



AGES
PAST AND

YEARS
TO COME

Highland
PRESBYTERIAN

HIGHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastor: Randy Harris

Associate Pastor: Debbie Layman

Associate Pastor: Courtney Stevens

Pastor Emeritus: Steve McCutchan

Director of Christian Education: Heather Ferguson

Director of Music: Chris Gilliam

Organist: Susan Bates

(336) 724-6303

www.highlandpres.org

2380 Cloverdale Avenue

Winston-Salem, NC 27103-2012

NOVEMBER 17, 2024 • THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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NOVEMBER 17, 2024

11:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

As we light candles on the Retable, place the Bible at the Lectern, pour water in the Baptismal Font, and set the Communion Table, we are reminded of the light of Christ, present in Word and Sacrament.

A WORD OF WELCOME

PRELUDE *Fanfare and Processional* Lynn Trapp

CHORAL INTROIT *This Is the Day* Mark Hayes

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O God, you summon the day to dawn,
you teach the morning to waken the earth.

All: Great is your name! Great is your love!

One: For you the valleys shall sing for joy,
the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

All: Great is your name! Great is your love!

One: For you the leaders of the earth shall bow,
the poor and persecuted shall shout for joy.

All: Great is your name! Great is your love!

One: Your love and mercy shall last forever,
fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise.

All: Great is your name! Great is your love!

PRAYER OF PRAISE

(*) When this symbol precedes an element of the service, you are invited to rise in body or spirit.

* **HYMN 611** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* HYMN TO JOY

THE CHURCH LOOKS TO ITS PAST

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you have called us to be the church, to continue the mission of Jesus Christ in our lonely and confused world.

Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active,
more isolated than involved, more callous than compassionate.

Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us.

Free us to live as your representatives in a broken world.

Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your Spirit,
we ask in Jesus' name.

The prayer continues in a time of silent confession.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

*RESPONSE *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* GTG 582

GTG = *Glory to God*
hymnal

*A TIME OF SHARING GOD'S PEACE

*RESPONSE 301 *All Are Welcome* TWO OAKS

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
all are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

God's grace and forgiveness call for a response! We respond to this good news with song, and with words and gestures of welcome and peace.

THE WORD FOR GOD'S PEOPLE IN THE PRESENT

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Exodus 19:1-6 Page 65

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON 1 Peter 2:4-10 Page 233

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *We Are the Church Together* Randy Harris

THE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*HYMN 321 *The Church's One Foundation* AURELIA

Stanza 1: Unison

Stanza 2: High Voices

Stanza 3: Choir

Stanza 4: Low Voices

Stanza 5: Unison

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *A Declaration of Faith* (PCUSA)

One: Gathered around the Word and sacraments,
those who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior,
together with their children,
have formed a corporate, visible body
in pilgrimage with God across the centuries.

All: The church has sought to order its life and ministry in obedience to the teaching of the first apostles. It has attempted to carry out Christ's commission in various institutional forms and structures that demonstrate both continuity and change.

Left: We acknowledge that Christ chooses to be known in the world through this community of ordinary people, therefore we dare not despise or abandon the church.

Right: **Christ is the head of the church, therefore we are responsible to Christ when we make policy and decisions in the church.**

Choir: Christ is the foundation of the church, therefore it will not fall despite our weakness.

One: We are confident that the Lord of the church will judge and defeat our sinful intentions and actions, help us in our weakness and blindness, and use the church to accomplish his purposes.

All: **Jesus is Lord!**
He has been Lord from the beginning.
He will be Lord at the end.
Even now he is Lord. Amen!

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.

ANTHEM

The Splendor of God
Chancel Choir
See anthem text at Hymn 361

Dan Locklair

Our anthem today is composed by Dan Locklair and was commissioned in celebration of Highland's 75th anniversary.

THE CHURCH LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

*HYMN 700 *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* I'M GONNA LIVE

Presenting Today's Offerings and Our Commitments for 2025

(We will continue singing as needed through the offering.)

*Litany of Dedication

One: O God, you have entrusted us with gifts—

All: time, talent, relationships, energy, money—

One: and asked us to use them to serve your kingdom.

All: With thanks and praise we respond to your call.

One: We bring our gifts in response to the gifts you have given.

All: We offer ourselves, our lives, our dollars, and our hours.

**We commit ourselves to work for your world,
to love and serve wherever you call.**

One: We ask your blessing on this, your church,

as we seek to follow you with heart, mind, and soul.

**All: Bless also these gifts, our investment in your future,
that they may multiply in faith, hope, and love. Amen.**

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*HYMN *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* ST. ANNE

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

We praise you for your witnesses who now have run their race;
we thank you for their faithfulness in serving you with grace.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, will bear us on our way;
those saints who served you in the past help shape us for today.

The church, with ministries of love, bears witness in our day
to Jesus Christ our Savior, Lord who guides us on our way.

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.

Stanzas 3–5 of this hymn have been re-written for our anniversary celebration. They reflect our gratitude for saints past and present, and our trust in God for the future.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Grand Choeur

Théodore Dubois

*RECESSIONAL TO ACTIVITY BUILDING

WORSHIP NOTES

Today's bulletin cover is the logo for Highland's 75th anniversary. Designed by Hayes Henderson, the theme is taken from words from our final hymn.

We welcome to worship leadership Julio Jeri and Hannah Markun, trumpets; Amanda Friedman, French horn; Cameron MacManus, trombone; Jared Gibert, bass trombone; Beverly Naiditch, percussion. We welcome Eric Sparkin, leading our processional on the bagpipes.

***Bless You!*—Our prayers for one another.** FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 17, please pray for Olivia Barrett; Jay and Janine Cutchin; Sean Halstead; Matt and Cordelia Hux; Rhenda Steele; Betty Burgess; Catherine Dallas; Erin Doyle; Fran Hawkins; Sara and Bruce Smith. *The Lord bless you and keep you. (Numbers 6:24)*

CALENDAR

Sunday November 17

- 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary
- 12:30 p.m. Highland's 75th Anniversary Lunch, Fellowship Hall

Monday November 18

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor
- 5:30 p.m. Long Range Planning Committee

Tuesday November 19

- 10:00 a.m. Coffee & Conversation, Camel City Coffee
- 6:30 p.m. Adult Christian Education Committee
- 7:00 p.m. Listening to Black Voices Group

Wednesday November 20

- 7:00 p.m. Men's Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Lamentations & Laughter, AB 5
- 5:30 p.m. Highland Ukuleles, Room 127
- 6:30 p.m. Arts in Worship, Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Room 100

Thursday November 21

- 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study, Ardmore Room
- 5:45 p.m. Community Service Committee, Ardmore Room
- 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee
- 7:30 p.m. Young Adults, Radar Brewing

For more information about the events in this calendar, please pick up a copy of *Highlights*, the church newsletter, in the Narthex or Gallery Hall.

Check www.highlandpres.org, for changes or cancellations.

WELCOME TO HIGHLAND

We extend a warm welcome to all who come to this sanctuary today. May you find in this place and among the people gathered here grace and peace from the living Christ who has promised to be present with us. To learn more about Highland, scan the QR code with your phone.

If you are visiting with us today, please include your contact information on the Visitor Card that you can find in the pew rack. You may place the card in the offering plate when it is passed. If you are a college or graduate school student, add your school name to the card as well.

Large-print Bibles, bulletins, and hearing aids are available. Please ask an usher if you need assistance.

A Loop Assisted Hearing System is in place in Highland's Sanctuary. You can access this service by switching your hearing aid's T-coil to "On" and adjusting the volume control if needed; you may also request a headset from an usher.

Childcare is available during the worship service. Children up to age five are welcome in Room 112 located on the first floor near the Chapel. All volunteers are vaccinated and will be masked. **During worship** we also offer a room for Children & Parents, Room 216, which is a friendly space near the Sanctuary where parents can tend to the needs of their child and still share in the livestreamed service.

We offer online ways to give in addition to our traditional giving in the offering plate. To give via smart phone, you may text the word *highland* to 73256 or scan the QR code. We are thankful for your generous sharing!



We are a Matthew 25 Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Matthew 25:31-46 calls all of us to engage actively in the world around us, helping our faith come alive. As a Matthew 25 congregation we pledge to work on *building congregational vitality*, *dismantling structural racism*, and *eradicating systemic poverty*. Learn more at pcusa.org/matthew25.

The banners and other visual liturgical art in the Sanctuary were crafted by Highland's Arts and Worship Team for our 75th Anniversary. Members include Amy Archambault, Jamie Blankinship, Clara Bryant-Prosterman, Lola Culler, Wendy Guerry, Carla Romere, Patrick Simpson, Courtney Stevens, and Carol Tash.

LIFE AT HIGHLAND



Churchwide

Highland's 75th Anniversary Meal, Today Following Worship, Fellowship Hall

Highland's Advent Event, November 24, Beginning at 9:30 a.m. All are invited to join us in the new Gathering Garden to create your own Advent Wreath. Coffee, hot chocolate, and light breakfast snacks will be served. Please note there will be no regular Church School.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, 7:00 p.m. Sunday, November 24, Temple Emmanuel Members and friends of Highland, leaders and friends from Christian, Jewish, and Muslim congregations will gather together for this service. Please bring *canned yams* as Highland's offering for our neighbors who live with hunger or food insecurity.

Service

Gingerbread Houses for Ashley Elementary
Help us reach our goal of 50 gingerbread houses (2.2 pounds, E-Z Build).

Alternative Giving, beginning December 1
The focus for our Alternative Giving this year is on caring for God's earth and for those impacted by the devastating effects of climate change. Our Global Service Committee and Earth Care Team are providing gifts of mangrove trees in Madagascar, as well as support for Black Mountain Counseling, and Be-Loved Asheville in Western North Carolina.



Children

Sunday Mornings, 9:30 a.m.

Children ages 2 through 4th grade are invited to *God's Good Neighborhood*, the third floor of our Education Building, for exciting new faith formation experiences and choir.



Adults

Church School Offerings

Sunday Mornings, 9:30 a.m.

Embracing the Divine Flow, Room 127

Big Questions of Faith & Life, Ardmore Room

Present Word, Room 124

The Lectionary Café, Salem Room

Parents' Conversation, Room 126

Coffee & Conversation

Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.

Camel City Coffee, 110 Oakwood Dr.

Join us for drop-in conversation with friends and Highland staff. All are welcome!

Scan this QR code for more information in our current *Highlights* newsletter.



To sign up for service work, to donate items, or to give financially, scan the QR code.

