

Hillsdale First United Methodist Church | October 11, 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

*Just as I Am, Without One Plea
There Is a Fountain*

D. Wood
D. Hustad

Pastoral Greeting

*Call to Worship

*Once we were in bondage to sin, captives of a cruel master, and destined for death.
But we were bought with a price—the very lifeblood of our Lord Jesus Christ.
*And so, we are free from captivity, but not free from responsibility. We belong to the Lord.
And so we offer to him our all, knowing we give him but his own.**

*Hymn of Praise

To God Be the Glory

98

1. To God be the glory,
great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

2. O perfect redemption,
the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

3. Great things he hath taught us,
great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1875. Music: William H. Doane, 1875. Public Domain

*Prayer of the Day

*Loving God, our Lord Jesus came into this world
to offer himself as the atoning sacrifice for our sins.
Wash us with his blood, so we may be clean.*

*Afflict us with his wounds, so we may be healed.
Make us like him in his death, so we may be like him in our living.*

*Help us to cast ourselves on his mercy and rely wholly on his virtue,
for this life and for the life to come.
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

Old Testament Reading – Leviticus 17:10-14

¹⁰ “If anyone of the house of Israel or of the aliens who reside among them eats any blood, I will set my face against that person who eats blood and will cut that person off from the people. ¹¹ For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you for making atonement for your lives on the altar, for, as life, it is the blood that makes atonement. ¹² Therefore I have said to the Israelites, ‘No person among you shall eat blood, nor shall any alien who resides among you eat blood.’

¹³ “And anyone of the Israelites or of the aliens who reside among them who hunts down an animal or bird that may be eaten shall pour out its blood and cover it with earth. ¹⁴ For the life of every creature—its blood is its life; therefore I have said to the Israelites, ‘You shall not eat the blood of any creature, for the life of every creature is its blood; whoever eats it shall be cut off.’

Sung Response

Just as I Am, Without One Plea

357, v2

***Just as I am, and waiting not
to rid my soul of one dark blot,
to thee whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.***

Words: Charlotte Elliott, 1835. Music: William B. Bradley, 1849. Public Domain.

New Testament Reading – 1 John 5:1-12

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³ For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴ for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵ Who is it who conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶ This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. ⁷ There are three that testify: ⁸ the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. ⁹ If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰ Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹ And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Duet

The Living Bread

R. Goodgame

Sermon Text – John 6:48-58

⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰ This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

⁵² The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day, ⁵⁵ for my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which the ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

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

Message

Vampire Romance?

Pastor Tomasino

Response

*Hymn of Response

There Is a Fountain

622

1. There is a fountain filled with blood
drawn from Emmanuel's veins;
and sinners plunged beneath that flood
lose all their guilty stains.
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains;
and sinners plunged beneath that flood
lose all their guilty stains.

2. The dying thief rejoiced to see
that fountain in his day;
and there may I, though vile as he,
wash all my sins away.
Wash all my sins away, wash all my sins away;
and there may I, though vile as he,
wash all my sins away.

3. Dear dying Lamb, thy precious blood
shall never lose its power
till all the ransomed church of God
be saved, to sin no more.

Be saved, to sin no more, be saved, to sin no more;
till all the ransomed church of God
be saved, to sin no more.

4. E'er since, by faith, I saw the stream
thy flowing wounds supply,
redeeming love has been my theme,
and shall be till I die.
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;
redeeming love has been my theme,
and shall be till I die.

5. Then in a nobler, sweeter song,
I'll sing thy power to save,
when this poor lisping, stammering tongue
lies silent in the grave.
Lies silent in the grave, lies silent in the grave;
when this poor lisping, stammering tongue
lies silent in the grave.

Words: William Cowper, ca. 1771. Music: 19th cent. USA campmeeting melody. 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, forever. Amen.**

Sung Prayer Response

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

361, v1

***Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure; save from wrath and make me pure.***

Words: Augustus M. Toplady, 1776. Music: Thomas Hastings, 1830. 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

*Merciful God, we believe
that Jesus Christ gave his very life so that we might have life eternal.*
We acknowledge that salvation is a mystery, beyond our human understanding.
But gratefully we offer to you what is yours. Our tithe is a symbol of the life we owe you.
May these gifts bring life to others, full and abundant and everlasting.
*Bless those who give generously, those who have little to give,
and those who shall be beneficiaries of our giving.*
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Sending

Blessed Assurance

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*Hymn

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1873. Music: by Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873. Public Domain

*Benediction

Postlude

Rock of Ages

D. Hustad

*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, Robin Curtis,
Jeff Everett, Brad Nisbett, Mike Dix, Betty Fast, Dee Curcio, Ron Boyle
(Please contact the office to add or remove a request from our list.)

MEETINGS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

• Worship	9:30 am	Sunday, October 11	In person – Sanctuary / Online
• Trustees (if needed)	5:30 pm	Monday, October 12	In person – Lounge / ZOOM
• Praise Band	5:15 pm	Tuesday, October 13	In person – Fellowship Hall
• Finance	7:00 pm	Tuesday, October 13	In person – Lounge / ZOOM
• Bible Study	10:30 am	Wednesday, October 14	In person – Lounge / ZOOM
• Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm	Thursday, October 15	In person – Music Room
• Worship	9:30 am	Sunday, October 18	In person – Sanctuary / Online
• Worship with breakfast	11:00 am	Sunday, October 18	In person – Fellowship Hall

MISSIONS | This month the Missions Team invites your support for the Water for Life initiative in Liberia. Providing clean water to rural communities continues to be a priority for The United Methodist Church in Liberia. The conference is working in all four of the church's districts providing 25 water wells, 15 gender-sensitive toilets and poly tanks to harvest rainwater as part of its most recent outreach. Thank you for your support this month for Water for Life.

BIBLE STUDY | Bible Study meets on Wednesdays at 10:30 am in the Lounge and via ZOOM. A recording of the session will also be available on request. Contact the office for the ZOOM links.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA | Rehearsals for the annual Christmas cantata are being held on Thursdays at 7:00 pm. New singers are welcome to join us! Invite guest singers from outside the church, as well! The performance will be Saturday, December 5 at 2:00 pm.

DINNER IN A BAG | Recipes for the ONE Team's Dinner in a Bag outreach are available at the back of the sanctuary. Collections and contributions toward this ministry will be welcomed until early November. Your assembled meal bags will be distributed during our Thanksgiving Breakfast service on November 15.

Hillsdale First United Methodist Church

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Rev. Tony Tomasino, Pastor

Calista Brunett, Music Director

Val White, Liturgist