

**\*Affirmation of Faith** Westminster Shorter Catechism, Questions 90-91

Question: How is the word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation?

**Answer:** That the word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend thereunto with diligence, preparation and prayer; receive it with faith and love, lay it up in our hearts, and practice it in our lives.

Question: How do the sacraments become effectual means of salvation?

**Answer:** The sacraments become effectual means of salvation, not from any virtue in them, or in him that doth administer them; but only by the blessing of Christ, and the working of his Spirit in them that by faith receive them.

**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.**

**Our Tithes and Offerings**

\*The Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

*"Gavotte"*

George Handel  
Page #809

\*Hymn

*"O Come to Me, the Master Said"*

Page #442

\*Benediction

Postlude

*"Give Praise to God"*

George Handel

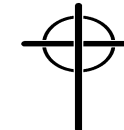
# **The First Presbyterian Church**

**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, April 23, 2023**

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

April 23, 2023

10:30 a.m. Worship

\*Congregation May Stand

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

**Prelude** *"Allegro Giocoso"* George Handel  
*In quiet reflection, let us turn our thoughts toward worship of Almighty God.*

**Welcome and Announcements** Margaret Scott

**Call to Worship** 1 Peter 1:17-21

**Invocation**

**\*Hymn** *"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"* Page #77

**\*Responsive Reading** Psalm 116:12-19

Leader: What shall I render to the LORD for all His bounty to me?

**People: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD,**

Leader: I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all His people.

**People: Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His saints.**

Leader: O LORD, I am Thy servant; I am Thy servant, the son of Thy handmaid.  
Thou hast loosed my bonds.

**People: I will offer to Thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.**

Leader: I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all His people,

**All: In the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem.  
Praise the LORD!**

**Prayer of Confession** *(unison)*

**Almighty God, you love us, but we have failed in our love for You. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as You come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to You, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.**

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

**Assurance of Pardon**

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

**Children's Sermon** *"On Jesus"* Pastor Scott Cress

**First Scripture Lesson** Exodus 6:1-9 Pew Bible Page #49

**Anthem** *"Let the People Praise Thee, O God"* Philip Stopford

**Second Scripture Lesson** Acts 2:36-42 Pew Bible Page #949

**Sermon** "Baptism as a Sign" Pastor Scott Cress

**\*Hymn** *"O Word of God Incarnate"* Page #310

**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*

# CHURCH CALENDAR

## Today, April 23

- 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  
    • *Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*  
11:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, Fellowship Hall

## Monday, April 24

## Tuesday, April 25

- 6:00 p.m. Strong Foundations Class, Anniversary Room

## Wednesday, April 26

- 6:30 p.m. Mid-Week Bible Study, Pastor's office/Zoom

## Thursday, April 27

## Friday, April 28

## Saturday, April 29

## Next Sunday, April 30

- 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  
    • *Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*  
11:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship, Fellowship Hall  
3:00 p.m. Hillsdale Arts Chorale Concert

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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

# WELCOME

Welcome to worship *"in the courts of the house of the LORD. ... Praise the LORD!"* (Psalm 116:19). May our praise and prayers be pleasing to God.

**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: 67

**The ALTAR FLOWERS are given today by Barb and Dave Lipps with appreciation for the many blessings from our Heavenly Father, Church Family and Friends.**

<b>PASTOR:</b>	Rev. Scott Cress
<b>CHOIR/ORGANIST:</b>	Dean James
<b>WORSHIP LEADER:</b>	Margaret Scott
<b>BUILDING CLOSER:</b>	Kevin Portteus
<b>DEACON:</b>	Carol Ringenberg
<b>USHERS:</b>	Barb Auseon, Marsha Rollins, and Margaret Scott

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Larry Barron, Linda Gray, and Family Marge Winfield  
**CONTINUING PRAYER REQUESTS:** Brenda Barron, Joyce Benzing, Alan Dimmers, John Long, Phil Hoffman, Mary Sanderson, Margaret Scott, Norma Baldwin, Melinda Foulke-Beckwith, Carissa Benavides, Jack Bowles (*Cousin J.Long*), Charles Cress (*Pastor's Father*), Kara Dietrich, Jim Elliott (*Friend Pastor*), Brynn Ferguson, Kevin & Bridget Fowler (*Parents B.Portteus*), Maxine & George Gaffney (*Friends B.Kneen*), Tim Gordon (*Cousin M.Rollins*), Bill Gunn (*Brother B.Lipps*), Steve Hess (*Friend Irma*), Ashley Hightower, Sarah Peggs-Jetter (*Friend M.Dimmers*), JB Jenkins, Robert Jones, & Sam Jones (*Irma's Nephew, Brother-in-law & Husband*), Alexis Kozub, Phyllis & John Payne, Joanne Rollins (*Sister-in-law M.Rollins*), Tammy Rose (*Friend Irma*), Jackie Schaefer (*Friend Taylors*), Rosemarie Schneider (*Sister-in-law W. Schneider*), 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.

**THE STUDY OF THE SACRAMENTS CONTINUES THROUGH PENTECOST SUNDAY!** During this season, we will explore the nature of baptism and the Lord's Supper together in service and in Sunday school through Pentecost Sunday (May 28). We will also partake of the Lord's Supper for each of those Sundays.

**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 YouTube and search First Presbyterian Church of Hillsdale.

**HILLSDALE ARTS CHORALE CONCERT (April 30):** The Arts Chorale will be celebrating 50 years with its Spring Concert on Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM at the Chapel of Hillsdale College. Admission is free.

**MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY:** Join us for our Wednesday evening Bible study starting at 6:30 PM with participation in-person in the Pastor's study (*please RSVP*) or live on Zoom. Check [fpchillsdale.org](http://fpchillsdale.org) for the Zoom info.

**STRONG FOUNDATIONS CLASS** continues every Tuesday at 6 PM through May 16<sup>th</sup> in the Anniversary Room. Please talk to Pastor Scott if you would like to help. Please refer all interested class participants to Love INC to register for the program.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** 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 join Pastor Scott in the Anniversary Room.

**WE ARE SEARCHING FOR VOLUNTEERS** to work the North Street Garden on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> (rain date 5/6), beginning at 9 AM. We will be spreading stones and completing the project begun last fall. Bring your favorite garden rake, shovels, and gloves. Water, doughnuts, and fellowship are provided. Questions? Speak to Lisa or Bob Roberts!

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The logo for the Annual Meeting features the word "ANNUAL" in a large, gold, serif font, centered within a black rectangular box with a thin gold border. Below this box, the word "MEETING" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2023**

The **ANNUAL MEETING** of the First Presbyterian Church to receive reports/records for the past year and to take any appropriate actions will be held on Sunday, May 7, 2023 in Fellowship Hall, immediately following the **ANNUAL DINNER**, which follows worship. The Fellowship Committee is providing ham, potatoes, and rolls. Please bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share. We look forward to gathering again and all the great food and deeper bonds of friendship that will happen on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is welcome!

The **ANNUAL REPORTS** for 2022 are available to everyone on the table in the Alcove. It contains highlights of the preceding year, reports of the committees, and financial reports. Hopefully it has effectively summarized where we've been as a congregation and that you will be pleased by its content to the glory of God. Please take a moment to pick up a copy today!