

Hillsborough Presbyterian Church

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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

Palm Sunday

March 29, 2026

11:00 AM

Reverend Alex Fischer, Pastor

Beth Jordan, Music Director

JoAnn Harrison, Secretary

Gathering of the People

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Prelude
Welcome

Miller

Praise of God

Call to Worship

*(Unless otherwise noted, all liturgy and prayers written or adapted from
Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org)*

One: Will you follow? Will you lay down your coat? Will you lay down something important?
Will you shout “Hosanna”? Will you join the parade? Will you sing, even if your throat is
hoarse? Will you cut down a palm branch? Will you wave it in the air? Will you follow the
one riding on a donkey? Will you let this good news inspire you to act?

All: We will. We will sing. We will pay close attention. We will worship. We will follow.

One: Hosanna in the highest!

All: Hosanna in the highest!

Conversation with the Children

Ann Sebesan

* Hymn No. 196

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re-deem-er, King,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho-san-nas ring!

1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
3 To thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
4 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

to Refrain
who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One.
our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King!

Confession of Sin

Call to Confession
Prayer of Confession

Jesus of Nazareth, we know that you spent your days teaching and healing. You marched through the streets and walked on water. You laid hands on the sick and broke bread at crowded dinner tables. Your good news was not confined to conversation. It was not confined to the Temple. Your good news was an act of love, alive in the world. Holy God, we long for a faith like that. Forgive us for the times when we confine our faith to something we think about, as opposed to something we act upon. Inspire us to love as you loved. Inspire us to act. With hope for tomorrow, we pray.

Silent Individual Confession

Sung Response No. 578

O Lord, Have Mercy

Please join in singing this response.

Capo 2: (G) (C) (D) (G)
A D E A

1 O Lord, have mer - cy; O Lord, have mer - cy; O
2 O Christ, have mer - cy; O Christ, have mer - cy; O

(E) (Am) (D) (G)
F# Bm E A

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.
Christ, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

Words of Forgiveness

One: Church family, whether or not you wave your palm branch, whether or not you live out your faith, whether or not you allow this good news to inspire your actions, God will never stop loving you. Jesus will never stop marching for you. The Spirit will never stop listening to you.

All: We are claimed, loved, and held in grace. What good, good news. Amen!

* 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.

(F) (C) (Dm) (Em) (Fmaj7) (G7)
A E F#m G#m Amaj7 B7

Be still and know that I am God.

Sharing of God's Word

Anthem

Hosanna! Hosanna!
Jane Brown, violin

Martin

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

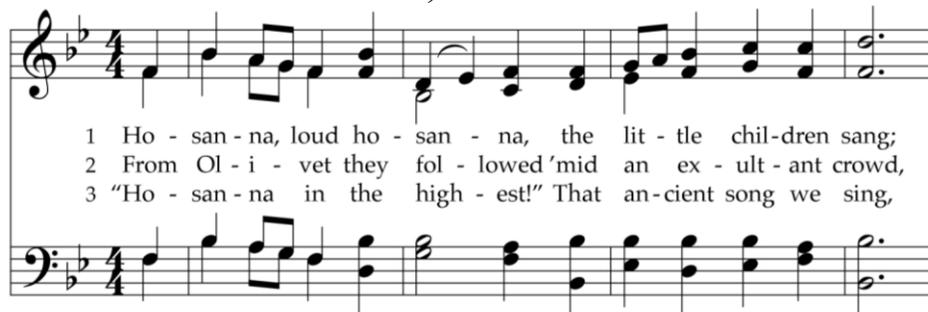
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

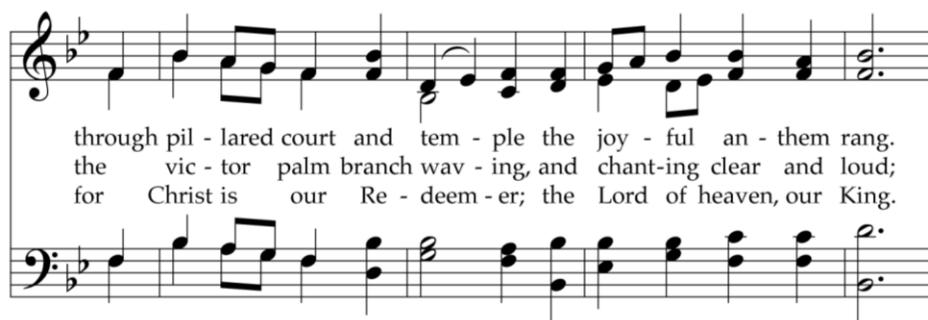
Reverend Alex Fischer

Response to the Gospel

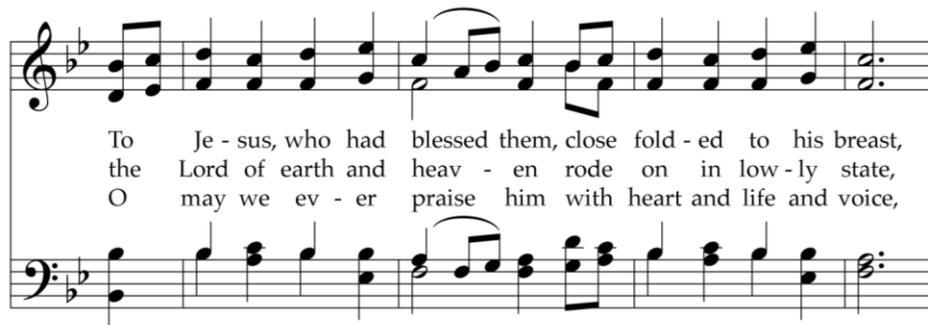
* Hymn No. 197

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna


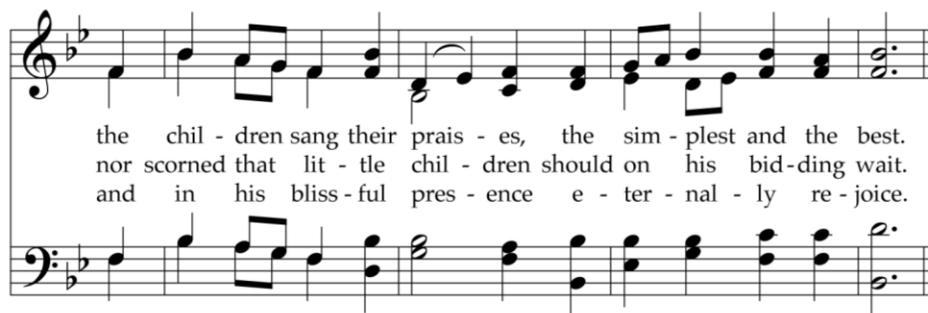
1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,



through pil - lared court and tem - ple the joy - ful an - them rang.
 the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud;
 for Christ is our Re - deem - er; the Lord of heaven, our King.



To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,
 the Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,
 O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,



the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
 nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait.
 and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

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; 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. 701

Lord, Prepare Me

*Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving I'll be a living sanctuary for you.*

* Prayer of Dedication

* Affirmation of Faith

One: We believe in Jesus of Nazareth,

All: who rode through the streets of Jerusalem on a donkey.

One: We believe in Jesus of Nazareth,

All: who challenged Rome's oppressive power with peaceful protest.

One: We believe in Jesus of Nazareth,

All: who was surrounded by crowds of dreamers and believers.

One: We believe in Jesus of Nazareth,

All: so even today, we will sing songs of loudest praise. Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Go Forth to Serve

Invitation to Share and Serve

* Hymn No. 200

A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd



1 A cheer - ing, chant - ing, diz - zy crowd had
2 They laid their gar - ments in the road and
3 When day dimmed down to deep - ening dark the
4 Lest we be fooled be - cause our hearts have
5 In - stead of palms, a wind - ing sheet will



stripped the green trees bare, and hail - ing Christ as
spread his path with palms and vows of last - ing
crowd be - gan to fade till on - ly tram - pled
surged with pass - ing praise, re - mind us, God, as
have to be un - rolled, a car - pet much more



king a - loud, waved branch - es in the air.
love be - stowed with roy - al hymns and psalms.
leaves and bark were left from the pa - rade.
this week starts where Christ has fixed his gaze.
fit to greet the king a cross will hold.

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude

Whoever lets our dear God rule

Bach



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CHURCH NOTES

March 29, 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: Ann Sebesan

Children’s Sermon: Ann Sebesan

Acolyte: Boone Curtis

Nursery: Ximena Ceja-Reyes, Chris O’Connor

Video: Alicia Gonzalez, Lisa Fischer

HPC will be collecting the **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering** on March 29 and April 5th, Easter Sunday. The PCUSA participates in this special offering each year, and designates the funds received to disaster, hunger, poverty, climate change, and immigration/migration and refugees. **If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.** You can give your offering with cash (using an envelope stating it is for the OGHS offering), by check and putting OGHS in the memo line, or you can use the online link from our website. The dropdown list includes the OGHS Offering.

Please join us for a **Dad shower** for Harrison Flinn on Sunday, March 29, at 5 pm in Strudwick. It will be a potluck supper and all are welcome! His baby boy is due in April. Cake will be provided!

Join us for **our Good Friday Worship at 7:30 PM on Friday, April 3.** This will be very similar to a “Tenebrae” service. We will hear the story of Jesus’ arrest and crucifixion read aloud and extinguish candles as we move through the service. It will be simple and contemplative.

On **Easter Sunday, April 5**, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus together! We will have a sunrise service with communion in the cemetery (7:30 AM). Following this service, Men’s Fellowship invites us to share breakfast together in Strudwick Hall. (Don’t worry if you aren’t coming to the early service, you can still come for breakfast a little later in the morning!) Christian Education will then sponsor an Easter egg hunt for the children (10:00 AM) and then we will have a traditional worship service together in the sanctuary at 11am. As always, all are welcome to all these events!

HPC Coffee & Tea Club will gather on Thursday, April 2, at 9:00 AM at The Village Diner. All are welcome to join us! Questions? See Joe Crane.

HPC's Youth Group (grades 6-12) will gather at 5:00 PM on Sundays, April 12, 19 and 26, at 5:00 PM in Strudwick Hall. If you would like to provide a Sunday meal for our youth, please use sign-up genius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0445A8A729A3FB6-58001396-2526#/>. Interested in being an adult volunteer? Other questions? See Eric Cathey.

Through our **Faith in Hillsborough partnership with Habitat for Humanity** HPC can volunteer at the Weavers Grove housing project or Fairview. There is space for 10 volunteers (shared with St. Matthews). No skills are necessary but you must be 16 years or older for homebuilding and 14 for the landscaping. Sign up online. Look for the link to register in an HPC News email from Hervey McIver sent March 25. Any questions contact Jan McKelvey, Joe Crane or Hervey. The dates are:

- April 11, 8:30-noon Weavers Grove homebuilding
- April 25, Noon-4:00 Weavers Grove homebuilding
- May 2, 9:00-noon Natural landscaping at Odie St. in Fairview
- May 9, 8:30-noon Weavers Grove homebuilding
- May 23, 8:30-noon Weavers Grove homebuilding

An invitation to a **Community Lecture Series** offered by the Orange County Historical Museum as we celebrate 250 years of our country – all are welcome! Talks will be highlighting important historical documents. Join them in Strudwick Hall at 4:30 PM on Saturdays, April 4, 11, 18.

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 has long been a place where people of all ages grow in faith, fellowship and leadership. The camp is seeking volunteers to serve on committees: Finance, B&G, Strategic Growth & Marketing, Personnel. Camp staff and Board directors are working hard to re-vitalize the camp. We need your time and talents. Donations can be designated as part of your Sunday offering at HPC or donate directly to <https://newhopedonations.campbraingiving.com/>. Contact: Jan McKelvey, HPC representative to New Hope Camp.

Cold Weather Shelter (828 MLK Jr. Blvd., Chapel Hill): Hillsborough residents needing transportation to the Chapel Hill cold weather shelter may contact the Street Outreach Team by 6 p.m. at (919) 886-3351 for assistance. Questions? Ask David Remington or Jan McKelvey.

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.



Give

app.easytithes.com

THIS SUNDAY: March 29 Palm Sunday

Lectionary Readings: Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14 – 27:66

- 9:45 AM Sunday School – for all ages!
11:00 AM Traditional Worship and One Great Hour of Sharing Offering (Sanctuary / YouTube)
5:00 PM Potluck and Dad Shower for Harrison Flinn (Strudwick Hall)

- Wed** - 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal (#221)
Thu – 9:00 AM HPC Coffee & Tea (Village Diner)
Fri - 7:30 PM Good Friday Tenebrae Worship
Sat - 4:30 PM Museum Lecture Series (Strudwick)

Volunteers:

Liturgist and Children's Sermon: Ann Sebesan
Acolyte: Boone Curtis
Nursery: Ximena Ceja-Reyes, Chris O'Connor
Flowers: Palm Branches
Video: Alicia Gonzalez, Lisa Fischer

NEXT SUNDAY: April 5 Easter Sunday

Lectionary Readings: Acts 10:34-43; Jeremiah 31:1-6; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4; Matthew 28:1-10; John 20:1-18

- 7:30 AM Easter Sunrise Worship (in Cemetery – weather permitting – or in Strudwick Hall) followed by Easter Breakfast (Strudwick Hall)
10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt for Children
11:00 AM Traditional Worship (Sanctuary / YouTube)

Volunteers:

Liturgist: Vernon Cooper
Children's Sermon: Barbara Younger
Acolyte: Marley Salem
Nursery: Ximena Ceja-Reyes, TBD
Flowers: Easter Lilies
Video: Alicia Gonzalez, Joe Crane