

Hillsdale First United Methodist Church | September 6, 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

*Word of God, Come Down on Earth
The Heavens Declare Thy Glory, Lord*

J.G. Walther
H. Hopson, arr. J. Carter

Pastoral Greeting

*Call to Worship

*The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the earth displays his handiwork.
**In the sparkling heavens, our eyes behold his majesty.
In the rolling thunder, we hear his voice.***

*And we, too, with feeble words, try to express the ineffable.
With inept melody, we try to echo the music of the spheres.
**But with such instruments as we have, we glorify our God.
Let everything in earth, sea, and sky sing praise to their Creator.***

*Hymn of Praise

I Sing the Almighty Power of God

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1. I sing the almighty power of God,
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad,
and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day;
the moon shines full at God's command,
and all the stars obey.

2. I sing the goodness of the Lord,
who filled the earth with food,
who formed the creatures thru the Word,
and then pronounced them good.

Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,
where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky.

3. There's not a plant or flower below,
but makes thy glories known,
and clouds arise, and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne;
while all that borrows life from thee
is ever in thy care;
and everywhere that we can be,
thou, God, art present there.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1715. Music: Trad. English melody, arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906. Public Domain

Proclamation

*Prayer of the Day

*Holy God, every day, your splendor is displayed all around us.
In the majesty of Creation and the dignity of humanity, you have made your beauty visible.
But too often, we fail to appreciate the subtle ways that you reveal truth to your children.*

**Help us to see with eyes of faith,
so that we might appreciate the miraculous in our everyday lives,
and learn to look for the signs of your Kingdom in all the world around us.
In the name of Jesus 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

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 55:6-11

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
⁷ let the wicked forsake their way
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD,
that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow
come down from heaven
and do not return there
until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Sung Prayer Response

Word of God, Come Down on Earth

182, v1

**Word of God, come down on earth, living rain from heaven descending;
touch our hearts and bring to birth faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.**

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New Testament Reading – Romans 1:18-25

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and injustice of those who by their injustice suppress the truth. ¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰ Ever since the creation of the world God's eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been seen and understood through the things God has made. So they are without excuse, ²¹ for though they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their senseless hearts were darkened. ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and they exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling a mortal human or birds or four-footed animals or reptiles. ²⁴ Therefore God gave them over in the desires of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves. ²⁵ They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

Anthem

The Heavens Are Telling

L.v.Beethoven

Sermon Text – Psalm 19

¹ The heavens are telling the glory of God,
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
² Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.
³ There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;
⁴ yet their voice goes out through all the earth
and their words to the end of the world.
In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,
⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom
from his wedding canopy,
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.
⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens
and its circuit to the end of them,
and nothing is hid from its heat.
⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;
the decrees of the LORD are sure,
making wise the simple;
⁸ the precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;

the commandment of the LORD is clear,
enlightening the eyes;
⁹ the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever;
the ordinances of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.
¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey
and drippings of the honeycomb.
¹¹ Moreover, by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
¹² But who can detect one's own errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.
¹³ Keep back your servant also from the insolent;
do not let them have dominion over me.
Then I shall be blameless
and innocent of great transgression.
¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth
and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

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

Message

The Two Books of Revelation

Pastor Tomasino

Response

*Song of Response

The Heavens Declare Thy Glory, Lord
(Sung to the tune of #408 *The Gift of Love*)

1. The heav'ns declare Thy glory, Lord;
in every star Thy wisdom shines;
but when our eyes behold Thy word,
we read Thy name in fairer lines.

2. The rolling sun, the changing light,
and nights and days Thy pow'r confess;
but the blest volume Thou hast writ
reveals Thy justice and Thy grace.

3. Sun, moon, and stars convey Thy praise
round the whole earth, and never stand;
so when Thy truth began its race,
it touched and glanced on every land.

4. Nor shall Thy spreading gospel rest
till through the world Thy truth has run;
till Christ has all the nations blest
that see the light, or feel the sun.

5. Great Sun of righteousness, arise,
bless the dark world with heav'nly light:
Thy gospel makes the simple wise;
Thy laws are pure, Thy judgments right.

6. Thy noblest wonders here we view
in souls renewed and sins forgiv'n;
Lord, cleanse my sins, my soul renew,
and make Thy word my guide to heav'n.

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Sacrament of Holy Communion

Juice and gluten-free bread are served. Please form a line down the center aisle and come forward to receive the elements.

*The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, 17 (sung by ALL)
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.***

Elise Elsingher. Adapt © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House. Used and Streamed under OneLicense #A-723218

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

The Great Thanksgiving *...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.*

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

*...Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.*

Song (sung by ALL)

The Lord's Prayer

A. H. Malotte

***Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil:
for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.***

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Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer

C.V. Alkan

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Sung Prayer Response

How Can I Keep from Singing

2212, v1

***My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.
I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?***

Words and Music by Robert Lowry. 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.

*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
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***Prayer of Dedication** *God of Wonders, you have made yourself known to us in so many ways.
In the beauty of nature, the truth of the Scriptures, and the spirit of Communion
you have revealed your glory and grace.*

*In our giving, we seek to share your blessings with our neighbors far and near.
May our offering bring light to places of darkness, and hope to places of despair.*

*May blind eyes be opened, deaf ears hear, and broken hearts restored by your love.
We present our gifts and raise our prayers in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.*

Sending

*Hymn

Creating God, Your Fingers Trace

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(Sung to the tune of #415 *Take Up Thy Cross*)

1. Creating God, your fingers trace
the bold designs of farthest space;
let sun and moon and stars and light
and what lies hidden praise your might.

2. Sustaining God, your hands uphold
earth's mysteries known or yet untold;
let water's fragile blend with air,
enabling life, proclaim your care.

3. Redeeming God, your arms embrace
all now despised for creed or race;
let peace, descending like a dove,
make known on earth your healing love.

4. Indwelling God, your gospel claims
one family with a billion names;
let every life be touched by grace
until we praise you face to face.

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*Benediction

Postlude

Psalm 19: The Heavens Declare

B. Marcello

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, John Gabriele, Mike Dix, the family of Sara Lisznyai

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

MEETINGS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

• Worship	9:30 am	Sunday, September 6	In person – Sanctuary / Online
• Labor Day-OFFICE CLOSED		Monday, September 7	
• Finance	7:00 pm	Tuesday, September 8	In person – Lounge (ZOOM if needed)
• Bible Study resumes	10:30 am	Wednesday, September 9	In person – Lounge / ZOOM
• Choir rehearsal	6:30 pm	Thursday, September 10	In person – Music Room
• Worship	9:30 am	Sunday, September 13	In person – Sanctuary / Online

MISSIONS | This month the Missions Team invites your support for Next Generation Ministries, originally known as the Haiti Children Project. During a construction mission in Jeremie, Haiti in 2003, NGM founder Wade McGuinn encountered a group of 40 orphaned children attempting to survive in dire conditions. With his construction skills and financial resources, Wade provided support, and over the past two decades Next Generation Ministries has expanded its impact both in Haiti and domestically. Thank you for your support this month of Next Generation Ministries.

BIBLE STUDY RESUMES | Bible study resumes on Wednesday, September 9 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 watch at your convenience. This study series will include video and discussion on *The Life of Jesus*.

Hillsdale First United Methodist Church

45 N. Manning St., Hillsdale, MI 49242 | 517-437-3681 | www.hillsdalefirstumc.com facebook.com/HillsdaleFirstUMC

Rev. Tony Tomasino, Pastor

Calista Brunett, Music Director | HFUMC Chancel Choir

Sue Walter, Liturgist