

Hillsdale First United Methodist Church | July 5, 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 *We Are Called to Be God's People*

G. Young

Pastoral Greeting

*Call to Worship

*The Spirit of God comes to stir up the placid waters.
When we have accepted a yoke of bondage, God awakens our will to be free.*

We come seeking the liberty only God can give.

*When we grow complacent with compromise and injustice,
God rouses us to resist evil in all its manifestations.*

Shake us, O God, and awaken in us a hunger for holiness.

Come, let us worship the God who disrupts false peace and exposes the ploys of the oppressor.

With open hearts, we welcome the Spirit's emancipating power.

*Hymn of Praise

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

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1. Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled
and every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory.

2. The Lord is never far away,
but through all grief distressing,
an ever present help and stay,
our peace and joy and blessing.
As with a mother's tender hand,
God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory.

3. Thus, all my toilsome way along,
I sing aloud thy praises,
that earth may hear the grateful song
my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart,
both soul and body bear your part:
To God all praise and glory.

4. Let all who name Christ's holy name
give God all praise and glory;
let all who own his power proclaim
aloud the wondrous story!
Cast each false idol from its throne,
for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone:
To God all praise and glory.

Words: Johann J. Schütz, 1675; trans. F. Cox, 1864
Music: Bohemian Brethren's Kirchengesange, 1566; harm. by Maurice Bell, 1906
Public Domain

Proclamation

*Prayer of the Day

Holy God,

you see when your people grow weary and resign themselves to tolerate a little evil.

Do not leave us to the chains we have learned to accept.

As you raised up Samson to trouble Israel's apathy, raise up your Spirit among us.

Disturb our complacency and awaken our courage.

Shake loose every compromise that keeps us from experiencing your true life.

Make us a people who stand for truth, walk in freedom, and trust your redeeming love.

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

New Testament Reading – 1 Peter 2:4-12 ⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture:

*"See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."*

⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,
"The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," ⁸ and
"A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ *Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.*

¹¹ *Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. ¹² Conduct yourselves honorably among the gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.*

Sung Response

*Church of God, Elect and Glorious
(Sung to the tune of 400 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing)*

**Church of God, elect and holy, be the people he intends;
strong in faith and swift to answer each command your Master sends:
royal priests, fulfill your calling through your sacrifice and prayer;
give your lives in joyful service—sing his praise, his love declare.**

Words: James E. Seddon © 1982. Music: Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813. Public Domain. Used and Streamed under One License #A-723218.

Old Testament Reading – Deuteronomy 7:1-6 ¹ *"When the Lord your God brings you into the land that you are about to enter and occupy and he clears away many nations before you—the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations more numerous and mightier than you— ² and when the Lord your God gives them over to you and you defeat them, then you must utterly destroy them. Make no covenant with them and show them no mercy. ³ Do not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons, ⁴ for that would turn away your children from following me, to serve other gods. Then the anger of the Lord would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly. ⁵ But this is how you must deal with them: break down their altars, smash their pillars, cut down their sacred poles, and burn their idols with fire. ⁶ For you are a people holy to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on earth to be his people, his treasured possession.*

Solo

Clear the Stage

R. King

Sermon Text – Judges 14:1-4, 15:9-11 *Once Samson went down to Timnah, and at Timnah he saw a Philistine woman. ² Then he came up and told his father and mother, "I saw a Philistine woman at Timnah; now get her for me as my wife." ³ But his father and mother said to him, "Is there not a woman among your kin or among all our people, that you must go to take a wife from the uncircumcised Philistines?" But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me, because she pleases me." ⁴ His father and mother did not know that this was from the Lord, for he was seeking a pretext to act against the Philistines. At that time the Philistines had dominion over Israel.*

^{15:9} *Then the Philistines came up and encamped in Judah and made a raid on Lehi. ¹⁰ The men of Judah said, "Why have you come up against us?" They said, "We have come up to bind Samson, to do to him as he did to us." ¹¹ Then three thousand men of Judah went down to the cleft of the rock of Etam, and they said to Samson, "Do you not know that the Philistines are rulers over us? What then have you done to us?" He replied, "As they did to me, so I have done to them."*

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

Message

Too Comfortable with Compromise

Pastor Tomasino

Offertory and Church Family News and Notes

We invite you to sign the attendance pads and pass them to others in your pew.

*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.

*Prayer of Dedication

God of mercy, you unsettle us for our good.

Receive these gifts as signs of our willingness to accept your interruption of our lives.

Use what we offer to break chains, heal broken hearts, and shine your light.

Make us instruments of your holy freedom.

In the name of Jesus our Lord, amen.

Sending

*Hymn

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

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1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.

2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit;
let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

3. Come, Almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

4. Finish, then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Words: Charles Wesley, 1747. Music: John Zundel, 1870. Public Domain

*Benediction

Postlude

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

D. Hustad

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

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

MEETINGS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

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|--|----------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Worship | 9:30 am | Sunday, July 5 | In person – Sanctuary and Online |
| • <i>Joyful Noise!</i> Volunteer Meeting | 11:00 am | Sunday, July 5 | In person – Lounge |
| • <i>Joyful Noise!</i> Volunteer Meeting | 7:00 pm | Wednesday, July 8 | In person – Lounge |
| • Worship | 9:30 am | Sunday, July 12 | In person – Sanctuary and Online |

MISSIONS | This month the Missions Team is continuing its support of Henderson Settlement.

Henderson Settlement serves all generations of residents in the surrounding Appalachian area. **A food pantry serves community families and nearly 100 senior citizens** who are registered to receive food pantry distributions, providing an important supplement to their fixed income. Those in need - whether seniors, single persons, or families with children - register with the food pantry to receive food boxes once a month. Each box contains a variety of nutritional food, sourced at little or no cost from a USDA commodity pantry. **It takes approximately \$35 to provide food for one family of four each month.** Thank you for your support of Henderson Settlement.

Hillsdale First United Methodist Church

45 N. Manning St., Hillsdale, MI 49242 | 517-437-3681 | www.hillsdalefirstumc.com [facebook.com/HillsdaleFirstUMC](https://www.facebook.com/HillsdaleFirstUMC)

Rev. Tony Tomasino, Pastor | Calista Brunett, Music Director

Jan Tesch, Liturgist