

*Hymn *“Blessed Assurance”* Page #514

*Affirmation of Faith Heidelberg Catechism, Lord’s Day 27 *(responsive)*

Question: Does this outward washing with water itself wash away sins?

Answer: **No, only the blood of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit cleanse us from all sins.**

Question: **Why then does the Holy Spirit call baptism the washing of regeneration and the washing away of sins?**

Answer: **God speaks in this way for a good reason. He wants to teach us that the blood and Spirit of Christ remove our sins just as water takes away dirt from the body. But, even more important, He wants to reassure us by this divine pledge and sign that we are as truly cleansed from our sins spiritually as we are bodily washed with water.**

Prayers of the People and 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Moment for Mission Les Hutchinson

Our Tithes and Offerings *“All Glory Be To God on High”* Gottfried Walther

*The Doxology Page #809

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn *“A Charge to Keep I Have”* Page #659

*Benediction

Postlude *“Lord God, Who Gave Thine Only Son”* Gottfried Walther

The First Presbyterian Church

Organized July 22, 1843



MISSION STATEMENT

***Called by God into the joy of new life in Christ,
First Presbyterian Church of Hillsdale
seeks to live together faithfully,
committing ourselves to a life of worship,
mutual encouragement to growth in faith and knowledge,
and to the proclamation of the Gospel.***



31 North Street

Hillsdale, Michigan 49242
(517)-437-2580

Sunday, July 18, 2021

CHURCH CALENDAR

Today, July 18

10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
11:20 a.m. Sunday School, Classrooms

Monday, July 19

Tuesday, July 20

Wednesday, July 21

6:30 p.m. Zoom Bible Study

Thursday, July 22

7:00 p.m. Session Meeting, Anniversary Room

Friday, July 23

Saturday, July 24

Next Sunday, July 25

10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
11:20 a.m. Sunday School, Classrooms

What's Ahead...

Ladies Society Summer Picnic

Wednesday, August 4 @ 12 Noon

Rummage Sale

Friday, October 15 & Saturday, October 16
Setup, Sunday, October 10th
(Donations accepted in August)

WELCOME

We are grateful for all who have come to worship our heavenly Father today. Let us come together with joy and love in our hearts. Bless you, friends, and be assured that you are indeed welcome!

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS worshiping with us this morning. We ask that you please include your name and address when filling out the Friendship Pads and pass the pad along the pew so others may do the same. After everyone has registered, send the pad back along the pew so you can learn the names of those sitting with you. Attendance Last Sunday: 59

The FLOWERS on the Communion table are given by Mary and Don Sanderson in thanksgiving for their Church family and friends.

PASTOR: Rev. Scott Cress
CHOIR/ORGANIST: Dean James
WORSHIP LEADER: Laureen Kimbrough
BUILDING CLOSER: Bob Roberts
DEACON: Kathy Keil
USHERS: Connie Erholtz, Linda Fogarty, and Tammy James

PRAYER REQUESTS: Curt Carver (*Husband Earla Carver*)
Bette Davidson (*Friend Laureen Kimbrough*)

CONTINUING PRAYER REQUESTS: Kay Cosgrove, Betty Kneen, Carissa Benavides, Charles Cress (*Father Pastor Scott*), Kara Dietrich, Ethan (*Friend Janusz Family*), Bill Ewald (*Brother-in-law C.Carver*), Brynn Ferguson, Melinda Foulke-Beckwith, Kevin & Bridget Fowler (*Parents B.Portteus*), Tim Gordon (*Cousin M.Rollins*), Bruce Gregory (*Friend S.Downey*), Bill Gunn (*Brother B.Lipps*), JB Jenkins (*Brother-in-law Irma*), Robert Jones (*Husband Irma*), Kurt Leutheuser (*Son E.Leutheuser*), Jackie Schaefer (*Friend Taylors*), Sherri Selmer (*Friend Cress Family*), Kathy Stump (*Secretary S.Army*), Meribeth Watkins, Marsha Green-Ziegler (*Sister S.Downey*); **PRAY FOR MILITARY:** Adam Bentley (*National Guard--Grandson Bentleys*), LT.j.g. Andrea Cornett (*USN*), Dorion Duby (*National Guard--Husband Elayna*), Spencer Eves (*USNA-Grandson Judy & Ron Adams*); Lt. Col. Garron Garn (*US Marines*), LT. Chris Hoffman (*USN*), LT. Molly Hoffman (*USN*), LT Zachary Laden (*US Navy, Grandson Taylors*), Captain Ben Larson (*National Guard, Grandson*

C.Dear); Major Andrew Osborn (*Army, Nephew B.Kneen*), 1LT Mark Reed (*US Army-deployed overseas*), Davis Regalado (*USMC-Friend J.Benzing*); LT. JG Sydney Rouble (*USN RN—Granddaughter Bishers*), LCDR Joy Solmonson (*USN*)—(*Cornett, Hoffman, Reed, Solmonson—Friends S.Downey*); **PRAY FOR MISSIONS:** Lingap Foundation, Outreach Foundation, and Samaritan's Purse; **PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS:** Mary Bearman (*home*), Mary Rose Dryer (*home*), Onalee Foulke (*Drews Country Living*), Guidi & Arlan Gilbert (*Drews Village Green*), Lois James (*Medical Care*), Ellie Leutheuser (*home*), and Kit Tamblyn (*home*)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE VISION COMMITTEE? Curious about what is happening? The Session of FPC has recognized that there are several pressing questions concerning organization, administration, and leadership training facing our congregation, as well as questions of outreach and growth. Faithful stewards have to seek God, study His Word, and respond to the situation in which we find ourselves. How does God want us to be faithful for the next five or ten or twenty years as a congregation? How does a Church of less than 100 (*but looking to grow!*) plan finances or staff committees? How can we recognize God's good gifts to us and yet do better with what we have been given? Regular reports will be filed with the Session, and the Committee plans to make several recommendations by the spring of next year.

Members of the Vision Committee include **Georgia Bentley, Connie Hutchinson, Aaron Lawrence, Rich Péwé, Lisa Roberts, Marsha Rollins, and Steve Ross.** We are grateful and thank each one for taking on the responsibility to seek answers for the future of our Church. Please keep them in your prayers as they prayerfully go forth in their search!

LARGE PRINT BIBLES ARE AVAILABLE FOR USE DURING SERVICE! Please pick one up before service, use it during the service, and then return it after the service. The Bibles may be found on the table in the Alcove.

1000 SPIRITUAL CONVERSATIONS: Join with us this year as we share Jesus with our words. Remember: If you have an intentional conversation this week, then make sure you mark it down next to the proper category in the binder located in the Fellowship Hall. And don't forget to pray for this new initiative!

SESSION MEETING (July 22): There is a Session Meeting this Thursday, July 22nd at 7 PM in the Anniversary Room.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Please join us today for Sunday school at 11:20 a.m. There are classes for everyone! Let's grow together in Christ!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: "On Being Presbyterian" The new eight-week Sunday School class continues today. The focus will be Presbyterian history, doctrine, and government. Everyone is strongly encouraged to participate, but the class will be particularly beneficial for all those seeking to serve as officers.

WE HAVE STARTED A NEW PRAYER MINISTRY! Every Sunday morning, intercessors are invited to gather in the Chapel at 9:45 AM to join in a 5-minute time of prayer for God to bless and guide our worship service and care for our people and community. Each time of prayer will be led by an Elder of the congregation (*seated or unseated*). Speak to Les Hutchinson about joining the leadership rotation!

WELCOME BACK TO THE USHER MINISTRY! You'll notice that the Ushers are working hard this morning to distribute bulletins, pass out attendance books, pick up prayer cards, and serve during the offering time. A schedule and instruction sheet can be found in the back table and posted in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to join this ministry, speak with Worship Chair Linda Fogarty.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY is happening every Wednesday at 6:30 PM. Please go to the homepage at www.fpchillsdale.org to find the access link. We hope you'll join us!

Thank you
for your kindness

A heartfelt "Thank You" to our Church Family for all your kindness given during our extended recovery. Know that your prayers, cards, and meals prepared were greatly appreciated. We are most grateful and feel truly blessed.

Beverly & Duane Taylor

*“Love and kindness are never wasted. They always make a difference.
They bless the one who receives them, and they bless you, the giver.”
~Barbara de Angelia*
