

\*Hymn                      “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”                      Page #45

**The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**

• *The Invitation ~ The Words of Institution*

• *Salutation and Sursum Corda*

Page #785

• *The Sharing of the Bread and Cup*

\*Affirmation of Faith    Adapted from the Second Helvetic Confession, Chapter 1

We believe and confess the canonical Scriptures of the holy prophets and apostles of both Testaments to be the true Word of God, and to have sufficient authority of themselves, not of men. For God himself spoke to the fathers, prophets, apostles, and still speaks to us through the Holy Scriptures. And in this Holy Scripture, the universal Church of Christ has the most complete exposition of all that pertains to a saving faith, and also to the framing of a life acceptable to God.

**Prayers of God’s 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**

Brenda Barron

**Our Tithes and Offerings**

“Sonata #4”

J.S. Bach

\*The Doxology

Page #809

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

Page #634

\*Benediction

Postlude

“On My Heart Imprint Thine Image”

Johann König

# 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, February 26, 2023**

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

February 26, 2023  
\*Congregation May Stand

10:30 a.m. Worship  
First Sunday in Lent

## In Essentials... Unity ~ In Non-Essentials... Liberty ~ In All Things... Charity

**Prelude**                                 *“Open Now the Gates of Beauty”*                                 Johann König  
*In quiet reflection, let us turn our thoughts toward worship of Almighty God.*

**Welcome and Announcements**                                 Ruth Brown

**\*Call to Worship:**                                 Romans 5:17-19

### Invocation

**\*Hymn**                                 *“Lord, Who Throughout”*                                 Page #200

**\*Responsive Reading:**                                 Psalm 32

Leader: Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

**People:** Blessed is the man to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Leader: When I declared not my sin, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long

**People:** For day and night Thy hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

Leader: I acknowledged my sin to Thee, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD”; then Thou didst forgive the guilt of my sin.

**People:** Therefore let every one who is godly offer prayer to Thee; at a time of distress, in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

Leader: Thou art a hiding place for me, Thou preservest me from trouble; Thou dost encompass me with deliverance.

**People:** I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

Leader: Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not keep with you.

**People:** Many are the pangs of the wicked; but steadfast love surrounds him who trusts in the LORD.

**All:** Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

**Prayer of Confession:**                                 (unison)

Most holy and merciful Father; We acknowledge and confess before Thee; Our sinful nature prone to evil and slothful in good; And all our shortcomings and offenses. Thou alone knowest how often we have sinned; In wandering from Thy ways; In wasting Thy gifts; In forgetting Thy love. But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us; Who are ashamed and sorry for all wherein we have displeased Thee. Teach us to hate our errors; Cleanse us from our secret faults; And forgive our sins; For the sake of Thy dear Son. And O most holy and loving Father; Help us, we beseech Thee; To live in Thy light and walk in Thy ways; According to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Silent Confession**     (continue in silent prayer)                                 ...Amen.

### Assurance of Pardon

**\*The Gloria Patri**                                 Page #805

**Children’s Sermon**                                 “Confessing Our Sins”                                 Pastor Scott Cress

**First Scripture Lesson**                                 Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7                                 Pew Bible Page #2

**Anthem**                                 *“I Sought the Lord”*                                 David White

**Second Scripture Lesson**                                 Galatians 4:8-31                                 Pew Bible Page #1014

**Sermon**                                 “Don’t Settle for Slavery”                                 Pastor Scott Cress

# CHURCH CALENDAR

## Today, February 26 ~ First Sunday in Lent

- 8:30 a.m. Choir Practice, Sanctuary
- 9:40 a.m. Sunday School, Classrooms
- 10:20 a.m. Pre-Service Prayer, Chapel
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
  - *The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, Fellowship Hall

## Monday, February 27

- 7:00 p.m. Arts Chorale Practice, Fellowship Hall

## Tuesday, February 28

## Wednesday, March 1

- 6:00 p.m. Lenten Dinner & Video, Fellowship Hall  
*Hosted by the First United Methodist Church*

## Thursday, March 2

- 6:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting, Anniversary Room

## Friday, March 3

## Saturday, March 4

## Next Sunday, March 5 ~ Second Sunday in Lent

- 8:30 a.m. Choir Practice, Sanctuary
- 9:40 a.m. Sunday School, Classrooms
- 10:20 a.m. Pre-Service Prayer, Chapel
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sanctuary
  - *Jeff Kunkel preaching*
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, Fellowship Hall

# WELCOME

Lent has begun: a time for both walking with Jesus toward the cross and being strengthened in our faith and knowledge of God. Welcome to worship and to the Lenten journey.

**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: 70

**The FLOWERS on the Communion table today are given by Linda Fogarty to the honor and to the glory of God.**

**PASTOR:** Rev. Scott Cress  
**CHOIR/ORGANIST:** Dean James  
**WORSHIP LEADER:** Ruth Brown  
**BUILDING CLOSER:** Bill Barron  
**DEACON:** Laureen Kimbrough  
**USHERS:** Barb Auseon, Marsha Rollins, and Margaret Scott

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Earthquake victims & Rescue teams (*Turkey & Syria*)

**CONTINUING PRAYER REQUESTS:** Brenda Barron, Joyce Benzing, Earla Carver, Alan Dimmers, John Long, Phil Hoffman, Mary Sanderson, Margaret Scott, Norma Baldwin, Phyllis & John Payne, Carissa Benavides, Jack Bowles (*Cousin J.Long*), Charles Cress (*Pastor's Father*), Kara Dietrich, Jim Elliott (*Friend Pastor*), Brynn Ferguson, Melinda Foulke-Beckwith, Kevin & Bridget Fowler (*Parents B.Portteus*), Maxine & George Gaffney (*Friends B.Kneen*), Tim Gordon (*Cousin M.Rollins*), Linda Gray (*Friend M.Rollins*), Bill Gunn (*Brother B.Lipps*), Steve Hess (*Friend Irma*), Ashley Hightower, JB Jenkins (*Brother-in-law Irma*), Robert Jones (*Husband Irma*), Alexis Kozub, Joanne Rollins (*Sister-in-law Marsha*), , Tammy Rose (*Irma's Friend*), Jackie Schaefer (*Friend Taylors*), Rosemarie Schneider (*Sister-in-law W. Schneide*), Sherri Selmer (*Friend Cress Family*), Tammy Simons (*Friend M.Rollins*), Dana Torres (*Nephew Irma*), Laura VanWormer (*Friend L.Fogarty*); **PRAY FOR MILITARY:** LT. Andrea Cornett (*USN*), Spencer Eves (*USNA-Grandson Judy & Ron Adams*); LT. Col. Garron Garn (*US Marines*), LT. Commander Zachary Laden (*US Navy, Grandson Taylors*), Captain Ben Larson (*National Guard--Grandson C.Dear*); Davis Regalado (*USMC-Friend J.Benzing*); LT. JG Sydney Rouble (*USN RN--Granddaughter Bishers*); **PRAY FOR MISSIONS:** Lingap Foundation, Outreach Foundation, and Samaritan's Purse; **PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS:** Curt Carver (*Countryside Care Center*), Mary Rose Dryer (*home*), Lois James (*Medical Care*), and Kit Tamblyn (*Drews Village Green*)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TODAY THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER** will be celebrated as part of our worship together. All who trust in Christ are invited to participate. Please remember that the *loose offering* in today's collection will go to the Deacons for their good work among us.

**ADOPT-A-STUDENT BEGINNING:** We are officially beginning an Adopt-A-Student program. Folks registered to serve will be given a name and contact info. The basic commitment is for one meaningful invitation to a meal or event each month and additional encouragement at the end of each semester. Interested students can leave their contact info in the friendship pads. Interested congregants should let the office know.

**CHURCH SERVICE STREAMLINE:** In order to view Sunday's service by streamline please go to [www.fpchillsdale.org](http://www.fpchillsdale.org) and click on the "Lord's Day of Worship" click on the button or go to You Tube and search First Presbyterian Church of Hillsdale.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** If you would like to submit an end-of-the-year report for the Annual Report, please finish it up and submit it to the Church office ASAP. Thanks for your attention in this matter.

**DEACONS MEETING (March 2):** There will be a Deacons Meeting this Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6 PM in the Anniversary Room.

**FLOWER CALENDAR** is posted in the hall by the Parlor. Please take a moment to sign up to provide flowers on any Sunday that is open. The Worship Committee appreciates your gifts in memory of loved ones or in celebration of your special occasion!

**LEARN ABOUT CHURCH REVITALIZATION!** On Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, Pastors Andy Gilman and Ian Ferguson will be with us to discuss what they are learning about Church Revitalization and how they might help us on our own journey. The event will take place in the Anniversary Room from 10 AM-1 PM, with lunch provided. Please call the Church office to RSVP if you are able to attend. Thank you!

**LENTEN ACTIVITIES AT FPC!** During March, we will gather with the folks from the UMC Church on Wednesday nights at 6 PM for a light meal and a video study by Ray Vander Laan. Also, mark your calendars for dinner and the Maundy Thursday service at 6 PM on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

**MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY** will not take place again until April. Please join us for our Lenten activities until then!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:40 AM:** Learning for all ages happens on Sunday mornings from 9:40-10:20 AM. The children meet in their classrooms on the first floor by the Church offices. The Adults will join Pastor Scott in the Anniversary Room.

**USHERS:** Please look at the Usher Schedule below as a reminder of which Sunday you are scheduled to serve. Don't forget that the Usher's duties also include being a greeter!

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## USHER SCHEDULE

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday:** Bill Barron, Ruth Brown, and Kevin Portteus

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday:** Kathy Keil, Betty Kneen, and Lisa Roberts

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday:** James Brandon, Marty Games, and Carol Ringenberg

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday:** Barb Auseon, Marsha Rollins, and Margaret Scott

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday:** Session Members

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## A NOTE FROM YOUR PASTOR

**There are many things in the works for this year at FPC. One of those things is a seven-week study of the sacraments, beginning on April 16<sup>th</sup> and ending on Pentecost on May 28<sup>th</sup>. During this season, we will explore the nature of baptism and the Lord's Supper together in service and in Sunday school. We will also partake of the Lord's Supper for each of those Sundays. This is an unusual thing for us at FPC. My hope is that this would be a spiritually nourishing experience that helps us to appreciate the sacraments and consider our practice of them. For those who are concerned about this, know two things. First, this is not the doorway to a permanent change in our Communion practice. Second, this is a chance to talk about important things in the Christian life in a special way. Reach out to Pastor Scott for more information.**

~Pastor Scott