

Hillsdale First United Methodist Church | August 23, 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

The Lord's My Shepherd / The King of Love My Shepherd Is D. Cherwien/S. Weber

Pastoral Greeting

*Call to Worship

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and come into his presence with singing.**

For we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

**His steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness is to all generations.**

*Hymn of Praise

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

75

1. All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell;
come ye before him and rejoice.

2. Know that the Lord is God indeed;
without our aid he did us make;
we are his folk, he doth us feed,
and for his sheep he doth us take.

3. O enter then his gates with praise;
approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his name always,
for it is seemly so to do.

4. For why! the Lord our God is good;
his mercy is forever sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood,
and shall from age to age endure.

Words: Attr. to William Kethe, 1561 (Ps. 100)
Music: Attr. to Louis Bourgeois, 1551
Public Domain

*Prayer of the Day

*Holy Shepherd,
You have called us by name and invited us into Your fold.
Show us again your paths of life and truth.*

*You have gone before us,
guiding us through verdant fields and dark valleys.
Make us attentive to Your voice and confident in Your care.*

*Gather us now as Your flock,
united by grace and guarded by Your steadfast love.
**For you are our Good Shepherd, and we worship You in humble gratitude.
In Jesus' name, 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

Gospel Reading – John 10:1-15 “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

¹¹ “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.

Sung Response

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

381, vs 1,2

**Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.**

**We are thine, thou dost befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
keep thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.**

Words: Attr. to Dorothy Thrupp, 1836 (Jn. 10:1-29). Music: William B. Bradbury, 1859. Public Domain

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³ A voice cries out:
“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵ Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

⁶ A voice says, “Cry out!”
And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All flesh is grass;
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷ The grass withers; the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸ The grass withers; the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹ Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”

¹⁰ See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him
and his recompense before him.

¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms
and carry them in his bosom
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Special Music

Shepherd Me, O God
(Refrain sung by ALL)

M. Haugen

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

Marty Haugen © 1986 GIA Publications Inc. Used and Streamed under One License #A-723218.

Sermon Text – Psalm 23:1-6

- ¹ *The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.*
² *He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; ³ he restores my soul.*
He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
⁴ *Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me;*
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
⁵ *You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;*
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
⁶ *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,*
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

Response to the Scripture

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

Message

Safe in His Fold

Pastor Tomasino

Response

*Hymn of Response

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

138

1. The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.
2. Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth;
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.
3. Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me;
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.
5. Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!
6. And so through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

Words: Henry W. Baker, 1868
Music: Irish Melody; harm. from The English Hymnal, 1906
Public Domain

Pastoral Prayer

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

How Can I Keep from Singing

2212, v3

***What though my joys and comforts die? I know my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth.
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?***

Words and Music by Robert Lowry. Public Domain

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 94**

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. By Gilbert H. Vieira, 1978. Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House
Music: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906; Public Domain. All rights reserved. Reprinted under CCLI #3134300

***Prayer of Dedication**

*Shepherd of our souls,
You prepare a table before us and fill our lives with mercy.
We bring our gifts with thanksgiving for Your faithful provision.
You lead us beside still waters and guide us in right paths.
Use these offerings to refresh weary hearts and strengthen Your church.
You lay down Your life for the sheep and gather us into one flock.
Bless these gifts that they may extend Your compassion and proclaim Your grace.
Surely goodness and mercy will follow us all our days,
as we offer our gifts as signs of trust, gratitude, and devotion to You.
In Jesus' name, Amen.*

Sending

***Hymn**

He Leadeth Me

128

1. He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.
He leadeth me, he leadeth me,
by his own hand he leadeth me;
his faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.

2. Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
by waters still, o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.
He leadeth me, he leadeth me,
by his own hand he leadeth me;
his faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.

3. Lord, I would place my hand in thine,
nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see,
since 'tis my God that leadeth me.
He leadeth me, he leadeth me,
by his own hand he leadeth me;
his faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.

4. And when my task on earth is done,
when by thy grace the victory's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me.
He leadeth me, he leadeth me,
by his own hand he leadeth me;
his faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.

Words by Joseph H. Gilmore, 1862. Music: William Badbury, 1864. Public Domain

***Benediction**

Postlude

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

A. Jordan

*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, Joyce Potter, Liam Trombly, Cheryl Paul, Al Jagger, friend of Robin Curtis (health),
Jeff Everett, Brad Nisbett, John Gabriele, Robin Curtis, the family of Mike Bosworth (Robin Curtis's cousin)

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

Hillsdale First United Methodist Church

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Rev. Tony Tomasino, Pastor
Calista Brunett, Music Director
Tana Trombly, Liturgist