



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

FEBRUARY 23, 2025 • SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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FEBRUARY 23, 2025

11:00 a.m.

As we light candles
on the Retable,
place the Bible at
the Lectern, pour
water in the Baptis-
mal Font, and set
the Communion
Table, we are re-
minded of the light
of Christ, present
in Word and
Sacrament.

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

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

A WORD OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

Dan Locklair

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We call on the power of God to meet us in our helplessness:

All: God in our thinking, God in our speaking.

One: We call on the clarity of God to meet us in our confusion:

All: God in our acting, God in our stillness.

One: We call on the mercy of God to meet us in our brokenness:

All: God in our waking, God in our sleeping.

One: We call on the Spirit of God to meet us in our division:

All: God in our meeting, God in our parting.

PRAYER OF PRAISE

*HYMN 619

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

LAUDA ANIMA

THE CONFESSION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your ways
or trusted your promises.

We love only those who love us;

we show kindness only to those who are kind to us;

we give only when we expect to receive.

Forgive us, Lord. Fill our hearts with your selfless love.

Change our lives by your matchless grace.

These things we pray through our merciful Savior.

The prayer continues in a time of silent confession.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

*GLORIA PATRI

GTG 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

*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.

GTG = *Glory to God*
hymnal

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 THE PEOPLE OF GOD

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Deuteronomy 10 :12-21

Page 167

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

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Luke 6:27-38

Page 64

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

SERMON

*Measuring Human Generosity
by the Standards of God*

Debbie Layman

Confirmation is a joyful milestone in the lifelong journey of faith. In the Presbyterian Church (USA), confirmation is a time for our youth to consider promises made at their baptism and consider their response to God's grace at work in their lives.

THE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*HYMN 435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE

THE SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION

INTRODUCTION OF CONFIRMANDS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

GTG p.35

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of Heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;

As the family of faith we continue to affirm our baptismal promises to support and nurture them in their journey of faith.

he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CONFIRMATION PRAYER

WELCOME

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Natalie Sevin

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.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

ANTHEM

Lord of the Small
Chancel Choir

Dan Forrest

Praise to the Lord of the small broken things,
who sees the poor sparrow that cannot take wing,
who loves the lame child and the wretch in the street,
who comforts their sorrows and washes their feet.

Praise to the Lord of the faint and afraid,
who girds them with courage and lends them his aid,
he pours out his spirit on vessels so weak
that the timid can serve and the silent can speak.

Praise to the Lord of the frail and the ill,
who heals their afflictions or carries them till
they leave this tired frame and to paradise fly,
to never be sick and never to die.

Praise him, O praise him all ye who yet live,
who've been given so much and can so little give.
Our frail, lisping praise God will never despise.
He sees his dear children through mercy-filled eyes.

*DOXOLOGY

GTG 609

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!

The word “doxology” means “words of glory.” And so, the Doxology is an expression of praise and thanksgiving for the glory of God.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

* HYMN 756

O God of Every Nation

LLANGLOFFAN

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

One: Life is short, and we do not have too much time
to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us.

All: So let us be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.

One: Let us go out into the world in peace, have courage,
hold onto what is good, and return no one evil for evil.

**All: May we strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak,
help the suffering, honor all people, love and serve the Lord,
and rejoice in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

One: May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God,
and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

All: Amen.

Christian worship and service does not end at the conclusion of the Service for the Lord’s Day. The mission of the church remains the same in this and every season: we go forth to love and serve the Lord, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

*POSTLUDE

His Wonders to Perform

Dan Locklair

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's name to the card as well.

Large-print Bibles, bulletins, and hearing aids are available. Please ask an usher for 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. During worship we also offer a room for Children & Parents, Room 216, which is a friendly childcare space near the Sanctuary where parents can tend to the needs of their child.

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.

WORSHIP NOTES

We celebrate our **2025 Confirmation Class** today: Heidi Gillis, Grover Gore, Madelynn Gore, Sam Michel, and Maddie Grace Wagoner.

Bless You!—Our prayers for one another. FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23, please pray for John, Katina, Ellis, Finn and Cate Marler Barksdale; John and Ellen Doyle; Hannah Duane; Joe Holbrook; Kelly, Ben and Nicholas Parish; Katrina and Darius Pope; Mark Queen and Harry Hall; Gary and Carol Simes; Henry and Cynthia Tysinger. *The Lord bless you and keep you. (Numbers 6:24)*

CALENDAR

Sunday February 23

- 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Breakfast
- 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Acoustic Café, Fellowship Hall

Monday February 24

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. Poverty Book Group, Ardmore Room

Tuesday February 25

- 10:00 a.m. Coffee & Conversation, Panera Bread
- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry, Salem Room
- 1:30 p.m. Moore School Food Pantry, Curbside
- 6:30 p.m. Arts & Worship, Parlor

Wednesday February 26

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Lamentations & Laughter, AB 5
- 5:15 p.m. Highland Ukuleles, Room 126
- 6:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Room 100

Thursday February 27

- 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study, Ardmore Room
- 4:00 p.m. Membership Committee, Ardmore Room
- 7:30 p.m. Young Adults, Little Richard's

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.

LIFE AT HIGHLAND

Churchwide

Acoustic Café, please join us this afternoon for wonderful music, snacks, coffee and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall at 4:00 p.m.

Save the Date, Winter Forum, Sunday, March 2, 4:00 p.m., Ardmore Room
More information can be found in a dedicated email coming soon!

To **sign up** for meals, service work, and more, scan this QR code.



Service

Moore School Food Pantry, Highland and Temple Emmanuel support Moore Elementary School by providing a food pantry for students and their families. For the month of February, we are asking for donations of pasta.

Meal Preparation for Flourish Program, Flourish, a program of The Shalom Project, provides women in poverty a one-year training focusing on financial self-sufficiency and holistic wellness. We are looking for meal providers for about 30 women and children for two dates in March. Contact Debbie, dlayman@highlandpres.org, if interested.

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.

Youth

We celebrate with our **Confirmation Class** today!

Adults

Church School Offerings

Sunday Mornings, 9:30 a.m.

A Hidden Wholeness, Ardmore Room

The Lectionary Café, Salem Room

The Present Word, Room 124

Parents' Conversation, Room 126

Coffee & Conversation

Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.

Panera Bread, 2209 Cloverdale Avenue.

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

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

