

Hillsdale First United Methodist Church | July 13, 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

*Come, Thou Almighty King
The Church of Christ in Every Age*

J. Dressler
F. Ashdown

Pastoral Greeting

*Call to Worship

Come, let us sing of loyalty and justice.

For you, O God, we will sing our praise!

Come, let us tell of compassion and faith.

For you, O God, we will share our stories!

A parent's love, a child's vision, a prophet's word, a sage's wisdom;

**in the presence of your people, O God, we proclaim our struggles and our triumphs,
our hopes and our fears, and celebrate the grace that infuses all our days.**

*Hymn

Come, Thou Almighty King

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1. Come, thou almighty King,
help us thy name to sing, help us to praise!
Father all glorious, o'er all victorious,
come and reign over us, Ancient of Days!

3. Come, holy Comforter,
thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour.
Thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart,
and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power!

2. Come, thou incarnate Word,
gird on thy mighty sword, our prayer attend!
Come, and thy people bless, and give thy word success;
Spirit of holiness, on us descend!

4. To thee, great One in Three,
eternal praises be, hence, evermore.
Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see,
and to eternity love and adore!

Words: Anon.
Music: Felice de Giardini, 1769
Public Domain

*Prayer of the Day

*Gracious God,
we live in a world where your voice often goes unheeded,
your commands are often broken, and your instructions despised.
The strong prey upon the weak; the rich oppress the poor;
the humble of the earth are tread upon by the proud.*

**Help us, Lord, never to be part of such sin, but to expose it and challenge it.
Make us strong for the conflict, aided by invisible allies, standing firm for mercy and justice.
In the name of Christ our Lord 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.***

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

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Proclamation

Scripture Reading – Isaiah 10:1-4

Woe to those who make iniquitous decrees,
who write oppressive statutes,
² to turn aside the needy from justice
and to rob the poor of my people of their right,
to make widows their spoil
and to plunder orphans!
³ What will you do on the day of punishment,
in the calamity that will come from far away?
To whom will you flee for help,
and where will you leave your wealth,
⁴ so as not to crouch among the prisoners
or fall among the slain?
For all this his anger has not turned away;
his hand is stretched out still.

Special Music

The Least of These

J. Tibbs, M. Maher

Sermon Text – James 1:26-28

²⁶ If any think they are religious and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

Message

Real Religion

Pastor Tomasino

Response

*Hymn of Response

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

427

1. Where cross the crowded ways of life,
where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife,
we hear your voice, O Son of man.

2. In haunts of wretchedness and need,
on shadowed thresholds dark with fears,
from paths where hide the lures of greed,
we catch the vision of your tears.

3. From tender childhood's helplessness,
from woman's grief, man's burdened toil,
from famished souls, from sorrow's stress,
your heart has never known recoil.

4. The cup of water given for you
still holds the freshness of your grace;
yet long these multitudes to view
the sweet compassion of your face.

5. O Master, from the mountainside
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide;
O tread the city's streets again.

6. Till all the world shall learn your love
and follow where your feet have trod,
till, glorious from your heaven above,
shall come the city of our God!

Words: Frank Mason North, 1903. Music: William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815. 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

Seek Ye First

405

***Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!***

***Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek and ye shall find;
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!***

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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

Gracious God,

we bring you our gifts, mindful of your Word that calls us to a faith that is pure and undefiled.

May our offerings reflect hearts that are sincere, not just in word, but in action and truth.

*You have taught us that true religion is not in empty rituals,
but in caring for orphans and widows in their distress.*

**Use these gifts, O Lord, to bring comfort to the hurting,
hope to the forgotten, and justice to the oppressed.**

Help us, O God, to keep ourselves unstained by the world, living lives that honor you in all we do.

Transform our giving into acts of mercy, and our worship into lives of love.

Receive these gifts, Lord, and receive us.

May our lives be a living offering, holy and pleasing in your sight.

In the name of Christ our Lord, Amen.

Sending

*Hymn

The Church of Christ in Every Age
(Sung to the tune of #213 *Lift Up Your Heads*)

589, vs 1,2,3,5

1. The church of Christ, in every age
beset by change but Spirit-led,
must claim and test its heritage
and keep on rising from the dead.

2. Across the world, across the street,
the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat,
and never live until they die.

3. Then let the servant church arise,
a caring church that longs to be
a partner in Christ's sacrifice,
and clothed in Christ's humanity.

5. We have no mission but to serve
in full obedience to our Lord,
to care for all, without reserve,
and spread his liberating word.

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*Benediction

Postlude

Come, Thou Almighty King

A. Wyton

*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.*

MEETINGS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

• Worship	9:30 am	Sunday, July 13	In person – Sanctuary and Online
• Joyful Noise! Music Camp	9:00 am-1:00 pm	M-Th, July 14-17	Various Rooms
• Trustees	5:30 pm	Monday, July 14	In person – Lounge
• Praise Band	5:15 pm	Thursday, July 17	In person – Fellowship Hall
• Worship	9:30 am	Sunday, July 20	In person – Sanctuary and Online
• Worship with breakfast	11:00 am	Sunday, July 20	In person – Fellowship Hall

MISSIONS | The Missions Team invites your continued support this month for Henderson Settlement..

The Henderson Settlement Seniors' Program provides love, care, and fellowship for senior citizens living in impoverished Appalachian communities. Henderson provides seniors with access to transportation, health care, and nourishment.

Enrolled seniors are transported to Henderson's senior center 3 days a week where they will receive breakfast and lunch and also participate in a variety of activities such as crafts, devotions, and fellowship with each other. Two days each month Henderson staff will take seniors to town for groceries, shopping, and to pick up medication.

Thank you for your support this month for Henderson Settlement.

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.

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.

Hillsdale First United Methodist Church

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Rev. Tony Tomasino, Pastor

Calista Brunett, Music Director

Jan Tesch, Liturgist

Pam Laurell, Church Administrator | Jeff Kornak, Facility Supervisor