

Hillsborough Presbyterian Church

102 West Tryon Street

Hillsborough, N. C. 27278

919-732-3131

Post Office Box 717

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 Third Sunday after Epiphany January 25, 2026 11:00 AM

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

Gathering of the People

Lord of All Good

Fedak

Make a Joyful Noise and Shalom

Joyful Noise Choir

Prelude
Welcome
Introit

Praise of God

Call to Worship (by Rev. Kathleen Sheets)

One: To the fisherman Jesus said:

All: "Follow me and I will make you fish for people."

One: To the tax collector Jesus said:

All: "Follow me."

One: To the rich man Jesus said:

All: "Go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."

One: At the last supper Jesus said:

All: "Follow me."

One: To you and to me and to all of us Jesus says:

All: Follow me!

* Hymn No. 450

Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) E♭ (G) A♭ (D/F♯) E♭/G (A7) B♭7 (D) E♭

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) B♭ (D) E♭ (G) A♭ (A) B♭

naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) A♭ (D) E♭ (F♯m7) Gm7 (G) A♭ (A) B♭

thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) Cm (D/F♯) E♭/G (G) A♭ (D) E♭

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Confession of Sin

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression.

Lord have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

Silent Individual Confession

Sung Response No. 698

Take, O Take Me as I Am

Please join in singing this response.

Words of Forgiveness

One: Now and always, we belong to God. Jesus continues to call us, saying, "Come and follow me." The Spirit is always with us as an advocate and giver of life.

Many: Now and always, because of God's grace: we are the forgiven people of God. Thanks be to God, amen.

* Response No. 582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Please join in singing this response.

Sharing of God's Word

Conversation with the Children

Reverend Alex Fischer

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Matthew 4:12-23 (pg. 1172)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Sun of My Soul

arr. Forrest

Scripture Reading

I Corinthians 1:10-18 (pg. 1385)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Reverend Alex Fischer

Response to the Gospel

* Hymn No. 721

Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

D A D

1 Lord, you have come to the lake - shore look - ing
 2 You know so well my pos - ses - sions; my boat
 3 You need my hands, full of car - ing, through my
 4 You, who have fished oth - er o -ceans, ev - er

G A A7

nei - ther for wealth - y nor wise ones; you on - ly
 car - ries no gold and no weap - ons; you will
 la - bors to give oth - ers rest and con - stant
 longed for by souls who are wait - ing, my lov - ing

D A D D7

asked me to fol - low hum - bly.
 find there my nets and la - bor.
 love that keeps on lov - ing.
 friend, as thus you call me:

Refrain / Estribillo

G D

O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me, and while
 Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos, son - ri -

A7 G A7 D D7

smil - ing have spo - ken my name; now my
 en - do has di - cho mi nom - bre, en lag -

G F#m B7

boat's left on the shore-line be - hind me. By your
 re - na he de - ja - do mi bar - ca, jun - tq a

Em A7 D

side I will seek oth - er seas.

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. 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, alleluia!

* Prayer of Dedication

* Affirmation of Faith (from the Iona Abbey Worship Book)

We believe in God in whom there is power and compassion. We believe in the Creator who gave birth to the universe, set solar systems dancing in space, shaped molecules and mountains, and conceived beauty beyond our imagining. God's power topples tyrants, and brings down walls of separation; God's love embodies the tenderness of a mother and father, encouraging and caring for each of us.

We believe in Jesus, born in obscurity in an occupied land; a human being, vulnerable to hunger, thirst, persecution, and grief. He understood the power of love and confronted the powers of evil, spoke the truth with courage and clarity, forgave his enemies and changed lives. In his living, dying, and rising again he showed love strong enough to save the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who sustains, comforts, and empowers us, opens the scriptures, opens our minds, and illuminates earth's darkness.

Go Forth to Serve

Invitation to Share and Serve

* Hymn No. 746

Send Me, Jesus

* Charge and Benediction
* Postlude

How Firm a Foundation

Kerr



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CHURCH NOTES

January 25, 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.

The **FLOWERS** are shared today with thankfulness to God by Vibeke and Joe Talley for Charles Absalon Talley born in Durham, NC to David Talley, who grew up in this church, and his wife Julie last October 30th.

Assisting in Worship today:

Liturgist: Rich Erdosy

Children’s Sermon: Reverend Alex Fischer

Acolyte: Nita Kate Shore

Nursery: Ximena Ceja-Reyes, Stephanie Morgan

Video: Kenneth Stephenson, Ben Stephenson

HPC’s Youth Group (grades 6-12) will gather at 5:00 PM on Sundays, at 5:00 PM in Strudwick Hall. Interested in being an adult volunteer? Other questions? See Eric Cathey.

The **Session** will meet in Room #204 or on Zoom at 7:00 PM on Monday, January 26. Questions? See Pastor Alex or Clerk of Session, Jane McIver.

HPC Directory – If you have any updates for the HPC Directory – please pass them along to the church office. Need a new photo? Let us know that too! (hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org)

The Annual Meeting of the Corporation will be held in February at 12:15pm (following worship) in Strudwick Hall. We will have a potluck lunch and hear from our various committee moderators about life in the church in 2025. We will send out an electronic copy of the Annual Report via HPC News, but if you would like a physical copy, please contact JoAnn and she can print it for you. Please join us and plan to bring something tasty to share!

Joyful Noise Children's Choir will meet on Sundays, February 8 and 22, at 9:45 AM in Room #221 for rehearsal. They will sing in worship on February 22. Questions? See Beth Jordan.

Women's Fellowship - we will not have a last Saturday breakfast in January. The breakfasts will resume at 9:00 AM on Saturday, February 28 in Strudwick Hall. Questions, see Karoline Mathewson.

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. (see details in the HPC January newsletter). Join them on Saturdays, January 31 and again on February 7, 14 and 21. Talks will continue on March 21 and 28 and April 4, 11 and 18 – those topics will be coming soon. All talks begin at 4:30 PM in Strudwick Hall.

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 currently 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. You can too! We need your time and talents. Donations for February are still needed. Designate 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, janmckelvey128@gmail.com, 919-260-9024, or catch me at church.

Cold Weather Shelter: Hillsborough residents needing transportation to the Chapel Hill cold weather shelter located at 828 MLK Jr. Blvd. may contact the Street Outreach Team by 6 p.m. at (919) 886-3351 for assistance and availability. For the rest of January and the month of February, four churches in Chapel Hill will manage the food service to the Chapel Hill shelter. Questions? Ask David Remington or Jan McKelvey. **NOTE:** Church members hosting evening groups should be aware that unhoused people may ask for assistance, as occurred last Friday night. Let's help them by either calling the Street Outreach Team, or taking them down to the Chapel Hill shelter if that is the best option.

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 25

Lectionary Readings: Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 4-9;
I Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23

9:45 AM Joyful Noise Choir Rehearsal (#221)
9:45 AM Sunday School – for all ages!
11:00 AM Traditional Worship (Sanctuary / YouTube)
12:15 PM HPC Book Club (Strudwick Hall)
5:00 PM Youth Group (Strudwick Hall)

Mon- 7:00 PM Session Meeting (#204/Zoom)

Wed – 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal (#221)

Sat - 4:30 PM Museum Community Lecture Series (Strudwick)

Volunteers:

Liturgist: Rich Erdosy

Children's Sermon: Rev. Alex Fischer

Acolyte: Nita Kate Shore

Nursery: Ximena Ceja-Reyes, Stephanie Morgan

Video: Kenneth Stephenson, Ben Stephenson

NEXT SUNDAY: February 1

Lectionary Readings: Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15;
I Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

9:45 AM Sunday School – for all ages!
10:00 AM Called Session Meeting
11:00 AM Traditional Worship (Sanctuary / YouTube)
5:00 PM Youth Group (Strudwick Hall)

Volunteers:

Liturgist: Jane Gaede

Children's Sermon: Barbara Younger

Acolyte: Gabe Hall

Nursery: Ximena Ceja-Reyes, Chris O'Connor

Video: TBD