

- **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

This Is a Time to Remember

E. Walsh

Call to Worship

God breathed life into human beings made in God's image.

We remember. So let's give God the glory!

God called to a runaway shepherd, Moses, to lead God's people out of slavery.

We remember. So let's give God the glory!

God, like a pillar of clouds, led the people through the sea to freedom.

We remember. So let's give God the glory!

Water flowed like a river from a rock in the wilderness.

We remember. So let's give God the glory!

God gives us a way when there seems no way.

We remember. So we worship today.

Hymn

This Is a Time to Remember

1. This is a time to remember the greatness of the Lord;
he has so faithfully led us as promised in his Word;
he has so bountifully given his grace like freshening rain;
he has so lovingly pardoned and made us whole again.

2. This is a time to remember the glories that have been;
this is a time to press onward to vistas yet unseen;
for Christ is alive in his people, he meets us face to face;
he grants us the power of his Spirit
to serve him in this place.

3. This is a time to remember the church is his, not ours;
this is a time to surrender ourselves,
our wealth, our powers;
this is a time to be servants - to give ourselves away,
building the church of the future until the coming day.

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Scripture Reading – Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45

Refrain (*sung by all*): **God for us great things has done. Sing, shout, hallelujah!**

Give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make his deeds known to all people!
Sing to God; sing praises to the Lord;
dwell on all his wondrous works!

Refrain

Give praise to God's holy name!
Let the hearts rejoice of all those seeking the LORD!
Pursue the LORD and his strength;
seek his face always!
Remember the wondrous works he has done,
all his marvelous works, and the justice he declared—
you who are the offspring of Abraham, his servant,
and the children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

Refrain

Then God brought Israel out,
filled with silver and gold;
not one of its tribes stumbled.

Egypt celebrated when they left,
because the dread of Israel had come upon them.
God spread out clouds as a covering;
gave lightning to provide light at night.
The people asked, and God brought quail;
God filled them full with food from heaven.
God opened the rock and out gushed water—
flowing like a river through the desert!

Refrain

Because God remembered his holy promise
to Abraham his servant,
God brought his people out with rejoicing,
his chosen ones with songs of joy.
God gave them the lands of other nations;
they inherited the wealth of many peoples—
all so that they would keep his laws
and observe his instructions.

Refrain

Prayers of the People

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.**

Hymn

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.

2. Here I raise mine Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

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3. O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

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Proclamation

Prayer for Illumination

*God of all who wander in the wilderness, you go before us as beacon and guide.
Teach us now, that you lead us through all danger,
sustain us through all desolation, and bring us home to the land you have prepared for us. Amen.*

Scripture Reading – Exodus 16:2-15

Hymn

1. "Let my people seek their freedom
in the wilderness awhile,
from the slave pens of the Delta,
from the ghettos on the Nile":
so God spoke from out of Sinai,
so God spoke and it was done,
and a people crossed the waters
toward the rising of the sun.

2. "Let my people seek their freedom
in the wilderness awhile,
from the aging shrines and structures,
from the cloister and the aisle":
so the Son of God has spoken,
and the storm clouds are unfurled,
for God's people must be scattered
to be servants in the world.

Let My People Seek Their Freedom

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3. When we murmur on the mountains
for the old Egyptian plains,
when we miss our ancient bondage,
and the hope, the promise, wanes;
then the rock shall yield its water
and the manna fall by night,
and with visions of a future
shall we march toward the light.

4. In the maelstrom of the nations,
in the journeying into space,
in the clash of generations,
in the hungering for grace,
in our agony and glory,
we are called to newer ways
by the Lord of our tomorrows
and the God of earth's todays.

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Message

Just Rescued, Already Complaining

Response

Prayer of Confession

God, when we get afraid of what lies ahead, we want to go back to the old ways instead of seeking your new way with us. (Silence.)

Forgive us and open us to you.

Holy Giver, our hands are open to receive your gifts.

When we don't see the signs of hope we expect, we complain, we turn to other things, and we blame each other. (Silence.)

Forgive us and open us to you.

Holy Giver, our hands are open to receive your gifts.

When we do have enough, we want even more and, by wanting more, often others have less than enough. (Silence.)

Forgive us and open us to you.

Holy Giver, our hands are open to receive your gifts.

When we work so hard to get something, we forget your goodness and think our lives are what we've done, have, or achieved. (Silence.)

Forgive us and open us to you.

Holy Giver, our hands are open to receive your gifts.

Words of Affirmation

Our God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Trust in God's forgiveness and power to transform our regret to mercy.

Passing the Peace

*Let us now extend signs of God's grace, mercy, steadfast love, and forgiveness to one another. The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!***

Anthem

O Jesus, I Have Promised

T. Shaw

Invitation to Offering

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

Song

God My Rock

When my heart is overwhelmed,
I will look to you alone,
God, my rock, God, my rock, God, my rock.
You will stand when others fall;
you are faithful through it all,
God, my rock, God, my rock, God, my rock.
In the blessing, in the pain,
through it all, you've never failed me.

You are the strength of my heart.
You are the strength of my heart.
I can rely on you. I can rely on you.

When I've struggled to believe,
you have not let go of me,
God, my rock, God, my rock, God, my rock.

Carried through the darkest storms,
you have held me in your arms,
God, my rock, God, my rock, God, my rock.
In the blessing, in the pain,
through it all, you've never failed me.

You are the strength of my heart.
You are the strength of my heart.
I can rely on you. I can rely on you.

You are the joy of my life.
You are my song in the night.

There is no one as true.
Jesus, I trust in you, yeah!

(instrumental interlude)

You are the strength of my heart.
You are the strength of my heart.
I can rely on you. I can rely on you.
You are the joy of my life.
You are my song in the night.
There is no one as true.
Jesus, I trust in you, yeah!

(instrumental interlude)

Jesus, we trust in you!
Jesus, we trust in you!
Jesus, we trust in you!
Jesus, we trust in you, God!

You are the strength of my heart.
You are the strength of my heart.
I can rely on you. I can rely on you.
You are the joy of my life.
You are my song in the night.
There is no one as true.
Jesus, I trust in you (yeah).

CCLI Song # 6364728 Brenton Brown | Paul Baloche
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Blessing

Postlude

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

P. Manz

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**Beginning today, September 27 at 9:30 am, we will
RESUME WEEKLY IN-PERSON WORSHIP
services in the Sanctuary**

unless new executive orders or new local spikes in Covid cases
prevent us from doing 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

45 N. Manning St., Hillsdale, MI 49242 | 517-437-3681
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