

Hillsdale First United Methodist Church | August 10, 2025

- **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

Seek Ye First / Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us K. Lafferty / W. Bradbury
Marla Bowen, flute; Melissa Raymond, piano; Tony Tomasino, guitar

Pastoral Greeting

*Call to Worship

*Ask, and it shall be given; seek, and you shall find; knock, and the door shall be opened;
for all who ask shall receive, and all who seek shall find.
And so this morning, we look to the Lord to answer the cry of our hearts.
May the doors of heaven be opened, and may the grace of God be revealed.*

*Hymn

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

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1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.

2. Here I raise mine Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3. O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

Words: Robert Robinson, 1758. Music: Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813. Public Domain

*Prayer of the Day

*O Lord, like your disciples long ago,
we ask you to teach us to pray.
Help us to come before you humbly, to come to you faithfully,
and to come to you constantly with our praises and our petitions.*

**And help us to believe the promise
that you will work all things together for the good of those who love you
and are called according to your purpose.
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, 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

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Proclamation

Scripture Reading – Psalm 42:1-6a

¹ As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.

² My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.
When shall I come and behold
the face of God?

³ My tears have been my food
day and night,
while people say to me continually,
“Where is your God?”

⁴ These things I remember, as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng
and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving,
a multitude keeping festival.

⁵ Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God, for I shall again praise him,
⁶ my help and my God.

Special Music

As the Deer with My Faith Looks Up to Thee
Marla Bowen, flute

M. Nystrom / Arr. S. Pethel

Sermon Text – James 5:13-18

¹³ Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴ Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up, and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷ Elijah was a human like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth yielded its harvest.

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

Message

Praying Away the Rain

Pastor Tomasino

Response

*Hymn of Response

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

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1. What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.

2. Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer.

3. Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee;
thou wilt find a solace there.

Words: Joseph Scriven, 1855. Music: Charles Converse, 1868. 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.**

Prayer Response

In His Time

2203, v1

***In his time, in his time; he makes all things beautiful in his time.
Lord, please show me every day as you're teaching me your way,
that you do just what you say in your time.***

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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

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***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

*Lord, as we present our offerings,
we acknowledge that you do not need our money.
And yet, you choose to use our gifts, so that we may be partners in the work of your Kingdom.*

**Bless these gifts, so that they might be an answer to someone's prayers,
and that our faith might be strengthened through our giving.
In the name of Jesus our Lord, Amen.**

Sending

*Hymn

Standing on the Promises

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1. Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
through eternal ages let his praises ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
standing on the promises of God.
Standing, standing
standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

2. Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail,
standing on the promises of God.
Standing, standing
standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

3. Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,
bound to him eternally by love's strong cord,
overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,
standing on the promises of God.
Standing, standing
standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

4. Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all,
standing on the promises of God.
Standing, standing
standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

Words and Music R. Kelso Carter, 1886 (Eph. 6:14-17). Public Domain

*Benediction

Postlude

When You Pray / Sweet, Sweet Spirit

A. Mieir / D. Akers

*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.*

Hillsdale First United Methodist Church

45 N. Manning St., Hillsdale, MI 49242 | 517-437-3681 | www.hillsdalefirstumc.com | facebook.com/HillsdaleFirstUMC

Rev. Tony Tomasino, Pastor

Melissa Raymond, Guest Musician

Marla Bowen, flute

Val White, Liturgist

Pam Laurell, Church Administrator | Jeff Kornak, Facility Supervisor

MEETINGS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

• Worship	9:30 am	Sunday, August 10	In person – Sanctuary and Online
• Trustees	5:30 pm	Monday, August 11	In person – Lounge
• Praise Band	5:15 pm	Tuesday, August 12	In person – Fellowship Hall
• Finance	7:00 pm	Tuesday, August 12	In person – Lounge and ZOOM
• Loaves and Fishes	9:00 am- 1:00 pm	Saturday, August 16	Fairgrounds
• Worship	9:30 am	Sunday, August 17	In person – Sanctuary and Online
• Worship with breakfast	11:00 am	Sunday, August 17	In person – Fellowship Hall

MISSIONS | This month the Mission Team invites your support for missionary, Princess M. Jusu.

Many women who attend Ms. Jusu's training center had dropped out of school as children to become housewives. Through the programs offered at the Leadership Training Center, the women now have the opportunity to learn homemaking skills, self-care, and sustainable trades and will graduate to live in safe environments where they can also earn an independent income to supplement and maintain their households.

Thank you for your support of Ms. Jusu's missionary work and for all the church's ministries, both here and around the world.

LOAVES AND FISHES, SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm | Our church will once again participate in the annual Loaves and Fishes ministry to be held at the Fairgrounds on Saturday, August 16. We welcome your participation!

At our booth in the New Merchants' Hall we will be distributing socks to anyone from the community who needs them. If you'd like to help with this ministry by donating socks, there are cards on the bulletin table that list the specific types of socks we need. Bins will be available at the back of the sanctuary for your sock donations.

We would also welcome volunteers to help in the booth for blocks of time between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm. If you're available to help, please contact the office, Judy Burgee, or Martha Smith.

ONE TEAM OUTREACH MINISTRY: DINNER IN A BAG | The ONE Team (Outreach, Nurture, and Education Team) is giving us an opportunity to provide a "dinner in a bag" for our Third Sunday Agape congregation and others.

The concept of "dinner in a bag" is to collect all the ingredients necessary to provide a complete dinner and fit them all into a single bag for distribution. The ONE Team is providing recipes and shopping lists for six different dinners: 1) Five-Can Chili, 2) Thick and Creamy Corn Chowder, 3) Creamy Chicken 'n' Dumplings, 4) Minestrone Soup, 5) Cheesy Chicken and Rice Soup, and 6) Turkey Dinner in a bag.

Examples of each of these bagged dinners will be displayed at the back of the church. If you are interested in providing the ingredients for any of these dinners, please take one or more of the recipes/shopping lists. You do not have to provide ingredients for all of the dinners, but are welcome to if you wish. If you have any questions, please contact Jan Tesch.

We would like to be able to provide these "dinners in a bag" during our Thanksgiving Breakfast Sunday on November 16. We appreciate your support and participation in this project.