

# Hillsdale First United Methodist Church | September 14, 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

*Let All Things Now Living*

M. Burkhardt / D. Wood

### Pastoral Greeting

### \*Call to Worship

*God has created us for Paradise.*

*He has fashioned us for fellowship with the Lord and one another, in harmony and wholeness.*

**But we have wandered far from the Garden,  
abandoning the peace and purity for which we were made.**

*We have strayed from the well-tended paths, and stumble through lands we have not known.*

**Shadows and illusions obscure our vision,  
and phantom voices draw us deeper into the darkness.**

*But God has put a light in the window, and he has set his signs to direct us forward.*

**His voice calls out above the cacophony, and his whisper pierces through the confusion.**

*Let us attend once again to his words of wisdom and comfort.*

**Let us follow the gentle Shepherd along the path that leads us home.**

### \*Hymn

*Let All Things Now Living*

2008

1. Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
to God the Creator triumphantly raise,  
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
who guides us and leads to the end of our days.

God's banners fly o'er us; God's light goes before us,  
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,  
as forward we travel from light into light.

2. The law God enforces, the stars in their courses  
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,  
the deeps of the ocean proclaim the Divine.

We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
with glad adoration a song let us raise,  
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:  
to God in the highest hosanna and praise!

Words by Katherine K. Davis © 1938, 1966 by E. C. Shirmer.  
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### \*Prayer of the Day

*Almighty God, you formed Adam and Eve in the Garden,*

*not one above the other, but side by side—created in your image to live in mutual love and respect.*

**In a world marred by division and inequality, restore in us the vision of that ideal harmony.**

*Teach us to honor one another as equals, to seek justice in our communities,  
and to nurture relationships rooted in grace and truth.*

**May we reflect your divine intention in our homes, our churches, and our society.**

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**Amen.**

### \*Sung Response

**Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness;  
make thy way plain before my face.**

**For it is thou, Lord,  
thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety.**

Words from Scripture (Psalm 5:8, 4:8). Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1861. Public Domain

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## Proclamation

### New Testament Reading – Matthew 19:1-6

743

*When Jesus had finished saying these things, he left Galilee and went to the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. <sup>2</sup> Large crowds followed him, and he cured them there.*

*<sup>3</sup> Some Pharisees came to him, and to test him they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause?” <sup>4</sup> He answered, “Have you not read that the one who made them at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’ <sup>5</sup> and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? <sup>6</sup> So they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”*

### Special Music

*Oh, How Good It Is* K. Getty, K. Getty, S. Townend, R. Holmes  
*Tana Trombly, soloist*

### Sermon Text – Genesis 2:18-25

*<sup>18</sup> Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” <sup>19</sup> So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air and brought them to the man to see what he would call them, and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup> The man gave names to all cattle and to the birds of the air and to every animal of the field, but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. <sup>21</sup> So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup> And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup> Then the man said,*

*“This at last is bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh;  
this one shall be called Woman,  
for out of Man this one was taken.”*

*<sup>24</sup> Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. <sup>25</sup> And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.*

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

**Message**

*Family Foundations*

Pastor Tomasino

## Response

### \*Hymn of Response

*O Lord, May Church and Home Combine*

695

1. O Lord, may church and home combine  
to teach thy perfect way,  
with gentleness and love like thine,  
that none shall ever stray.

2. Let all unworthy aims depart,  
imbue us with thy grace;  
within the home let every heart  
become thy dwelling place.

3. Shine, Light divine; reveal thy face  
where darkness else might be.  
Grant, Love divine, in every place  
glad fellowship with thee.

4. May steadfast faith and earnest prayer  
keep sacred vows secure;  
build thou a hallowed dwelling where  
true joy and peace endure.

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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.**

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## Prayer Response

*Hear My Prayer, O God*

*Hear my prayer, O God, and listen to my plea; faithful, righteous One, give ear and answer me.  
Judge me not, I pray; no merit dare I claim;  
knowing my own faults, I trust in your just Name.*

*Keep me safe, O God, and help me learn your will; let your Spirit lead through level pathways still.  
For your great Name's sake, my griefs and fears dispel;  
free me from my foes, that I may serve you well.*

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (based on Psalm 143). © 2005 Music: Hal H. Hopson © 2006 Hope Publishing Co. All Rights Reserved. Used and Streamed under One License #A-723218.

## 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 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** *Gracious God, even when we have strayed from your paths, you make a way for us.  
When we are lost and hopeless, you call us home again.  
And now, reconciled to you, we can be reconciled to one another, as well.*

**We have received abundant mercies and joyous moments from your hand.  
And so, in gratitude, we present before you our offerings.  
Use them to make your Good News known to our community and our world,  
so that many neighbors might come to experience the peace of forgiveness and reconciliation.  
In the name of Jesus our Lord, 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

*He Leadeth Me*

G. Martin

*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, September 14	In person – Sanctuary and Online
• Praise Band Rehearsal	11:00 am	Sunday, September 14	In person – Fellowship Hall
• Worship Committee	1:00 pm	Tuesday, September 16	In person – Lounge / ZOOM
• Bible Study	10:30 am	Wednesday, September 17	In person – Lounge / ZOOM
• Worship	9:30 am	Sunday, September 21	In person – Sanctuary and Online
• Worship with breakfast	11:00 am	Sunday, September 21	In person – Fellowship Hall

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**MISSIONS** | In September, the Missions Team invites your support for the New Life Center in Zambia.

The New Life Center opened a Preschool in January of 2018 to offer community children a high quality educational opportunity. The preschool's aim is to give children ages 3 to 5 a good educational foundation with a strong emphasis on learning the English language, and a good Christian foundation with a strong focus on Bible lessons.

Thank you for your support this month for New Life Center in Zambia.

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**BIBLE STUDY** | Weekly Bible studies have resumed on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am in the Lounge. You may also join by ZOOM at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88917951563>, or by calling (312) 626-6799 and providing Meeting ID: 889 1795 1563. Sessions will also be recorded, and you may contact the office to get a link to listen at your convenience.

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**MUSIC REHEARSALS | Join the Choir!** Chancel choir rehearsals resume on September 25, and we would love to have new singers! No experience is necessary. Rehearsals are every Thursday from 6:30 – 8:00 pm in the Music Room.

**Ring Handbells!** Starting September 28, handbell rehearsals will occur Sundays after worship, 11:00 - noon (except third Sundays). We will plan to play in worship on November 9 and once during Advent. No experience necessary; we will start with the basics. **Please speak to Calista Brunett if you are interested, or email [brunett.hillsdalefirstumc@gmail.com](mailto:brunett.hillsdalefirstumc@gmail.com).**

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**TRANSFORM LIVES THROUGH OUR LOVE INC PARTNERSHIP** | Our church is making a powerful impact by partnering with Love INC to uplift our neighbors in need throughout the county. From providing financial help for housing, utilities, and transportation needs to rolling up their sleeves for home repairs, cleanup, and moving assistance, Love INC is changing lives one act of kindness at a time. You can get involved in this impactful ministry by:

- lifting Love INC clients in prayer
- diving into weekly Love INC client need requests to see where you can make a difference
- contributing to our church's Love INC Client Case Support Fund to fuel this life-changing work.

Want to stay in the loop? Contact Cordelia Tomasino to receive weekly Client Need Requests by email or hard copy. Help spread hope and love today! Postcard reminders are at the back of the sanctuary.

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**THANK YOU** | "Thank you all for the cards and words of appreciation for my one year anniversary here! -- Calista"

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## Hillsdale First United Methodist Church

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

Pam Laurell, Church Administrator | Jeff Kornak, Facility Supervisor