

Hillsborough Presbyterian Church

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[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 **Eighth Sunday after Pentecost** **July 19, 2026** **11:00 AM**

Reverend Alex Fischer, Pastor
Beth Jordan, Music Director *JoAnn Harrison, Secretary*

Gathering of the People

Prelude
Welcome

Glory to God, We Give You Thanks

Kerr

Praise of God

Call to Worship

One: Surely the Lord is in this place, and we did not know it.

All: We know it when we are gathered together as God's people.

One: Surely we are the Body of Christ.

All: We cannot say to one another, "I have no need of you."

One: Surely our God is a mystery that cannot be contained.

All: Let us worship our surprising and abiding God!

* Hymn No. 399

God Welcomes All

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;
God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

The musical score is for a hymn in 4/4 time, key of D major. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The treble staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The bass staff begins with a bass clef, the same key signature, and time signature. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the bass staff providing harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the staves. The second system also has two staves, continuing the melody and harmony. The lyrics continue below the staves. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Confession of Sin

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Lord, you have searched us and found us wanting. You have known our innermost thoughts and called us to better things. You have set us in this world to love and serve you by loving and serving one another, to worship you by tending to those most vulnerable among us. When we fail, do not abandon us. When we go astray, call us back home. Search us O God, and know our hearts. Test us and know our thoughts. Root out the harmful ways in us, and lead us in the way everlasting.

Sung Response No. 414

Be Still and Know That I Am God

Please join in singing this response.

Capo 4: (C) (Am) (C7) (Am)
E C#m E7 C#m

Be still and know that I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.

The musical score is for a sung response in 4/4 time, key of D major. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble staff. Above the staff, the chords are indicated: (C), (Am), (C7), and (Am). Below the staff, the notes are written. The lyrics are written below the staff. The second system also has a treble staff. Above the staff, the chords are indicated: (F), (C), (Dm), (Em), (Fmaj7), and (G7). Below the staff, the notes are written. The lyrics continue below the staff. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Words of Forgiveness

One: Family of faith, as the Psalmist declares, where can we go from God's spirit, or where can we flee from God's presence? Even if we take the wings of the morning or settle at the farthest limits of the sea, God's hand will find us and hold us fast. Proclaim the good news with me:

All: Our God does not abandon us to sin or brokenness. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and called back home. Thanks be to God.

* 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 $\flat$ F B $\flat$ F B $\flat$ F Gm F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

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

Reverend Alex Fischer

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 (pg. 1187)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Reverend Alex Fischer

Response to the Gospel

* Hymn

This is God's Wondrous World

(tune of "This Is My Father's World", #370)

1 This is God's wondrous world,
and to my list'ning ears
all nature sings,
and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is God's wondrous world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees,
of skies and seas,
the wonders God has wrought.

- 2 This is God's wondrous world:
the birds their carols raise,
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their Maker's praise.
This is God's wondrous world:
God shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass or mountain pass,
God's voice speaks everywhere.
- 3 This is God's wondrous world;
oh, let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong
seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is God's wondrous world;
the battle is not done.
Jesus who died
shall be glorified,
and earth and heav'n be one.

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. 33 ***Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show*** (vs. 3)

*Strings and voices, hands and hearts, Alleluia! in the concert, bear your parts, Alleluia!
All that breathes, your Lord adore, Alleluia! singing praise forevermore, Alleluia!*

* Prayer of Dedication

* Affirmation of Faith (from the Second Helvetic Confession)

The Church is an assembly of the faithful, called or gathered out of the world. They are all citizens of the one city, living under the same Lord, under the same laws, and in the same fellowship with all good things. Those who are in the Church have one faith and one spirit; they worship but one God, And in God alone they worship in spirit and truth. Hence, we must be very careful not to judge before the time, nor undertake to exclude, reject, or cut off those whom the Lord does not want to have excluded or rejected, and those whom we cannot eliminate without loss to the Church.

Go Forth to Serve

Invitation to Share and Serve

* Hymn No. 137

He Came Down

He came down that we may have love; he
came down that we may have love; he came down that we may
have love; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.

Leader: Why did he come?

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The lyrics are: 'He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.' The first system ends with a repeat sign. The second system includes a 'Leader' part: 'Leader: Why did he come?'. The third system ends with a final double bar line. There are triplets in the Soprano and Bass parts in the first and second systems.

Additional stanzas:

... that we may have light
... that we may have peace
... that we may have joy

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude

Sing Out Earth and Skies

Bennett

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CHURCH NOTES

July 19, 2026

WELCOME VISITORS! We welcome you to Hillsborough Presbyterian Church and to this worship and this live-stream 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: Rich Erdosy

Children's Sermon: Rev. Alex Fischer

Acolyte: Morgan Salem

Nursery: Ximena Ceja-Reyes, TBD

Video: Kenneth Stephenson, Ben Stephenson

Join us for **Lemonade on the Lawn** immediately following worship on Sunday mornings. To host, please use the sign-up sheet in the hallway outside the church office – available dates: August 23 and 30.

Community Outreach Committee will meet on Tuesday, July 21, at 7:00 PM in Room #204 and on Zoom. Questions? See Linda Jaubert.

Mark your calendar – **Vacation Bible School** will be Friday, July 24 – Sunday, July 26. This year's theme is *What's Cookin'*. Cooking is more than just mixing stuff together—it takes time, creativity, care, and knowing what each ingredient brings to the table. The same is true when it comes to growing our faith! Through Old Testament stories like those of Jacob, Moses, and Deborah, our young chefs will realize that God always makes time for us, God gave us gifts that make a difference, God makes us stronger together, and we make God known when we share our story. Schedule is:

- Friday, July 25 – 5:30 (dinner) to 8 p.m. (Location: Fairview Community Garden)
- Saturday, July 26 – 9 a.m. to noon (Location: HPC)
- Sunday, July 27 – 9 to 10:45 a.m. (Location: HPC)

Please click [here](#) to register. Please complete one registration form per child. For planning purposes, we'd like to have an idea of who will be attending, but advanced registration is not required. Questions or want to volunteer? See Katherine Cathey.

Women's Fellowship Breakfast at 9:00 AM on Saturday, July 25, in the HPC Parlor. Please join other women in the church for a time of food and fellowship. A breakfast table will be set up for children too! Questions, see Karoline Mathewson.

The Congregational Care Committee is planning a **church retreat** at New Hope Camp and Conference Center for **Saturday, August 1st from 3:00 – 7:30 PM**. Additional details coming soon. Questions? See Sam Nesbit or Jan McKelvey. Mark your calendar and join us on Saturday, August 1st!

HPC Book Club will not meet in July, but in preparation for our August 9th gathering we will be reading "1929: Inside the Greatest Crash in Wall Street History," by Andrew Ross Sorkin.

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! (Open dates: July 26; August 2, 9, 23, 30) (hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org)

WAYS TO GIVE - Giving Opportunities

Shoes and Pants Needed -- The residents of **Orange County Correctional** are in need of lightly used sneaker type men's shoes, especially sizes 9 to 12. They could also use men's pants sizes 38 to 42. As usual, they are in need of personal hygiene items. 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 it's 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. For immediate needs, see 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.



Give

app.easytithes.com

THIS SUNDAY: July 19 Communion and OCIM Collection

Lectionary Readings: Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24;
Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

9:45 AM Sunday School – for all ages!

11:00 AM Traditional Worship (Sanctuary / YouTube)
Communion and OCIM Collection

12:15 PM Lemonade on Lawn (TBD)

Tue - 7:00 PM Community Outreach (#204 / Zoom)

Wed – 1:00 PM HPC Newsletter Deadline

Fri - 5:30 PM Vacation Bible School (Fairview Community Garden)

Sat - 9:00 AM Vacation Bible School (Strudwick Hall)

Volunteers:

Liturgist: Rich Erdosy

Children's Sermon: Rev Alex Fischer

Acolyte: Morgan Salem

Nursery: Ximena Ceja-Reyes, TBD

Video: Kenneth Stephenson, Ben Stephenson

NEXT SUNDAY: July 26 Vacation Bible School

Lectionary Readings: Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11, 45b or Psalm 128;
Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:1-33, 44-52

9:00 AM Vacation Bible School (Strudwick Hall)

9:45 AM Sunday School – for all ages!

11:00 AM Traditional Worship (Sanctuary / YouTube)

12:15 PM Lemonade on Lawn (CE / VBS)

Volunteers:

Liturgist and Children's Sermon: Jane McIver

Acolyte: Nita Kate Shore

Nursery: Ximena Ceja-Reyes, TBD

Flowers: TBD

Video: Hervey McIver, Joe Crane