



# LENT

## HIGHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*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*

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MARCH 9, 2025 • FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

# FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 9, 2025

11:00 a.m.

## THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

### A WORD OF WELCOME

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 presence of  
Christ in Word  
and Sacrament.

### PRELUDE

*O Holy Lamb of God*

Johann Sebastian Bach

### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The season of Lent sets us on a journey.

**All: The journey begins in the wilderness.**

One: We follow the way of Jesus,  
who faced trials, trouble, temptation, and testing.

**All: Like Jesus, we are not alone.**

**The Holy Spirit is with us. God's Word is on our lips.**

One: Our call is to trust in God alone,  
to do God's will in all things.

**All: God leads us not only into the wilderness,  
but also through the wilderness. Thanks be to God!**

### PRAYER OF PRAISE

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

### \*HYMN 166

*Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days*

ST. FLAVIAN

## THE CONFESSION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, our refuge and fortress,  
forgive us when we fail to trust in you.

**We fall to temptation;**

**we are swayed by false words**

**we speak false words of our own.**

**We choose our ease and comfort**

**over your demanding claims upon us and upon the world.**

**In turning from you,**

**we settle for less than the abundant generosity you intend.**

**Forgive us, we pray. Do not let us be put to shame, O God.**

**Hear us as we call to you, and show us your salvation.**

**In Christ's name we pray.**

*The prayer continues in a time of silent confession.*

## KYRIE

### *Kyrie Eleison*



Musical notation for the Kyrie Eleison. It consists of three staves of music in a 4/4 time signature, with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. The third staff features a triplet of eighth notes.

During the season of Lent, we omit the singing of the Gloria Patri.

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

### \*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.

## THE WORD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

### A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### FIRST LESSON

Exodus 1:8-22

Page 49

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

#### SECOND LESSON

Exodus 2:1-10

Page 49

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

#### SERMON

*Through the Waters:*  
Being Faithful in the Moment

Debbie Layman

## THE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

#### \*HYMN 53

*O God, Who Gives Us Life*

NOEL

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *A Declaration of Faith, PCUSA*

Jesus Christ stands at the center of the biblical record.

The Bible is the account of God's word and action in history,  
together with God's people's response in faith.

It tells how the Lord has moved with Israel and the church  
toward the kingdom of God, God's just and loving rule over all.  
It is the story of the one God.

That story is still unfolding and in faith we make it our own.

It forms our memory and our hope.

It tells us who we are and what we are to do.

To retell it is to declare what we believe.

We know that God is not confined to the story we can tell.

The story itself tells us God works

God's sovereign will among all peoples of the earth.

We believe God works beyond our imagining  
throughout the universe.

We must not set our ultimate reliance on any other help.

We must not yield unconditional obedience to any other power.

We must not love anyone or anything more than we love God.

To worship God is highest joy.

To serve God is perfect freedom. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Mark Queen

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

*Do Not I Love Thee*

Dwight Gustafson

Chancel Choir

Do not I love Thee, O my Lord? Behold my heart and see;  
and turn each cursed idol out, that dares to rival Thee.

Do not I love Thee from my soul? Then let me nothing love;  
dead be my heart to every joy, when Jesus cannot move.

Thou know'st I love Thee, dearest Lord, but O! I long to soar  
far from the sphere of mortal joys and learn to love Thee more!

**\*DOXOLOGY**

GTG 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

GTG = *Glory to God*  
hymnal

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

**\* HYMN 547**      *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

AR HYDY NOS

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*RESPONSE** (Hymn 70)      *What Does the Lord Require of You?*

MOON

*The response will be sung in canon.*

*All low voices will sing part I,  
middle voices part II, and high voices part III.*

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Concerto II Allegro*

Johann Sebastian Bach

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.

# WELCOME TO HIGHLAND

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**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 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](http://pcusa.org/matthew25).

**We are now an Earth Care Congregation** of the Presbyterian Church (USA)! We pledge in our *worship* and discipleship to celebrate God's grace and glory in creation. Our *education* strives to encourage and support each other in keeping and healing the creation. We seek to manage, maintain, and upgrade our *facilities* to respect and cherish all creation, and our *outreach* will encourage community involvement and public policy to protect and restore the earth.



# WORSHIP NOTES

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***Bless You!***—Our prayers for one another. FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 9, please pray Robbie Grier; Rich, Joyce, and Richmond Griner; Kyle, Kathleen and Mitchell Hansen; Dave and Berrilynn Norman; Morgan, Stephen and Kimberly Parker; Stacy Pitcairn; Philip and Roberta Powell; Les and Esther Preston; Mac and Mary Ellen Smyth. *The Lord bless you and keep you. (Numbers 6:24)*

## CALENDAR

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### Sunday March 9

- 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary
- 2:00 p.m. Winter Walk, Patterson Avenue & 4<sup>th</sup> Street East

### Monday March 10

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor
- 5:45 p.m. Stewardship Committee
- 7:00 p.m. Faith & Film, The Sherwood
- 7:00 p.m. Lenten Study Group

### Tuesday March 11

- 10:00 a.m. Coffee & Conversation, Panera Bread
- 1:30 p.m. Moore Food Pantry, Curbside
- 5:30 p.m. Youth & Young Adults Committee, AB 4
- 5:45 p.m. Diaconate Meeting, Ardmore Room
- 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting, Ardmore Room

### Wednesday March 12

- 10:30 a.m. Salemtowne Bible Study
- 11:00 a.m. Lamentations & Laughter, AB 5
- 5:30 p.m. Handbells Rehearsal, Room 101
- 5:30 p.m. Highland Ukuleles, Room 126
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Room 100

### Thursday March 13

- 11:30 a.m. Caring Friends
- 7:30 p.m. Young Adults, Home of Tory Daniel

### Friday March 14–Sunday March 16

Women's Retreat, Montreat

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](http://www.highlandpres.org), for changes or cancellations.

# LIFE AT HIGHLAND

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## Churchwide

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### Winter Walk, Today, 2:00 p.m.

We will discover the Longbranch Trail which includes a loop through God's Acre. Meet in the church parking lot at 1:45 p.m. to carpool, park in the parking deck on the corner of 4th Street and North Chestnut Street, or park on a nearby street. We will meet at Bailey Park, on the corner of Patterson Avenue and 4th Street East. Following the walk we will enjoy fellowship at Anchor Coffee in Bailey Power Plant.

### Fellowship Lunch, Sunday, March 23

Join us after worship for fun fellowship and a tasty meal catered by Yamas Mediterranean Street Food. Reserve your spot today!

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



## Service

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**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 March, we are asking for donations of canned beans.

### March Madness Pasta Sauce Drive

Our annual friendly pasta sauce rivalry is just around the corner! We will receive your March Madness donations of pasta sauce between March 16 and April 6. You can vote for your favorite team by putting the sauce in their box which will be located in the Gallery Hall. Crisis Control will be the winner!



## Children

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### 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

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**Enjoy Spring Break!** Youth Sunday is April 6 so look for planning sessions to begin March 16.

**Sign Up for summer trips** now! Senior High Montreat Youth Conference will be June 8-14, and Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference is July 15-18.



## Adults

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### Church School Offerings

#### Sunday Mornings, 9:30 a.m.

*Hard & Holy Work*, Ardmore Room

*Lectionary Café*, Salem Room

*The Present Word*, Room 124

*Parents' Coffee & Conversation*, Room 126

#### Monday Evenings, 7:00 p.m.

*Hard & Holy Work*, Zoom Only, Books are available in the Gallery Hall for \$15.

#### Coffee & Conversation

##### Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.

Panera Bread, 2209 Cloverdale Avenue.

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.

