

- **Live in-person worship at 9:30 am in the sanctuary**
- Livestream at **9:30 am on Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/HillsdaleFirstUMC> and on **YouTube** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRIHbHBJ74jhHeLkO4gAs6A?>
- Available for **phone-in recording** at **11:00 am** @ 1-312-626-6799, provide meeting #394 134 739
- Available for later viewing **on our church website** <http://hillsdalefirstumc.com/>

Gathering

Greeting

Prelude

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Call to Worship

Do you remember who first invited you to worship?

We come in praise for those who brought us here.

Do you remember the first community of faithful ones you joined?

A nursery class who welcomed you with care and open arms?

A youth group who accompanied you with energy and open minds?

A small group meeting in someone's home?

A congregation, large or small, rural or urban, quiet folk or rowdy ones?

We come in praise for those who meet and receive us here.

Do you remember the God you have come to worship?

The One who delivered Israel from Egypt;

the Maker of Earth and Sky;

the Ground of all Being;

the God of Jesus, born of Mary;

we come to worship God in remembrance that leads to hope.

Hymn

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 F. Bell, 1906
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Proclamation

Prayer for Illumination

God of transcending peace, when the world around us turns us astray, we come here not to escape, but to rest, rejoice, and turn our minds on things that are worthy. Help us not to be anxious about anything, but to turn to You in everything, knowing You are near. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

Scripture Reading – Exodus 32:1-14

Hymn

It Is Good to Give Thanks to You, Lord

1. It is good to give thanks to you, Lord,
to remember all you have done;
then you will remember our praises
when you look on your people with love.

(Refrain)

O give thanks to the Lord, for God's love endures forever;
O give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord alone is good.

2. Our sin is the sin of our forebears:
we have wronged you and have done evil,
like those who once lived under bondage,
paid no heed unto all you had done.

(Refrain)

3. Our ancestors scorned all your wonders,
at the Red Sea questioned their God;
they fell from their faith in the desert;
there they put you, O Lord, to the test.

(Refrain)

4. Though time after time you would save them,
they in malice dared to defy you:
despite this, you came to their rescue
when you heard all their cries of distress.

(Refrain)

5. O God, save us now in your mercy;
bring us back from all that offends you.
Lord, look not alone at our evil,
but remember compassion and love.

(Refrain)

6. Now blest be the Lord, God of Israel.
Blest be God both now and forever.
Let nations and people cry, Amen!
Praise the Lord, hallelujah, Amen!

(Refrain)

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Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23, 48 (with sung refrain)

(Refrain)

O give thanks to the Lord, for God's love endures forever...

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Praise the Lord!

*Give thanks to the Lord because he is good,
because his faithful love endures forever.
Who could possibly repeat all of the Lord's mighty acts
or publicly recount all his praise?*

*The people who uphold justice,
who always do what is right, are truly happy!*

**Remember me, Lord,
with the favor you show your people.
Visit me with your saving help
so I can experience the good things
your chosen ones experience,
so I can rejoice in the joy of your nation,
so I can praise along with your possession.**

(Refrain)

*We have sinned—right along with our ancestors.
We've done what is wrong. We've acted wickedly.*

*They made a calf at Horeb,
bowing down to a metal idol.
They traded their glorious God
for an image of a bull that eats grass.
They forgot the God who saved them—
the one who had done great things in Egypt,
wondrous works in the land of Ham,
awesome deeds at the Red Sea. **(Refrain)***

*So God determined that he would destroy them—
except for the fact that Moses, his chosen one,
stood in the way, right in front of him,
and turned God's destructive anger away.*

**Bless the Lord, the God of Israel,
from forever ago to forever from now!
And let all the people say, "Amen!"
Praise the Lord! **(Refrain)****

Song

Every Promise

1. From the breaking of the dawn
to the setting of the sun,
I will stand on ev'ry promise of your word.
Words of power, strong to save,
that will never pass away;
I will stand on ev'ry promise of your word.
For your covenant is sure,
and on this I am secure:
I can stand on ev'ry promise from your word.

2. When I stumble and I sin,
condemnation pressing in,
I will stand on ev'ry promise of your word.
You are faithful to forgive,
that in freedom I might live.
So I stand on ev'ry promise of your word.
Guilt to innocence restored;
you remember sins no more.
So I'll stand on ev'ry promise of your word.

3. When I'm faced with anguished choice,
I will listen for your voice,
and I'll stand on ev'ry promise of your word.
Through this dark and troubled land,
you will guide me with your hand,
as I stand on ev'ry promise of your word.
And you've promised to complete
ev'ry work begun in me.
So I'll stand on ev'ry promise of your word.

4. Hope that lifts me from despair;
love that casts out ev'ry fear,
as I stand on ev'ry promise of your word.
Not forsaken, not alone,
for the Comforter has come;
and I stand on ev'ry promise of your word.
Grace sufficient, grace for me;
grace for all who will believe.
We will stand on ev'ry promise of your word.

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Message

The Calves We've Made

Response

Anthem

There Is a Balm in Gilead

arr. Wm. Dawson

Prayers of the People

Let us remember in prayer those who suffer the brokenness of grief: of friends and loved ones who have died in this week, or in times more distant yet still fresh with pain and longing. (silent prayer)

Let us remember in prayer those broken in body or mind or spirit: those who are ill and hospitalized, those treated for cancer or other diseases, those who are depressed. (silent prayer)

Let us remember in prayer those whose brokenness is in relationship: with partner or child or parent, in vocation or friendship, estranged from hope or from God. (silent prayer)

Let us remember in prayer the brokenness in creation: rivers polluted and hillsides denuded; overabundance hoarded and need ignored; for denial of natural crises. (silent prayer)

Let us remember in prayer the brokenness among nations and peoples: for growing accustomed to war; for achieving ends with violence; for demonizing those who differ from us. (silent prayer)

And let us remember in prayer the one to whom we pray: whose way is love; whose wisdom is justice, whose heart is compassion; whose promise and call is peace. Remember us, O God, and make us whole.

The 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.**

Invitation to Offering

Moment of Reflection

Doxology

***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.***

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Prayer

Sending

Hymn

This Holy Covenant Was Made

1. This holy covenant was made:
God, our Deliverance was obeyed.
Seas were parted; freedom started.
By cloud and fire we were led.
By quail and manna we were fed.
Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

2. This holy covenant was new
at table with Christ's gathered few.
Blessing spoken; body broken.
By lifted cup our God forgives.
By Jesus' grace alone we live.
Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

3. This holy covenant of flame
sears in our hearts the saving name.
Spirit's fire, our desire.
By wind and tongue the church is sealed.
By might and power here revealed.
Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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Music: Auserlesen Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesange, Cologne, adapt. and harm.
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Blessing – A Litany of Blessing (based on Philippians 4:1-9)

Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just: Remember these things.

Do these things.

Whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable: Remember these things.

Do these things.

Rejoice in God. Help one another.

**Trust that the peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding,
will keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.**

Postlude

This Holy Covenant Was Made

H. Hopson

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**We have resumed
WEEKLY IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES
in the Sanctuary at 9:30 am only
unless changing circumstances
prevent us from continuing to do so.**

**We will also continue to offer real-time live-streamed services on
Facebook, YouTube, and our church website,
and will continue to offer a phone-in option
on Sundays at 11:00 am.**

You may mail your offerings and contributions to our postal address below.

To set up online giving directly from your bank to the church's account, please call the office for details.

Hillsdale First United Methodist Church

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www.hillsdalefirstumc.com | facebook.com/HillsdaleFirstUMC

Rev. Rob McPherson, Pastor | John Ourensma, Director of Music | Renee Nestorak, Associate Dir of Music |
Pam Laurell, Church Administrator | Tana Trombly, Children's Ministries Dir | Jeff Kornak, Facility Supervisor