

Hillsborough Presbyterian Church

102 West Tryon Street

Hillsborough, N. C. 27278

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www.hillsboroughpres.org [YouTube Channel](#)



ORGANIZED 1816

*To those who seek the joy of sharing
in worship and praise; to those
who seek to know and serve the Lord,
our Church opens wide its doors.*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Baptism of the Lord

January 11, 2026

11:00 AM

Reverend Alex Fischer, Pastor

Beth Jordan, Music Director JoAnn Harrison, Secretary

Gathering of the People

Savior of the Nations, Come

J. S. Bach

Prelude
Welcome

Praise of God

Call to Worship (written by Rev. Caela Wood)

One: The heavens open, the Spirit descends;

Many: Jesus emerges from the water.

One: A voice echoes through the blue expanse,

Many: "This is my child, the Beloved, with whom I am well-pleased."

One: Jesus is named. Jesus is claimed.

Many: When we come to the water, we remember we are also named and claimed.

One: Can it be so? What a thing to be named and claimed.

Many: Let us worship the one who names and claims us still.

* Hymn No. 311

Here, O Lord Your Servants Gather



1 Here, O Lord, your ser - vants gath - er, hand we link with hand;
2 Man - y are the tongues we speak, scat - tered are the lands;
3 Na - ture's se - crets o - pen wide, chang - es nev - er cease;
4 Grant, O God, an age re - newed, filled with death-less love;



look - ing toward our Sav - ior's cross, joined in love we stand.
yet our hearts are one in God, one in love's de - mands.
where, O where, can wea - ry souls find the source of peace?
help us as we work and pray; send us from a - bove



As we seek the realm of God, we u - nite to pray:
While in dark - ness hope ap - pears, call - ing age and youth:
Un - to all those sore dis - tressed, torn by end - less strife:
truth and cour - age, faith and power need - ed in our strife:



Je - sus, Sav - ior, guide our steps, for you are the Way.
Je - sus, teach - er, dwell with us, for you are the Truth.
Je - sus, heal - er, bring your balm, for you are the Life.
Je - sus, Sav - ior, be our Way; be our Truth, our Life.

Confession of Sin

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (adapted from Laura Jaquith Bartlett)

Creator of the universe, we stand amazed at your power and glory. We are eager to worship you and offer our praise, but we are often reluctant to answer when we hear you calling our name. We sing our songs of tribute and close our eyes when we pray, but shy away from the river, avoiding baptism by the fire of the Holy Spirit. Forgive us when we forget your promises, O God. Forgive us when we forget our identity as your beloved children. Renew us with the power of your ever-present love. Strengthen us to proclaim your justice and peace throughout the world.

Silent Individual Confession

Take, O Take Me as I Am
Please join in singing this response.

Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall
 be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

Words of Forgiveness

One: Hear the words of our creator, spoken through the prophet Isaiah: “Don’t fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine.”

Many: We are named, we are claimed, and we are forgiven. All because of God’s love and mercy. Hallelujah, amen!

* Response No. 582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Please join in singing this response.

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
 B^b F B^b F B^b F Gm F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
 2 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
 F B^b E^b B^b Gm7 C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)
 C7 F A Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Em7) (Dm) (A7) (D)
 Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F

As it was in the be - gin-ning, is now and ev-er shall be. A - men.

Sharing of God’s Word

Conversation with the Children

Anthem

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Reverend Alex Fischer

Wimber/Fettke

Matthew 3:13-17 (pg. 1172)

Reverend Alex Fischer

Response to the Gospel

* Hymn No. 490

Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (G)
F Dm B^b

1 Wash, O God, your sons and daugh - ters, new - born crea - tures
2 Ev - ery day we need your nur - ture; by your milk may
3 O how deep your ho - ly wis - dom! Un - i - mag - ined,

(D) (Bm)
F Dm

of your womb. Num - ber them a - mong your peo - ple, raised like
we be fed. Let us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of
all your ways! To your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our

(G) (D) (A)
B^b F C

Christ from death and tomb. Weave them gar - ments bright and
bless - ing, liv - ing bread. God, re - new us; guide our
lives we wor - ship, praise! We your peo - ple stand be -

(Bm) (F#m) (Bm) (G) (A) (D)
Dm Am Dm B^b C F

spark - ling; com - pass them with love and light. Fill, a - noint them;
foot - steps, free from sin and all its snares, one with Christ in
fore you, wa - ter-washed and Spir - it - born. By your grace, our

(Bm) (G) (D)
Dm B^b F

send your Spir - it, ho - ly dove and heart's de - light.
liv - ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil - dren, heirs.
lives we of - fer. Re - cre - ate us; God, trans - form!

Ordination and Installation of New Officers, Blessing of the Commissioned Deacons

* Affirmation of Faith (The Apostle's Creed)

We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Prayer

Words of Institution, Sharing of the Meal

Prayer after Communion 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Offering

Offertory

* Hymn of Dedication No. 609 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

* Prayer of Dedication

Go Forth to Serve

Invitation to Share and Serve

* Hymn No. 69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky



1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain.
3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin-est

made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

All G C G D G C G D G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

Am7 G Am7 D G C G C

call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

G C G D G Am7 D7 G Am7 G

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude

Jesus, My Joy

J. S. Bach



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CHURCH NOTES

January 11, 2026

WELCOME VISITORS! We welcome you to Hillsborough Presbyterian Church and to this worship service. We are truly pleased that you have chosen to worship with us today because we believe that everyone who enters these doors is God’s guest. We welcome all to be part of our community of faith, and participate in any of our activities and events.

Assisting in Worship today:

Liturgist: Sara Clay

Children’s Sermon: Rev. Alex Fischer

Acolyte: Boone Curtis

Nursery: Ximena Ceja-Reyes, Chris O’Connor

Video: Lisa Fischer, Hervey McIver

Join us for a **Reception** following worship on Sunday, January 11, in Strudwick Hall. We will celebrate our HPC Officers.

Joyful Noise Children's Choir will meet on Sundays, January 11 and 25, at 9:45 AM in Room #221 for rehearsal. They will sing in worship on January 25. Questions? See Beth Jordan.

Circle #1 will meet in Strudwick Hall at 11:00 AM on Monday, January 12. Bring your lunch and join us for this gathering. Visitors and guests are always welcome!

The annual **Northern Orange Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** celebrations are coming up! These events are an important opportunity to build togetherness across the divides that have separated God's people over the decades, and to stand with one another to face our current challenges together. Please put the following events on your calendar and make plans to attend if you are able:

- The MLK Banquet is on Saturday, January 17, starting at 4:00 pm at the Durham Hilton. (3800 Hillsborough Rd.). This is a ticketed event and all our designated tickets are spoken for, but if you're interested in attending, contact David Remington or Alicia Gonzalez to see if there are any extra tickets available.
- The MLK March is on Monday, January 19, starting at 9:00 am. We will be marching from the Old Courthouse to Mt. Bright Missionary Baptist Church.
- The MLK Commemorative Program is on Monday, January 19, 10:00 am, Mt. Bright Missionary Baptist Church: After the March, we gather together to celebrate and challenge one another with speeches from Oratorical Contest winners, music from the MLK Choir, and a guest speaker.

The **Finish-It-Friday** group will gather on Friday, January 15. Bring any craft project, and work on it in Strudwick with friends. Bring your knitting, crochet, painting, sewing, quilting, etc. The meeting starts at 6:00 PM and ends at 11:00 PM. Come any time during that period. We will order pizza from Domino's, or you can bring whatever you want to eat. There is plenty of room to spread out to work and visit. Questions? See Ann Sebesan.

The **Building and Grounds Committee** will meet in Room #204 following worship on Sunday, January 18. Questions? See Jan McKelvey.

2026 Flower Chart – Sign up and share with your Church the joy of an anniversary, a special occasion, or memorialize someone important to you! Sign up on the sheet outside the church office or drop us an email with a date! (hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org)

New Hope Camp Urgent Appeal: Numbers of campers and retreat groups dramatically declined in 2025 due to economic pressures throughout the nation and in North Carolina. Without funds to run New Hope Camp, programs for children will be reduced or discontinued in 2026. Staff will be laid off. Please prayerfully consider donating any amount you can manage to New Hope Camp. Designate your donation to the camp as part of your Sunday offering to HPC, or donate directly to New Hope Camp on their website: <https://newhopedonations.campbraingiving.com/>

Cold Weather Shelter: The Chapel Hill Cold Weather Shelter will be open on activated White Flag Cold Weather nights. The County will provide transportation to the site as needed. One way we can continue to help is to provide meals for the Chapel Hill shelter. David Remington is glad to transport food over there to make this easier. Questions? Ask David Remington or Jan McKelvey. The SignUpGenius for preparing food or helping serve at the Chapel Hill site is:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4DA9AF2DA2FD0-59869192-meals#/>

WAYS TO GIVE - Giving Opportunities

The residents of **Orange County Correctional** are in need of personal hygiene items this Spring. Regular size toothpaste; Arm and Hammer Deodorant, Suave 3 in 1 body wash and shampoo. These can be brought to the OCC basket in the Narthex. They will be picked up and delivered monthly. Thank you for any items and prayers for our neighbors. Questions? See Robin Barnhill.

Many of you are aware of **OCIM** and its feeding of those in need. We are known as the “peanut butter church”. There is always a need for peanut butter --- creamy peanut butter, preferably. You may place peanut butter in the covered OCIM basket in the Narthex at any time. A jar can go in every bag given to a client. You can always see immediate needs in the weekly NewsFlash.

Check out our **HPC WEBSITE** at www.hillsboroughpres.org – click on any event on our calendar page for details! You will also find the monthly newsletter and Sunday bulletin posted on this website!

A great way to keep up with what's happening at HPC!

In an emergency or to share a concern, please contact the church office, 919-732-3131. You may also contact the Pastor, Reverend Alex Fischer, at hillsboroughpresrev@gmail.com.



THIS SUNDAY: January 11

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29;
Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

9:45 AM Joyful Noise Choir Rehearsal (#221)
9:45 AM Sunday School – for all ages!
11:00 AM Traditional Worship (Sanctuary / YouTube)
(Ordination and Installation of Officers)
12:15 PM Reception for Officers (Strudwick Hall)
5:00 PM Youth Group (Strudwick Hall)

Mon-11:00 AM Circle #1 (#204)

Wed - 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal (#221)

Fri - 6:00 PM Finish-It-Friday (Strudwick Hall)

Sat - 4:00 PM MLK Banquet (ticket required – see MLK article above)

Volunteers:

Liturgist: Sara Clay

Children's Sermon: Rev. Alex Fischer

Acolyte: Boone Curtis

Nursery: Ximena Ceja-Reyes, Chris O'Connor

Video: Lisa Fischer, Hervey McIver

NEXT SUNDAY: January 18

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11;
I Corinthians 1:21-9; John 1:29-42

9:45 AM Sunday School – for all ages!
11:00 AM Traditional Worship (Sanctuary / YouTube)
12:15 PM Building and Grounds meeting (#204)
5:00 PM Youth Group (Strudwick Hall)

Volunteers:

Liturgist: Vernon Cooper

Children's Sermon: Jane McIver

Acolyte: Luke Bernard

Nursery: Ximena Ceja-Reyes, Emma Cathey

Video: Kenneth Stephenson, Ben Stephenson