

# Hillsborough Presbyterian Church

102 West Tryon Street  
Hillsborough, N. C. 27278  
919-732-3131

Post Office Box 717

[www.hillsboroughpres.org](http://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**

**Earth Day Celebration**

**April 19, 2026**

**11:00 AM**

*Reverend Alex Fischer, Pastor*

*Beth Jordan, Music Director*

*JoAnn Harrison, Secretary*

### **Gathering of the People**

Prelude  
Introit  
Welcome

*A Place at the Table  
Alleluia! Praise the Lord*

Tate  
Joyful Noise Choir

## Praise of God

Call to Worship (from Psalm 104, adapted by National Council of Churches)

One: Today we celebrate the work of our Creator. Let us praise God!

**All: Praise God, o my soul!**

One: You have set the earth firmly on its foundations, and it will never be moved.

**All: Praise God, o my soul!**

One: You provide water for the wild animals.

**All: Praise God, o my soul!**

One: From the sky you send rain on the hills, and the earth is filled with your blessings.

**All: Praise God, o my soul!**

One: You created the moon to mark the months; the sun knows what time to set.

**All: Praise God, o my soul!**

One: Lord, you have made so many things! How wisely you made them all! All depend on you.

**All: I will sing to the Lord all my life; as long as I live I will sing praises to God!**

\* Hymn No. 15

### *All Creatures of Our God and King (vs. 1, 2, 4, 6)*

*Unison*

1 All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice  
2 O broth-er wind with clouds and rain, you nur-ture gifts  
3 O broth-er fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shad-  
4 All who for love of God for-give, all who in pain

*Harmony*

and with us sing, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
of fruit and grain. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
ows of the night. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
or sor-row grieve, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

*Unison*

O broth-er sun with gold-en beam, O sis-ter moon  
O sis-ter wa-ter, flow-ing clear, make mu-sic for  
Dear moth-er earth, who day by day un-folds such bless-  
Christ bears your bur-dens and your fears; so, e-ven in

*Harmony*

with sil - ver gleam, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 your Lord to hear. Sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ings on our way, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 the midst of tears, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Unison*

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,  
 waiting to hush our final breath:  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,  
 fair is the night that leads us home.  
 Sing praises! Alleluia!  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,  
 and worship God with humble heart.  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son,  
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
 Sing praises! Alleluia!  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### Confession of Sin

#### Call to Confession

Beloved, we are made in the divine image and God called us good. Yet we go our own way, causing harm to ourselves, to one another, and to the planet.

Confident in the mercy of the One who made us and saved us, let us confess our sin to God to another.

#### Prayer of Confession

Hymn No. 490

#### Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (G)  
 F Dm B<sup>b</sup>

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,  
 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

(D) (Bm)  
 F Dm

(G) (D) (A)  
B<sup>b</sup> 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<sup>b</sup> 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<sup>b</sup> 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!

Silent Individual Confession

Words of Forgiveness

One: In the water of baptism, God pours out mercy and blessing. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace as you share that blessing with others and care for this good earth, that all creation may declare God's glory.

**All: We are God's children. We are numbered among God's people. Thanks be to God, 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<sup>b</sup> F B<sup>b</sup> F B<sup>b</sup> 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<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> 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) (Bdim7) (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

Ben Stephenson

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Luke 24:13-35 (pg. 1287)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

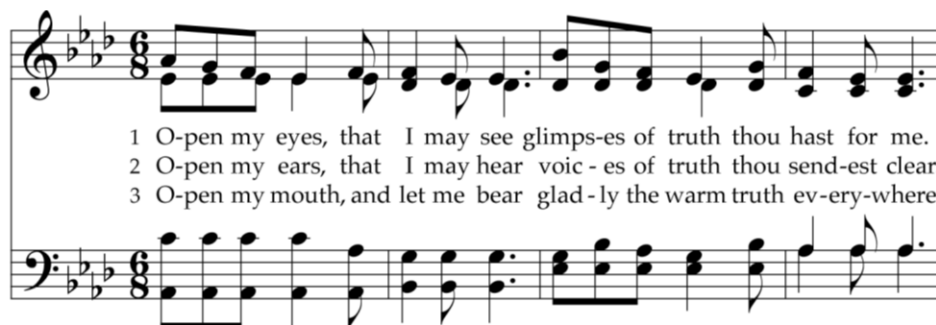
Sermon

Reverend Alex Fischer

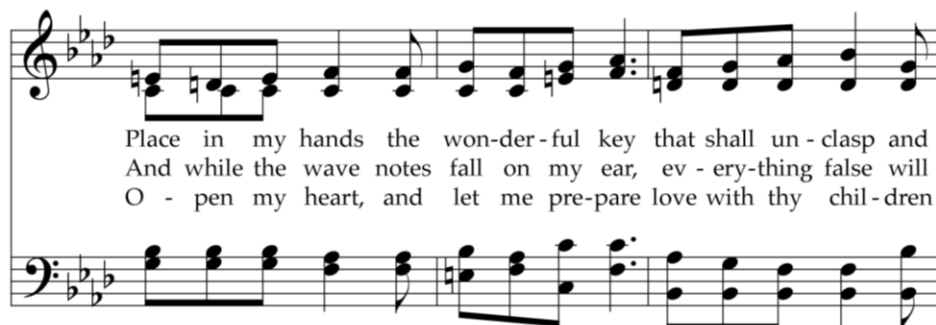
## Response to the Gospel

\* Hymn No. 451

### *Open My Eyes, That I May See*



1 O-pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou hast for me.  
2 O-pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth thou send-est clear.  
3 O-pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth ev-ery-where.



Place in my hands the won-der - ful key that shall un - clasp and  
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev - ery-thing false will  
O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare love with thy chil - dren



set me free. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy  
dis - ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy  
thus to share. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy



will to see. O-pen my eyes; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!  
will to see. O-pen my ears; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!  
will to see. O-pen my heart; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!

## Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Prayer

Words of Institution, Sharing of the Meal

Hymn No. 247

### *Now the Green Blade Rises*

1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,  
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,  
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,

wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
your touch can call us back to life a - gain;

love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;  
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

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, alleluia!*

\* Prayer of Dedication

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

**We believe in God, who is older than eternity and younger than our next breath; who is beyond describing yet knows us all by name; who inspires faith yet cannot be contained by religion.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone; he came in the body to give worth to every human life. He touched the untouchable, loved the unlovable, and endured slander, persecution, and death.**

**We believe that God's realm comes on earth through Christ's suffering love. He rose from the grave as living proof that what is laid down in faith will be raised in glory. He ascended to heaven to be present at all times to all people.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, who leads us into truth and freedom, who gives good gifts to all God's children, who works through prayer and politics, through justice, care of creation, and the healing of the nations.**

**We celebrate the potential God has given: the life in our bodies, the yearning in our souls, the promise of good things in store for those who love and serve their maker.**

**Go Forth to Serve**

Invitation to Share and Serve

\* Hymn No. 14

***For the Beauty of the Earth***

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,  
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:  
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

\* Charge and Benediction

\* Postlude

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*

Tate

††††††††††

## CHURCH NOTES

**April 19, 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 to the Glory of God by Carol Childers.

Assisting in Worship today:

**Liturgist:** Jane McIver

**Children’s Sermon:** Ben Stephenson

**Nursery:** Ximena Ceja-Reyes, Chris O’Connor

**Video:** Martin and Judy Brown

Join us for **Earth Care Sunday** on April 19, with an outdoor worship service at the Memorial Wall, celebrating Earth Day. Communion will be shared during the service. After worship, everyone is invited to stay for fellowship — please bring your own lunch, and the Stewardship Committee will provide tea, water, and lemonade. There will also be a fun learning activity for all ages during lunch. **(No online worship on April 19.)**

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.

**HPC’s Youth Group** (grades 6-12) will gather at 5:00 PM on Sundays, April 19 and 26, in Strudwick Hall. To provide a Sunday meal for our youth, please use sign-up genius: [Click Here](#). Interested in being an adult volunteer? Other questions? See Eric Cathey.

The **HPC Book Club** will gather immediately following outdoor worship on April 19. The April selection is the non-fiction “Superbloom,” by Nicholas Carr. Questions? See Rich Erdosy.

The Stewardship Committee invites you to an **Earth Care Program** we are hosting as part of the Climate Challenge sponsored by the Hillsborough Green Team. Susannah Tuttle, M. Div, as a staff member of the North Carolina Council of Churches, will be giving a presentation at our church on **April 19<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM**, called *Our Power, Our Planet*. Please join us as we welcome Susannah Tuttle as a continuation of our Earth Day Celebration of HPC. Also, see the Climate Challenge that’s happening in Hillsborough from April 1<sup>st</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> (the actual Earth Day). See the full calendar of events and see detailed descriptions in the online Green Guide ([Click Here](#)). Please mark your calendars and participate in as many of these events as you can. Questions? See Linda Jaubert.

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

The deadline for the May edition of **“The Church Mouse”** will be Thursday, April 23, at 1:00 PM. ([hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org](mailto:hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org))

**Women’s Fellowship Breakfast** at 9:00 AM on Saturday, April 25, in Strudwick Hall. 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 will meet on Sunday, April 26, immediately following worship in Room #204. All are welcome to join us. Questions? See Sam Nesbit.

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 email from Hervey McIver sent March 25. Questions? Contact Jan McKelvey, Joe Crane or Hervey. Dates are:

- 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
- June 13, 9:00-noon Natural landscaping at Odie St. in Fairview

**New Hope Camp** invites you to participate in **Bystander CPR/AED Training** offered at the camp on Saturday, June 6, at 9:00am. No charge. While this short course does not cover the CPR certification required at some places of employment, it does provide a completion certificate, and you could save a life! Register: <https://www.compressandshock.org/event-details/new-hope-camp-conference-center>  
Goal: If there are 25 or more participants, New Hope Camp will receive a free AED. Let's keep our community safe and help the camp.

**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: April 26, May 3, 10, 24, 31) ([hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org](mailto:hpchurch@hillsboroughpres.org))

**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.

\*\*\*\*\*

**CHURCH CONCERNS**

- \* Allen Johnson.
- \* Jane Ann Mogilski and Phil Weber, Jane Ann’s son Nathan died unexpectedly on April 4.
- \* Everyone affected locally and globally by conflict. Prayers for peace and justice, and for violence and death to cease.

††††††††††††††††

To add or remove a name from our Church Concerns –  
please call or email the church office by Thursday morning.

††††††††††††††††

Check out our **HPC WEBSITE** at [www.hillsboroughpres.org](http://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](mailto:hillsboroughpresrev@gmail.com).



Give

[app.easytithe.com](http://app.easytithe.com)

**THIS SUNDAY: April 19 Earth Day Celebration**

**Lectionary Readings:** Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19;  
I Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35

- 9:45 AM Sunday School – for all ages!
- 9:45 AM Joyful Noise Rehearsal (#221)
- 11:00 AM Outdoor Worship - Communion and OCIM Food Collection  
(Outside at Memorial Wall – no online worship)
- 12:15 PM Bring Your Picnic Lunch and spend time with your  
HPC Family (Strudwick Hall)
- 12:30 PM HPC Book Club (Strudwick Hall or #204)
- 4:00 PM Eco-Justice Talk – *Our Power, Our Planet* (Strudwick Hall)
- 5:00 PM Youth Group (Room #204)

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

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

**Thu - 1:00 PM** May Newsletter Deadline

**Fri - 6:00 PM** Duke Center for Documentary Studies Student Presentations  
– all welcome! (Strudwick Hall)

**Sat - 9:00 AM** Women's Fellowship Breakfast (Strudwick)

12:00 PM HPC at Weavers Grove Habitat Site

**Volunteers:**

**Liturgist:** Jane McIver

**Children's Sermon:** Ben Stephenson

**Nursery:** Ximena Ceja-Reyes, Chris O'Connor

**Flowers:** Carol Childers

\*\*\*\*\*

**NEXT SUNDAY: April 26**

**Lectionary Readings:** Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; I Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

- 9:45 AM Sunday School – for all ages!
- 9:45 AM Joyful Noise Rehearsal (#221)
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship (Sanctuary / YouTube)
- 12:15 PM Lemonade on Lawn (Harrell/Magill Family)
- 12:15 PM Congregational Care Meeting (#204)
- 5:00 PM Youth Group (Strudwick Hall)

**Volunteers:**

**Liturgist and Children's Sermon:** Hervey McIver

**Acolyte:** Luke Bernard

**Nursery:** Ximena Ceja-Reyes, TBD

**Lemonade on Lawn:** Harrell/Magill Family

**Flowers:** TBD

**Video:** Kenneth Stephenson, Ben Stephenson