuary for you to use for your giving.*

### \*Doxology

95

**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.**

Words: Thomas Ken, Music: Attr. to Louis Borgeois, Public Domain

### \*Prayer of Dedication *Living God, on the shore Jesus met Peter in his shame and called him back to love.*

**Meet us now, and restore our hearts by your mercy.**

*You turned his failure into a new beginning and entrusted him again with your work.*

**Take our gifts and turn them into acts of healing and hope.**

*As Peter answered your question, "Do you love me?", so we offer what we have in gratitude.*

**Receive these offerings as signs of our desire to follow you.**

*Strengthen us to tend your sheep with compassion, generosity, and courage.*

**Use our lives and our gifts to share your restoring love with the world.**

*Through Jesus Christ, who calls us still and never gives up on us.*

**Amen.**

## Sending

### \*Hymn

*Here I Am, Lord*

593

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame,  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?  
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.

Words and Music: Dan Schutte, 1981 (Is. 6:8), adapt. by Carlton R. Young, 1988 © 1981 OCP.  
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## \*Benediction

## Postlude

*Allegro Maestoso from Sonata II*

F. Mendelssohn

*After the pastor and liturgist have recessed and the altar candles are extinguished,  
you may stay seated or quietly leave your seats during the postlude.*

### Prayer Requests | *Prayers for anyone in need of God's comfort and peace.*

Colleen Fadden, Gail Clow, Joyce Potter, Liam Trombly, Cheryl Paul, Lenore Snyder, Al Jagger,  
friend of Robin Curtis (health), Anna Hatfield (Robin Curtis's niece),  
Ruth (Harring) Small (Jan Tesch's sister-in-law)

*(Please contact the office to add or remove a request from our list.)*

### MEETINGS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

• Worship	9:30 am	Sunday, April 12	In person – Sanctuary and Online
• Handbell rehearsal	11:00 am	Sunday, April 12	In person – Sanctuary
• Gull Lake Guitar Recital	3:00 pm	Sunday, April 12	In person – Sanctuary
• Trustees (if needed)	5:30 pm	Monday, April 13	In person – Lounge
• Praise Band rehearsal	4:00 pm	Tuesday, April 14	In person – Fellowship Hall
• Finance (if needed)	7:00 pm	Tuesday, April 14	In person – ZOOM
• Bible Study	10:30 am	Wednesday, April 15	In person – Lounge and ZOOM
• Choir rehearsal	6:30 pm	Thursday, April 16	In person – Music Room
• Worship	9:30 am	Sunday, April 19	In person – Sanctuary and Online
• Worship with breakfast	11:00 am	Sunday, April 19	In person – Fellowship Hall

**MISSIONS** | This month the Missions Team invites your support for Grace Outside, a camping ministry of the Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church.

This week's camp spotlight is on **Lake Michigan Family Campground in Pentwater, MI**, just over three hours from Hillsdale. In July, Lake Michigan Campground offers Adventure Camps for high schoolers and adults. Campers will depart Pentwater to camp in the Upper Peninsula and kayak the scenic Pictured Rocks along the shores of Lake Superior.

As the name suggests, this is also a family campground with seasonal and year-round facilities and family activities that include archery, mini golf, volleyball, basketball, hiking, and dune walks.

Camp scholarships are available by application through our church office.

Thank you for your contributions this month that help support our church's camp scholarships as well as the programming and maintenance of the Michigan Conference camp facilities.

**BIBLE STUDY** | Bible study resumes on Wednesday, April 15 at 10:30 am in the Lounge. You may also join by ZOOM at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88917951563>, or by calling (312) 626-6799 and providing Meeting ID: 889 1795 1563. Sessions will be recorded, and you may contact the office to get a link to watch at your convenience.

**LOVE INC COMPANIONSHIP MINISTRY** | The Love INC Companionship Ministry exists to share the love of Christ by bringing hope, comfort, and connection to individuals who may feel isolated or forgotten. The elderly, shut-ins, veterans, and those facing limited mobility due to illness or disability are our neighbors who deeply value a caring voice and a consistent connection.

Love INC is seeking Christian men and women who would be willing to connect with a designated client by phone for about 20–30 minutes, a couple of times each month. Thank you for prayerfully considering this opportunity to serve.

## Hillsdale First United Methodist Church

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Rev. Tony Tomasino, Pastor

Calista Brunett, Music Director | HFUMC Chancel Choir

Janell Wilson, Liturgist

Pam Laurell, Church Administrator | Jeff Kornak, Facility Supervisor