

Hillsdale First United Methodist Church | August 31, 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

*Morning Has Broken
How Majestic Is Your Name*

arr. T. Wilhelmi
M.W. Smith, arr. T. Wilhelmi

Pastoral Greeting

*Call to Worship

*We are fearfully and wonderfully made,
formed in the image of God.
We are the crown of his creation,
his greatest work, and his greatest delight.
Give thanks to God, who showers us with grace.
Sing praise to our Maker, who has destined us for glory!*

*Hymn

Let's Sing unto the Lord

149

1. Let's sing unto the Lord
a hymn of glad rejoicing.
Let's sing a hymn of love,
at the new day's fresh beginning.
God made the sky above,
the stars, the sun, the oceans;
and God saw it was good,
for those works were filled with beauty.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let's sing unto the Lord. Alleluia!

2. Let's sing unto the Lord
a hymn of adoration,
which shows our love and faith
and the hope of all creation.
Through all that has been made,
the Lord is praised for greatness
and so we sing to God,
who bestows such lovely blessings.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let's sing unto the Lord. Alleluia!
Let's sing unto the Lord. Alleluia!

Words: Carlos Rosas; trans. By Roberto Escamilla, Elise S. Elsinger, and George Lockwood, 1983, 1987
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***Prayer of the Day** *Loving God, you have created us to have relationship with you;
to have stewardship over the world; and to have companionship with one another.
You have proclaimed your love to us through nature around us,
through the Word before us, and through the Spirit within us.*

**Speak to us yet again,
challenging us to become the people we should be—
the people you created us to be.**
Give us grace to listen and respond to the summons to truly be the people of God.
In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, 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.*

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

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Proclamation

Psalm 8

743

¹ O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
² Your glory is chanted above the heavens
by the mouth of babes and infants:
**you have set up a defense against your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.**
³ When I look at your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
**the moon and the stars
which you have established;**
⁴ what are human beings
that you are mindful of them,
and mortals that you care for them?

⁵ Yet you have made them little less than God,
and crowned them with glory and honor.
⁶ You have given them dominion
over the works of your hands;
**you have put all things under their feet,
all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.**
⁹ O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Song

How Majestic Is Your Name

2023

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, we praise your name. O Lord, we magnify your name:
Prince of Peace, mighty God; O Lord God Almighty.
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, we praise your name. O Lord, we magnify your name:
Prince of Peace, mighty God; O Lord God Almighty.

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New Testament – Colossians 3:1-10

¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.
⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷ These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸ But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator.

Special Music

You Are Love

C. Brunett

You are love; you are patient; you are kind.
You are gentle; you are humble all the time.
I was created in your image;
now you're giving me new life,
and I'm finding my identity in Christ.

So I can love; I am patient; I am kind.
I am gentle; I am humble—at least I try.
You're with me every moment,
and your Spirit lives inside,
and the way you're loving me will be my guide.

Because your love never fails,
and your peace always prevails,
when prophecies cease, and tongues are stilled,
knowledge will pass away, but you never will.
Faith, hope, and love will remain,
and the greatest—your love—will never change.

Every breath, every movement—you're in control.
I am yours, God, keep on working in my soul.
Becoming more like you has always been my goal.
I give myself to you; Lord, make me whole.

So I can love and be patient and be kind.
Just like you are gentle, and you are humble all the time.
I was created in your image;
keep on giving me new life
as I'm finding my identity in Christ.

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Sermon Text – Genesis 1:26-31

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

²⁷ So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” ²⁹ God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

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

Message

The Proxy

Pastor Tomasino

Response

***Hymn of Response**

Lavish Love, Abundant Beauty

(Sung to the tune of #196 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus)

Lavish love, abundant beauty,
gracious gifts for heart and hand.
Life that fills the soul and senses—
all burst forth at your command.
Lord, our Lord, Eternal Father,
Great Creator, God and Friend,
boundless pow’r gave full expression
to your love which knows no end.

Who am I that you should love me,
meet my ev’ry need from birth?
Why invest yourself so fully
in a creature made of earth?
In your loving heart you planned me,
fashioned me with greatest care;
through my soul you breathed your Spirit,
planted your own image there.

I am yours, Eternal Father,
all my body, mind and heart.
Take and use me to your glory,
form yourself in ev’ry part.
Lord, your love brings joy and gladness
flowing forth within my soul.
May my very breath and being
rise to you, their source and goal.

Words and Music: Peter Ellis © 1986 Word Music. Reharmonization by Julia Morgan © 1995 Abingdon Press.
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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.

CCLI Song # 25981. Diane Ball © 1978 CCCM Music; Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under CCLI #3134300 and streamed under CCLI #20153811.

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

*Thank you, God, for creating us in your image,
and entrusting to us the care of your creation.
Help us to be good stewards of all you have placed under our feet and in our hands.*

**May our giving be blessed, so that all people of the world
might hear and accept the Good News of Jesus Christ,
and be transformed to reflect the goodness and glory of our Heavenly Father.
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

Sending

*Hymn

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

150

1. God, who stretched the spangled heavens,
infinite in time and place,
flung the suns in burning radiance
through the silent fields of space,
we your children, in your likeness,
share inventive powers with you.
Great Creator, still creating,
show us what we yet may do.

2. Proudly rise our modern cities,
stately buildings, row on row;
yet their windows, blank, unfeeling,
stare on canyoned streets below,
where the lonely drift unnoticed
in the city's ebb and flow,
lost to purpose and to meaning,
scarcely caring where they go.

3. We have ventured worlds undreamed of
since the childhood of our race;
known the ecstasy of winging
through untraveled realms of space;
probed the secrets of the atom,
yielding unimagined power,
facing us with life's destruction
or our most triumphant hour.

4. As each far horizon beckons,
may it challenge us anew,
children of creative purpose,
serving others, honoring you.
May our dreams prove rich with promise,
each endeavor well begun.
Great Creator, give us guidance
till our goals and yours are one.

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*Benediction

Postlude

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

D. Cherwien

*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

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Rev. Tony Tomasino, Pastor

Calista Brunett, Music Director

Tana Trombly, Liturgist

Pam Laurell, Church Administrator | Jeff Kornak, Facility Supervisor

MEETINGS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Worship | 9:30 am | Sunday, August 31 | In person – Sanctuary and Online |
| • Worship | 9:30 am | Sunday, September 7 | In person – Sanctuary and Online |
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MISSIONS | The Missions Team is grateful for your support of Princess Jusu's ministries in Liberia during the month of August.

Looking ahead, the Team's September focus will be support for the New Life Center in Zambia.

New Life Zambia is a Christian ministry in Zambia located in central Africa, just south of the equator. It was started in 2000 as part of the ministry of our retired missionaries, Delbert and Sandy Groves. Two major areas of focus at the Center are youth education and the P.E.T. (Personal Energy Transport) ministry to provide mobility to the disabled.

Thank you for your continued support of the church's missions and ministries, both here and around the world.

ONE TEAM OUTREACH MINISTRY: DINNER IN A BAG | The ONE Team (Outreach, Nurture, and Education Team) is grateful for your support of the "dinner in a bag" outreach. The goal of this ministry is to offer an all-in-one meal to those who join us for our Thanksgiving Breakfast in November, and others who might also be in need.

Examples of each of five bagged dinners will continue to be displayed at the back of the church until early November. If you have any questions, please contact Jan Tesch.

We appreciate your support and participation in this project.

FALL ACTIVITIES | The fall church calendar is filling up quickly! Our music programs and Bible Study will resume in September, with details to follow in the coming weeks.

We will also be hosting several groups in our church beginning next month. Some of the faces you might see inside the building soon include instructors and students with the Gull Lake Studio who will be involved in private guitar and vocal lessons; an organ student new to the area who will be rehearsing in our Sanctuary; participants in the Love INC Strong Foundations program who will be boosting their financial knowledge; and members of the Hillsdale Garden Club and the Lions Club who hold their monthly meetings here.

Thank you for extending your welcome and hospitality to all those who will be enjoying the space we have to offer.

CHURCH CONFERENCE | Our Church Conference this year will be on **Saturday, November 1 at 9:30 am at Grass Lake United Methodist Church**. The congregation is invited to attend and members will have a voice and a vote on the Business of the Church.