



# HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 25, 2018

10:30 A.M. SERVICE



### 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 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 their 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 visit the Bread for the Journey table in the Greeting Space after worship for a delicious homemade treat and information 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.

# ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY BAPTISM

PREACHING – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON  
LITURGISTS – THE REVEREND DEB WELSH AND REGGIE HOLDER  
CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST – RICHARD PHILLIPS

\*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:* Emmalynne Hudson, Madeline Solomon, Victoria Thompson

*Serving as Verger:* Andrew Salser • *Serving as Lay Reader:* Anne Buckley

PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS

*Ellis Landers, Chimer*

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*

*Choral Prelude on Wer nur den lieben Gott läßt walten*

*BWV 642*

*(If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee)*

\*HYMN IN PROCESSION 116

**The God of Abraham Praise**

LEONI

*Organ Improvisation: T. Tertius Noble*

\*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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM  
*Musical Setting: Charles H. Webb (b. 1933)*

INTRODUCTION

Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ's holy Church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

PRESENTATION

Shepard Benjamin Smith

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

**I do.**

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

**I do.**

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

**I do.**

Will you nurture Shepard in Christ's holy church that by your teaching and example he may be guided to accept God's grace for himself, to profess his faith openly, and to lead a Christian life?

**I will.**

Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

**We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life, include Shepard now before you in your care, and surround him with a community of love and forgiveness?

**We will**

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

*(All stand.)*

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

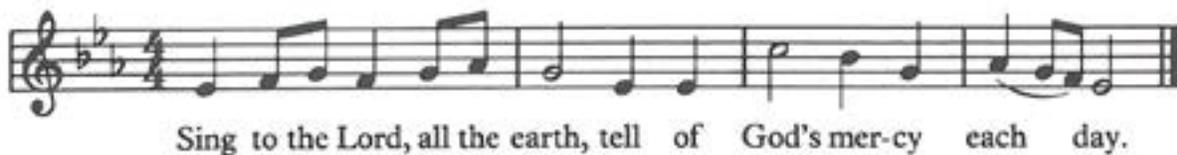
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

*(All sit.)*

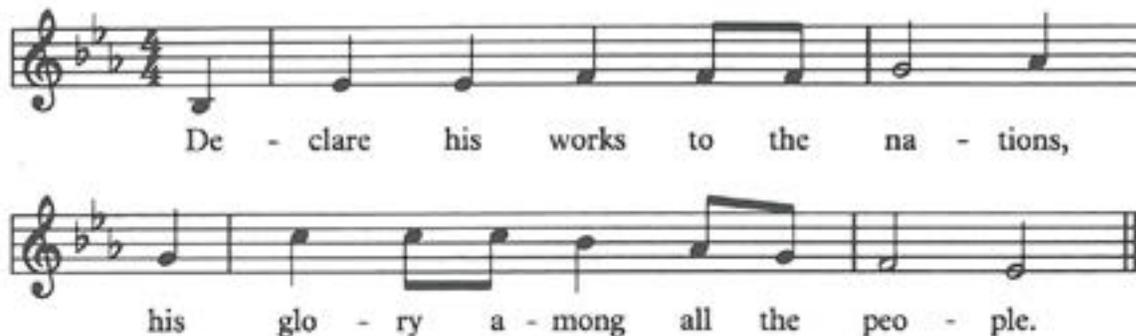
## THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

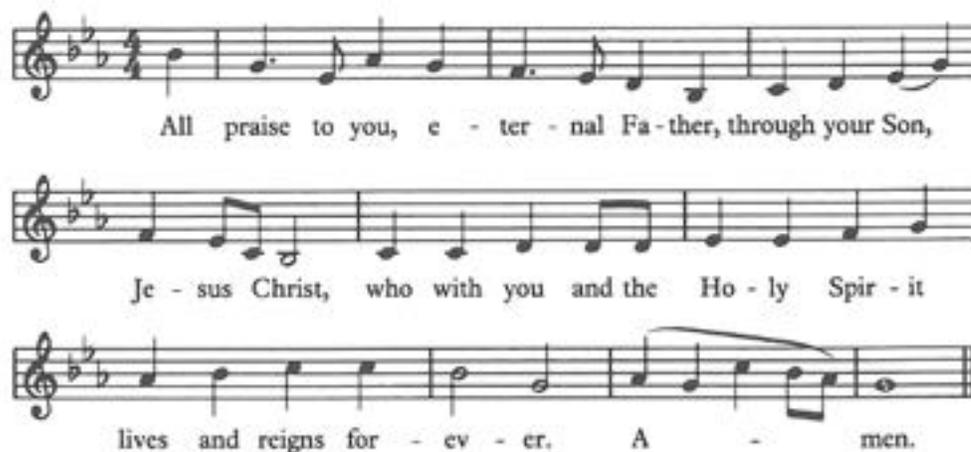
Let us pray: Eternal Father: When nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.



In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.



Pour out your Holy Spirit to bless this gift of water and this child who receives it, to wash away his sin and clothe him in righteousness throughout his life that, dying and being raised with Christ, he may share in his final victory.



## BAPTISM WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

Shepard Benjamin, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Shepard Benjamin, as a child of God, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in baptism and marked as Christ's own forever.

## COMMENDATION

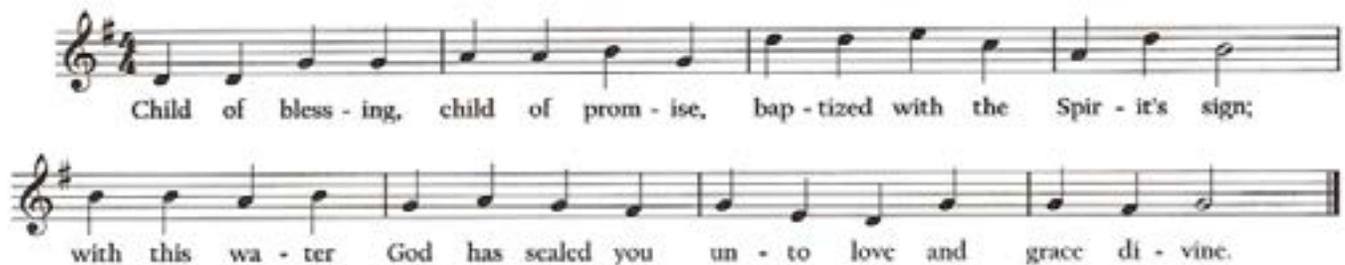
Members of the household of faith, I commend to your love and care Shepard Benjamin whom we this day recognize as a member of the family of God. Will you endeavor so to live that he may grow in the knowledge and love of God, through our Savior Jesus Christ?

With God's help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that Shepard Benjamin, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

## HYMN OF BLESSING

### Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

STUGGART



## FIRST LESSON

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16  
*The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

## PSALM 22:25-31 (Sung by The Choir)

Anglican Chant: Henry Smart (1813-1879)

25 My praise is of thee in the great congregation; \* my vows will I perform in the sight of them that fear him.

26 The poor shall eat, and be satisfied; they that seek after the LORD shall praise him: \*

Your heart shall live forever.

27 All the ends of the world shall remember themselves, and be turned unto the LORD; \*  
and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before him.

28 For the kingdom is the LORD'S, \* and he is the Governor among the nations.

29 All such as be fat upon earth \* have eaten, and worshipped.

30 All they that go down into the dust shall kneel before him; \* and no man hath quickened his own soul.

31 My seed shall serve him: \* they shall be counted unto the Lord for a generation.

(The people stand and join The Choir in singing the Gloria Patri.)

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

Romans 4:13-25  
*The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

THE PRAYERS

The Reverend Deb Welsh

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

*O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Silent Prayer

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer 895

CHORAL RESPONSE

Teach Me

*The Choir*

*Teach me to do the thing that pleaseth Thee; for Thou art my God.*

George Thalben-Ball (1896-1987)

Text, Selected texts from the scriptures

GREETING AND PARISH NOTICES

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Jesus So Lowly

*The Choir*

*Jesus, so lowly, Child of the earth; Christen me wholly, bring me new birth. Jesus, so lonely, weary and sad;  
Teach me that only love maketh glad. Jesus, so broken, silent and pale;  
be this the token love will not fail. Jesus, victorious, mighty and free;  
Teach me how glorious death is to be!*

Harold Friedell (1905-1958)

Text, Edith Williams

\*DOXOLOGY 95

OLD 100TH

THE CHILDREN'S ANTHEM

Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands

*The Children's Choir*

*Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all,  
healing pain and sickness, blessing children small,  
washing tired feet and saving those who fall;  
Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all.  
Take my hands, Lord Jesus, let them work for you;  
make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do;  
let me watch you, Jesus, till I'm gentle too,  
till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.*

Traditional French melody; arr. Sue Ellen Page

Text, Margaret Cropper

\*SEQUENCE HYMN 385

Let Us Plead for Faith Alone

SAVANNAH

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

\*GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 8:31-38

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

\*HYMN

To Us All, to Every Nation

HYFRYDOL

To us all, to every nation comes the moment to decide,  
in the strife of truth with falsehood, for the good or evil side;  
some great cause, God's new endeavor, off'ring each the bloom or blight,  
and the choice goes by forever 'twixt that darkness and that night.

By the light of burning martyrs, Jesus' bleeding feet I track,  
toiling up the Calvaries ever with the cross that turns not back.  
New occasions teach new duties, time makes ancient good uncouth;  
they must upward still and onward who would keep abreast of truth.

Though the cause of evil prosper, yet 'tis truth alone is strong,  
truth forever on the scaffold, wrong forever on the throne.  
Yet that scaffold sways the future, and, behind the dim unknown,  
God is standing in the shadow keeping watch beside God's own.

\*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 No. 1 on BACH  
Opus 60

*Robert Schumann (1810-1856)*

PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS



## Choral Evensong

Sunday, February 25

4 PM

Join us today 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.



### 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.*

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