



# HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 20, 2023

10:30 A.M. SERVICE

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### ALL ARE WELCOME

*Highlands United Methodist Church affirms that nothing can separate anyone from the love of God. We invite all to worship, wonder, and discover God's grace as we aspire to create a safe space for all to participate fully in the life of this community of faith. We are called to shine as a beacon of hope, grace, belonging, and respect for all people. Regardless of age, gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, family, financial status, nationality, physical or mental ability, past or future, there is room for you at Highlands.*

## GLORIA

Richard Proulx

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo-ple on  
 earth. Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we  
 wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for — your glo - ry.

*(Sung by the Choir) Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,*

*You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;*

*You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.*

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone — are the Lord. You a -  
 lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men. \_\_\_\_\_

# ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION

PREACHING – REGGIE HOLDER  
LITURGISTS – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON  
CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST – RICHARD PHILLIPS  
VERGER – DYLAN HIGGS

\*Congregation please stand. Words in bold are spoken or sung by the congregation.

*Serving for Altar Guild:* Dinah Hughes, Laura Williams

*Serving as Ushers:* Phil Amthor, Bart Trench

*Serving as Lay Reader:* Karen Holton

*Serving as Communion Stewards:* Phil and Sara Amthor

PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS

*Kara Cargile, Chimer*

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

PRELUDE

**Fugue**  
*from Voluntary No. IV in G Minor*

*Maurice Greene (1696-1755)*

\*HYMN IN PROCESSION 548

**In Christ There Is No East or West**

MCKEE

\*COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires are known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

\*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (*See facing page*)

*Richard Proulx (1937-2010)*

Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King, Almighty God and Father,  
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
(*Sung by the Choir*) Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
*You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;*  
*You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.*

**For you alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,  
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
In the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

*The Lord be with you. And also with you.*

*God of the nations, to whose table all are invited and in whose kingdom no one is a stranger: hear the cries of the hungry and mercifully extend to all the peoples on earth the joy of your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

May these words reveal Christ to us. **Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Fintan O'Carroll (1922-1981) and Christopher Walker (b. 1947)

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

## \*GOSPEL LESSON

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

The Lesson

Matthew 15:21-28

*The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

Children of all ages are invited to participate. Following the Children's Moment, all children are invited to Sunday School. Parents may pick up children following the service from Room E209. If this is your first time at Highlands, a parent is asked to accompany their child to meet staff and provide contact information.

## \*HYMN 585

This Little Light of Mine  
Verses 1 and 2

LATIMER

## THE HOMILY

Reggie Holder

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

CREATED BY THE YOUTH OF HIGHLANDS UMC

We believe in God, the Creator,  
all powerful and all knowing,  
who formed us in God's own image,  
and calls us to justice,  
leading us, guiding us, loving us.

We believe in God the Son, the Redeemer,  
God among us in the form of a selfless human,  
who teaches, forgives, and accepts us,  
calling us to liberation and to liberate others.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, ever present,  
guiding us and encouraging us,  
motivating us and enabling us,  
sustaining us and comforting us. Amen.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Musical Setting: A Community Mass – Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

## \*INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION & THE PEACE

*God in Christ breaks down the walls that make us strangers to ourselves and divide us from one another. We are the body of Christ. Around this table, we enact our faith. The Communion Table is open to all who are in love with God and their neighbor and seek forgiveness and healing in this broken world.*

*The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.***

## GREETINGS AND PARISH NOTICES

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

### With a Voice of Singing

*The Choir*

*With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.*

*Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered his people. Alleluia.*

*O be joyful in God, all ye lands. O sing praises to the honor of his name. Make his praise to be glorious.*

*With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.*

Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

Text, Martin Shaw

## \*DOXOLOGY 94

LAST UNS ERFREUEN WITH ALLELUIAS

## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The Lord be with you. **And also with you.***


*Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.***

*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

*...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your



glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the



name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

*...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.*



Christ has died, Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain. \_\_\_\_\_

...Through your Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.



**THE LORD'S PRAYER 895**

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

**THE FRACTION ANTHEM**

**Agnus Dei**  
*The Choir*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.*  
*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.*  
*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.*

**RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP**

Reflecting our conviction that God's grace is for all people, everyone is invited to the Lord's table. Please come forward as directed by the ushers to receive the sacrament. Holy Communion will be served by intinction; clergy will dip the bread into the cup and place in congregants' hands. Congregants are welcome to kneel at the chancel rail for prayer before returning to their seats.

**COMMUNION HYMN 351**

**Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior**  
*Congregation & The Choir*  
*Verses 1, 2, and 4*

PASS ME NOT

**PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING**

*God of all, we give you thanks and praise that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gates of glory. May we who share Christ's body, live his risen life; we who drink his cup, bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**\*HYMN 632**

**Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether**  
*Verses 1 and 3*

UNION SEMINARY

**\*BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH**

**ORGAN IMPROVISATION ON A HYMN TUNE**



THE PLACE OF  
**A T R I U M**  
**SEPTEMBER 10 AT 9:30** <sup>AT</sup> HIGHLANDS

You may have heard of Atrium or even visited the beautiful and unique space set aside for our children, yet still feel like you don't quite understand the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and how it fits in at Highlands. Join us for **Adult Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall** to hear more about the goals and structure of Atrium, sample a few lessons, and learn more about the effect of the Atrium on our youth and congregation.

**Children** (age 3-5th grade) are invited back for another great year in the Atrium, starting at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 10. **Parents** are invited to meet the catechists and take a tour of their child's level before joining Adult Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall. This is an intentional part of the adult lesson; please feel free to stay and observe in the Atrium for a while.





# WELCOME TO HIGHLANDS!



## ALL ARE WELCOME

A Reconciling Congregation with the Reconciling Ministries Network – [rmnetwork.org](http://rmnetwork.org)

*Highlands United Methodist Church is a community of disciples of Christ; a beacon of hope, inviting all to become new persons in Christ, to be sent into the world to share the Gospel, and to serve our neighbors; and a sanctuary for those in need of God's love and grace.*

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### INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*The message of the Hebrew prophets, Jesus, Paul, and the early church was always a message of welcome and inclusion for all. The image of God's kingdom is of something small and insignificant growing into something larger and of great significance. The oppressed, the alien, and the outcast were all welcomed, included, and cared for. In this sense, our faith is built upon the idea of gracious hospitality. Followers of Jesus are not about walls of exclusion but bridges of grace and acceptance. Ours is a faith of invitation, for all to come to know Jesus as the living Christ who overcomes all brokenness, sin, and even death, offering a way to make all things new. This invitation extends to you. If you desire to explore what this means for you, please speak to a member of the clergy after the service or sometime this week. We welcome the opportunity to visit with you.*

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### OFFERING

*Cash or Check Giving:*

- *Giving envelopes are available in the pew racks. Checks may be made payable to HUMC.*

*Electronic Giving:*

- *Text GIVE to 205-900-3040. A link will be provided for a simple, quick way to give with one click.*
- *Visit [www.highlandsumc.net/giving](http://www.highlandsumc.net/giving) to give using a debit/credit card or bank account.*

*Sustainable Giving:*

- *To set up automatic monthly bank drafts, contact financial manager Tyra Johnson-Pirtle at [finance@highlandsumc.net](mailto:finance@highlandsumc.net).*
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