

- **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

And Again I Say, Rejoice!
(Incorporating *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*)

B. Portman

Pastoral Greeting

*Call to Worship

We gather to seek the God who leads His people through the wilderness.

We draw near to the One who gives the Bread of Life and living water.

Our earthly tents are fragile, yet His presence is steadfast.

We look for the house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Let us come and worship the God who guides pilgrims home.

We lift our hearts to the Lord, our dwelling and our hope.

*Hymn of Praise

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

160

1. Rejoice, ye pure in heart;
rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
your glorious banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King.
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

2. Your clear hosannas raise,
and alleluias loud;
whilst answering echoes upward float,
like wreaths of incense cloud.
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

3. Yes, on through life's long path,
still chanting as ye go;
from youth to age, by night and day,
in gladness and in woe.
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

4. At last the march shall end;
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their heavenly home,
Jerusalem the blest.
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

5. Praise God who reigns on high,
the Lord whom we adore,
the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
one God forevermore.
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

Words: Edward H. Plumptre, 1865. Music: Arthur H. Messiter, 1889. Public Domain

*Prayer of the Day

*Eternal God, you walked with Israel along desert paths,
and you dwelt among them in a tent.*

Walk with us now, and steady our steps in your grace.

As we sojourn in our own wilderness, dwell with us, as well.

Make room in us for your Spirit, our true and lasting comfort.

When our tents feel thin and the winds rise, remind us that you are our strength.

Prepare for us a home eternal, secure in Christ our Lord.

Receive our worship, O God, and shape us as your pilgrim people.

Lead us by your light until we enter the land that you have promised.

In the name of Christ our Lord, 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

Proclamation

Old Testament Reading – Leviticus 23:33-36, 39-44 ³³ The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ³⁴ “Speak to the Israelites, saying: On the fifteenth day of this seventh month and lasting seven days, there shall be the Festival of Booths to the Lord. ³⁵ The first day shall be a holy convocation; you shall not work at your occupations. ³⁶ Seven days you shall present the Lord’s offerings by fire; on the eighth day you shall observe a holy convocation and present the Lord’s offerings by fire; it is a solemn assembly; you shall not work at your occupations.

³⁹ “Now, the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the produce of the land, you shall keep the festival of the Lord, lasting seven days, a complete rest on the first day and a complete rest on the eighth day. ⁴⁰ On the first day you shall take the fruit of majestic trees, branches of palm trees, boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the Lord your God for seven days. ⁴¹ You shall keep it as a festival to the Lord lasting seven days in the year; you shall keep it in the seventh month as a statute forever throughout your generations. ⁴² You shall live in booths for seven days; all who are native-born in Israel shall live in booths, ⁴³ so that your generations may know that I made the Israelites live in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.”

⁴⁴ Thus Moses declared to the Israelites the appointed festivals of the Lord.

Sung Response

O Day of Rest and Gladness
(Sung to the tune of #203 Hail to the Lord’s Anointed)

V1

**O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light,
O balm of care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright;
on thee the high and lowly, through ages joined in tune,
sing “Holy, holy, holy,” to the great God Triune.**

Words: Christopher Wordsworth, 1862. Music: Gesangbuch der H. W. k. Hofkapelle, 1784, alt. Adapt. and harm. by W. H. Monk, 1868. Public Domain.

Gospel Reading – John 7:1-5, 14-18, 37-39 After this Jesus went about in Galilee. He did not wish to go about in Judea because the Jews were looking for an opportunity to kill him. ² Now the Jewish Festival of Booths was near. ³ So his brothers said to him, “Leave here and go to Judea so that your disciples also may see the works you are doing, ⁴ for no one who wants to be widely known acts in secret. If you do these things, show yourself to the world.” ⁵ (For not even his brothers believed in him.)

¹⁴ About the middle of the festival Jesus went up into the temple and began to teach. ¹⁵ The Jews were astonished at it, saying, “How does this man have such learning, when he has never been taught?” ¹⁶ Then Jesus answered them, “My teaching is not mine but his who sent me. ¹⁷ Anyone who resolves to do the will of God will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own. ¹⁸ Those who speak on their own seek their own glory, but the one who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and there is nothing unjust in him.

³⁷ On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, ³⁸ and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, ‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” ³⁹ Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive, for as yet there was no Spirit because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Anthem

Glory

C. Brunett

Sermon Text – 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 For we know that, if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ² For in this tent we groan, longing to be further clothed with our heavenly dwelling, ³ for surely when we have been clothed in it we will not be found naked. ⁴ For while we are in this tent, we groan under our burden because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵ The one who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a down payment.

⁶ So we are always confident, even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— ⁷ for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸ Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹ So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to be pleasing to him. ¹⁰ For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive due recompense for actions done in the body, whether good or evil.

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

Message

Traveling Light

Pastor Tomasino

Response

*Hymn of Response

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

127

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.

2. Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.

Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.

Words: William Williams, 1745; trans. Peter Williams, 1771. Music: John Hughes, 1907. 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

The Servant Song

2222, vs 2,4

***We are pilgrims on a journey;
we're together on this road.
We are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.***

***I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.***

Words by Richard Gillard © 1977 Scripture in Song. 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 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

*Lord, we offer these gifts as travelers who hold possessions lightly.
Use what we give to strengthen your people and shine your hope.
As you guided Israel, guide us to generous, faithful living.
Receive our offering, and receive our lives in service to Christ.
In his name, Amen.*

Sending

*Hymn

When We All Get to Heaven

701

1. Sing the wondrous love of Jesus;
sing his mercy and his grace.
In the mansions bright and blessed
he'll prepare for us a place.
When we all get to heaven,
what a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus,
we'll sing and shout the victory!

2. While we walk the pilgrim pathway,
clouds will overspread the sky;
but when traveling days are over,
not a shadow, not a sigh.
When we all get to heaven,
what a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus,
we'll sing and shout the victory!

3. Let us then be true and faithful,
trusting, serving every day;
just one glimpse of him in glory
will the toils of life repay.
When we all get to heaven,
what a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus,
we'll sing and shout the victory!

4. Onward to the prize before us!
Soon his beauty we'll behold;
soon the pearly gates will open;
we shall tread the streets of gold.
When we all get to heaven,
what a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus,
we'll sing and shout the victory!

Words: Eliza E. Hewitt, 1898. Music: Emily D. Wilson, 1898. Public Domain

*Benediction

Postlude

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

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, September 27	In person – Sanctuary / Online
• Ad Board	7:00 pm	Monday, September 28	In person – Lounge / ZOOM
• Bible Study	10:30 am	Wednesday, September 30	In person – Lounge / ZOOM
• Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm	Thursday, October 1	In person – Music Room
• Worship	9:30 am	Sunday, October 4	In person – Sanctuary / Online

MISSIONS | This month the Missions Team has invited your support for Next Generation Ministries.

Donations to Next Generation Ministries support education programs, and health and community ministries in impoverished Haitian communities and others both globally and domestically. Thank you for your support this month to Next Generation Ministries.

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.

HANDBELLS | The handbell choir will play in worship on November 15 and rehearse Sundays at 11:00 am starting on October 4. If you are interested in ringing, please contact Calista Brunett (brunett.hillsdalefirstumc@gmail.com).

CHRISTMAS CANTATA | Rehearsals for the annual Christmas cantata will be Thursdays at 7:00 pm beginning on October 1. 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.

Hillsdale First United Methodist Church

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Rev. Tony Tomasino, Pastor

Calista Brunett, Music Director | HFUMC Chancel Choir

Janell Wilson, Liturgist