



# HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 18, 2018

10:30 A.M. SERVICE



*Christ in the Wilderness, Moretto da Brescia (c. 1515-1520)*

## The Season of Lent

Today is the first Sunday in the season of Lent, when we are invited to examine the roots of our Christian discipleship and identify Jesus' journey to the cross. The early Sundays are a wilderness time, an opportunity to go deep into our hearts and the souls of our communities, to recognize the horror and depth of our estrangement from God, and to begin systematically to put things right. We will chant the Great Litany on the first Sunday. We observe the tradition of removing Alleluias or flowers in the Sanctuary during Lent: these will return with a burst of joy on Easter Day.

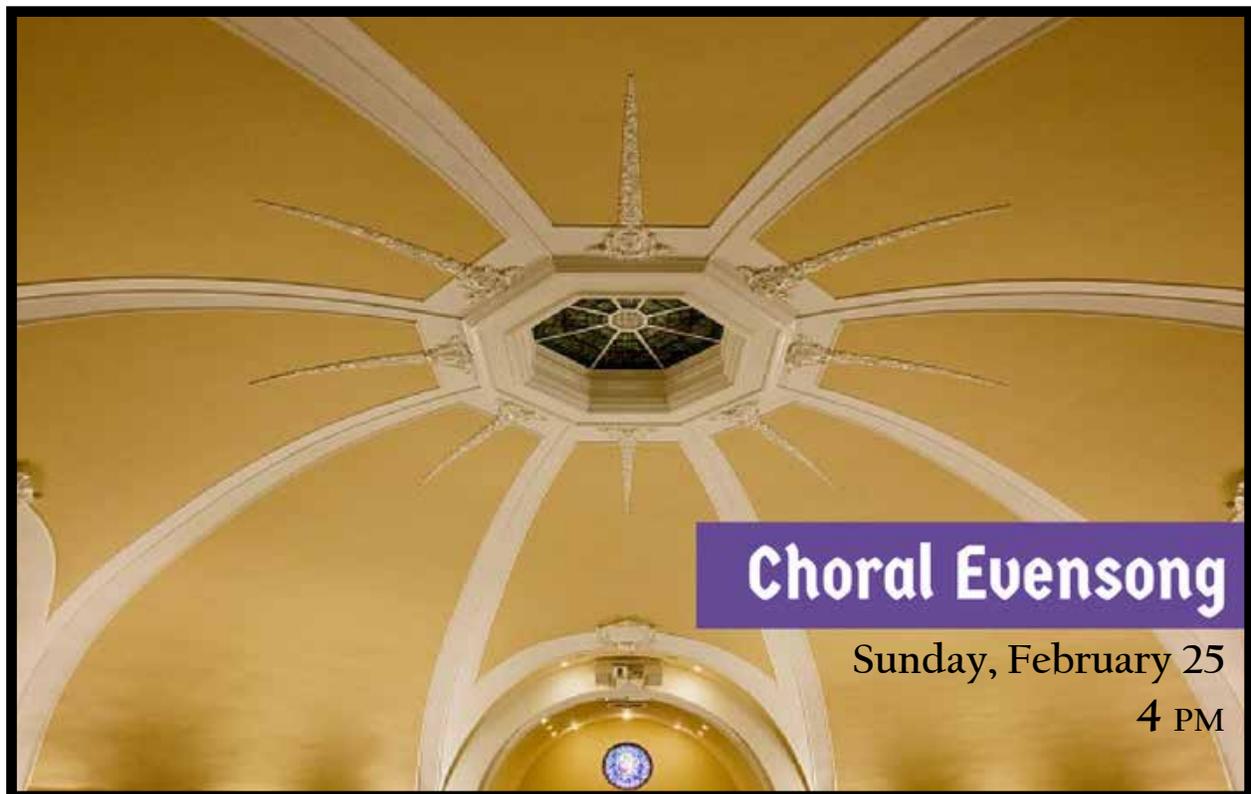


## We Welcome Our Guests

*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.*

- † All children are welcome to stay in worship, or a nursery is provided for ages 4 and younger. An usher will be happy to direct you there. Children ages 4 to 2nd grade are encouraged to come to the chancel when called to the Children's Moment and may then attend Children's Church or return to be with their family. If you are visiting today or this is your child's first time in Children's Church, we ask that a parent accompany the child downstairs in order to provide emergency contact information and meet our staff.
- † Children's bulletins, books, and crayons are available from the ushers for use in worship.
- † Please pick up a guest welcome bag after worship to learn more about Highlands. Feel free to call or email the church with any questions or pastoral care needs. We would love to have the opportunity to visit with you.
- † Parking is free on Sundays at all metered street spaces near the church, at the Hotel Highland Parking Deck on Magnolia Avenue, and in the Highlands Bar and Grill lot on 11th Avenue South.



*Join us next Sunday, February 25 at 4 PM in the Sanctuary for a service of Choral Evensong for the Lenten season. Evensong, or Evening Prayers, is a beautiful choral music tradition in which the 'song' of voices sounding together in harmony is heard at the 'even' point between the active day and restful night, allowing listeners time for restful contemplation.*

# ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

PREACHING – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON

LITURGIST – THE REVEREND DEB WELSH

CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST – RICHARD PHILLIPS

CHILDREN’S MOMENT – REGGIE HOLDER

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

*Serving for Altar Guild:* Kelly Kitchens, April Sides

*Serving as Ushers:* Dinks Gaskin, Joe Hughes

*Serving as Acolytes:* Austin Meredith, Madora Pirtle, Neal Pirtle, Virginia White

*Serving as Verger:* Wilson Nash

*Serving as Lay Reader:* Fran Hopkins

PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS

*Ellis Landers, Chimer*

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRELUDE

**Fantasia in C Minor**  
*BWV 537*

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*

\*SILENT PROCESSION

\*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

*Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.*

\*THE INVITATORY & GLORIA PATRI 70

MEINEKE

*O Lord, open our lips. And we shall declare your praise.  
We praise you, Lord. Your holy name be praised.*

\*THE PEACE

\*VENITE

Psalm 95

Setting: HULSEY

Come, Let Us Sing to God on High



1. Come, let us sing to God on high, The Rock of our sal - va - tion praise;  
2. For God is Lord a - bove all gods, The heights and de - pths are in His hand;  
3. Let us bow down and wor - ship Him who is our ma - ker and our Lord;



Come with thanks - giv - ing to His courts and joy - ful psalms be - fore Him raise.  
He made the sea and it is His, His hands have mold - ed the dry land.  
We are His peo - ple and His sheep; To - day, then, heark - en to His Word.

PSALM 25:1-10 (Sung by The Choir)

Anglican Chant: James Turtle (1802-1882)

- 1 Unto thee, O Lord, will I lift up my soul; my God, I have put my trust in thee \*  
 O let me not be confounded, neither let mine enemies triumph over me.
- 2 For all they that hope in thee shall not be ashamed \*  
 but such as transgress without a cause shall be put to confusion.
- 3 Shew me thy ways, O Lord \* and teach me thy paths.
- 4 Lead me forth in thy truth, and learn me \*  
 for thou art the God of my salvation; in thee hath been my hope all the day long.
- 5 Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercies \* and thy loving-kindnesses, which have been ever of old.
- 6 O remember not the sins and offenses of my youth \*  
 but according to thy mercy think thou upon me, O Lord, for thy goodness.
- 7 Gracious and righteous is the Lord \* therefore will he teach sinners in the way.
- 8 Them that are meek shall he guide in judgment \* and such as are gentle, them shall he learn his way.
- 9 All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth \* unto such as keep his covenant, and his testimonies.
- 10 For thy Name's sake, O Lord \* be merciful unto my sin, for it is great.

(The people stand for the Gloria Patri and sit for the lesson.)

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.\**

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Peter 3:18-22

*The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

\*CANTICLE

## A Song of Penitence

Setting: KINGSFOLD

1. O Lord who rules the heav-en's host, O God of A - bra - ham, Lord God of Isa - ac,  
 2. But yet your love sur - pass - ses all the mea - sure of our mind; You, Lord, are pa - tient,  
 3. And now, O Lord, I bend my knee and make my sure ap - peal; For I have sinned, Lord,  
 Ja - cob, and of all their right - tous clan. You made the heav - ens formed the earth with  
 mer - ci - ful, and in - fi - nite - ly kind. You do not judge as we de - serve, and  
 and I know my wick - ed - ness too well. I there - fore make this prayer to you: for -  
 all their vast ar - ray, be - fore you all things quake with fear and trem ble in dis - may.  
 in your good - ness, Lord, You of - fer par - don that we may Re - pent and be re - stored.  
 give me, Lord, for - give; Let me nor per - ish in my sin, nor let me die but live.

\*THE APOSTLES' CREED 881

## THE GREAT LITANY

Adapted from BCP - Church of Ireland Musical Setting: Richard Phillips (b. 1959)

God the Father, creator of heaven and earth,



God the Son, Redeemer of the world, **Have mercy upon us.**

God the Holy Spirit, giver of life, **Have mercy upon us.**

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, three Persons in one God, **Have mercy upon us.**

Save us, good Lord, from all sin and wickedness, from pride, hypocrisy and conceit, from envy, hatred and malice, and all uncharitableness,



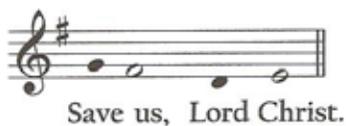
From sins of thought, word and deed, from the lusts of the flesh, from the deceits of the world and the temptations of evil, **Save us, good Lord.**

From fire, storm and flood, from disease, pestilence and want, from war and murder, and from dying unprepared, **Save us, good Lord.**

From all false doctrine, from hardness of heart, from contempt of your word and commandment, and from the evil of schism. **Save us, good Lord.**

In times of sorrow and in times of joy, in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment, **Save us, good Lord.**

Save us, Lord Christ, by the mystery of your holy incarnation, by your birth, childhood and obedience, by your baptism, fasting and temptation,



By your ministry in word and work, by your mighty acts of power, and by your preaching of the kingdom, **Save us, Lord Christ.**

By your agony and trial, by your cross and passion, and by your precious death and burial, **Save us, Lord Christ.**

By your mighty resurrection, by your glorious ascension, and by your sending of the Holy Spirit, **Save us, Lord Christ.**

## FOR THE CHURCH

Hear us, good Lord: govern and direct your holy Church, fill it with love and truth, and grant it that unity which is your will,



Give your Church courage to preach the gospel and to make disciples of all the nations, **Hear us, good Lord.**

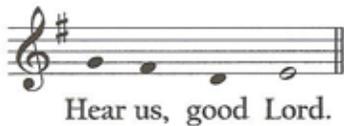
Give knowledge and understanding to ministers of the Gospel, that by their life and teaching they may proclaim your word, **Hear us, good Lord.**

Give all people grace to receive your word and to bring forth the fruit of the Spirit, **Hear us, good Lord.**

Bring all who have erred and are deceived into the way of truth, **Hear us, good Lord.**

#### FOR THE STATE

Guard and bless all in government, especially our President, our Governor, and all other elected officials; grant that they may trust in you, and seek your honor and glory,



Bless our country, and give grace, wisdom and understanding to all in authority, **Hear us, good Lord.**

Bless the Global Community, and draw us closer to one another in justice and freedom, **Hear us, good Lord.**

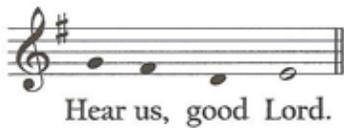
Bless those who administer the law, that they may uphold justice in honesty and truth, **Hear us, good Lord.**

Bless and keep all who maintain peace and safety, **Hear us, good Lord.**

Give to all nations unity, peace and concord, **Hear us, good Lord.**

#### FOR ALL PEOPLE ACCORDING TO THEIR NEEDS

Strengthen the faithful, comfort and help the faint-hearted, raise up those who fall, and drive out all evil,



Support and encourage all who are in poverty, unemployment or distress, protect those whose work is dangerous, and keep in safety all who travel, **Hear us, good Lord.**

Keep fathers, mothers and children united in their family life, and give them wisdom and strength in times of stress, **Hear us, good Lord.**

Heal the sick, care for the aged and lonely, and comfort the bereaved, **Hear us, good Lord.**

Remember the poor who long to hear good news: give us the will to strengthen them through acts of generous love, **Hear us, good Lord.**

Show your pity on victims of strife, on the homeless and the hungry, on prisoners, and on all who live in fear, **Hear us, good Lord.**

Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts, **Hear us, good Lord.**

Guide and direct all who influence others through the written or the spoken word, and inspire all who serve in science, industry and art, **Hear us, good Lord.**

Bless and keep all your people, Hear us, good Lord.

Teach us to use the resources of the earth to your glory, that all may share in your goodness and praise you for your loving kindness, Hear us, good Lord.

Savior of the world, forgive our sins, known and unknown, things done, and left undone; grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit that we may amend our lives according to your holy word, and share with all your people the joys of your eternal kingdom.

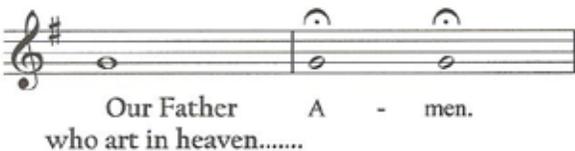
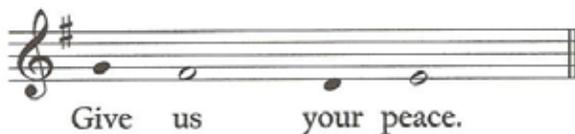
Jesus, Lamb of God,



Jesus, bearer of our sins,



Jesus, Redeemer of the world,



## GREETING AND PARISH NOTICES

### THE OFFERTORY

### Miserere mei, Deus

The Choir

Chamber Choir: Savannah Busby, Rachel Hancock, Emille Cornwell, Ellis Landers, and Brian Bellenger

Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness: according to the multitude of thy mercies do away mine offences.

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness: and cleanse me from my sin.

For I acknowledge my faults: and my sin is ever before me.

Against thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified in thy saying, and clear when thou art judged. Behold, I was shapen in wickedness: and in sin hath my mother conceived me.

But lo, thou requirest truth in the inward parts: and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly.

Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness: that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

Turn thy face from my sins: and put out all my misdeeds. Make me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from thy presence: and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

O give me the comfort of thy help again: and stablish me with thy free Spirit. Then shall I teach thy ways unto the wicked:

And sinners shall be converted unto thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness,

O God, thou that art the God of my health: and my tongue shall sing of thy righteousness.

*Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord: and my mouth shall shew thy praise.  
For thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it thee: but thou delightest not in burnt offerings.  
The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt thou not despise.*

*O be favourable and gracious unto Sion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem.  
Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with the burnt-offerings and oblations :  
Then shall they offer young bullocks upon thine altar.*

Gregorio Allegri (1582-1652)

Text, Psalm 51

\*DOXOLOGY 95

OLD 100TH

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Reggie Holder

\*SEQUENCE HYMN 178

Hope of the World, verses 1-4

VICAR

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

\*GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:9-15

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

\*HYMN 378

Amazing Grace, verses 1-4

AMAZING GRACE  
Organ Improvisation: Gerre Hancock

\*THE BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

Amen's  
The Choir

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

*After the retiring procession concludes, you are invited to be seated in the sanctuary until the conclusion of the voluntary.*

\*RETIRING VOLUNTARY

*Fugue on Erbarm' dich mein, O Herre Gott  
O God, Be Merciful to Me*

Heinrich Bach (1615-1692)

*O God, be merciful to me, according to Thy great pity; Wash of, make clean my iniquities.*



## Vision Statement

*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.*