



HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

10:30 A.M. SERVICE



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.

During the season of Lent, the crosses carried in our processions and on the altar are draped in purple, the color of repentance and preparation. The crosses will remain draped from Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday. On Palm Sunday, the cloth will change to red, and will remain through Maundy Thursday in preparation for Jesus's crucifixion. On Good Friday, the crosses will be draped in black, symbolizing Jesus' earthly death. On Easter Sunday, the crosses will be uncovered or draped in white, in celebration of the resurrection.

Lent, Passion, and Easter are the only times the crosses are draped in the liturgical year. This is to remind us of the redemptive purpose of Jesus' suffering (purple), crucifixion (red), death (black), and resurrection (white), which these liturgical seasons commemorate. The rest of the year the cross is uncovered to assure us that Jesus is risen.

ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

PREACHING – REGGIE HOLDER

LITURGIST – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON

CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST – RICHARD PHILLIPS

VERGER – WILSON NASH

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

Serving for Altar Guild: Leslie Davis, Lynn L'Eplattenier

Serving as Ushers: Jim Shannon, Jimmy Shannon

Serving as Lay Reader: Karen Holton

Serving as Acolytes: Adelia Arnold, Ann Harper Nash

PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS

Kara Cargile, chimer

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ
I Call to You, Lord Jesus Christ

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

*HYMN IN PROCESSION 116

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

Organ Improvisation: Noel Rawsthorne

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God:

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.

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.

*THE PEACE

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



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 depths 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, hark - en to his Word.

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 22:22-31

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

PSALTER

Psalm 22:25-30
The Gentlemen of The Choir

Plainsong: Tone IV.1

Deus, Deus meus

²⁵ *The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: "May your heart live for ever!"*

²⁶ *All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations bow before him.*

²⁷ *For kingship belongs to the Lord; he rules over the nations.*

²⁸ *To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before him.*

²⁹ *My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; they shall be known as the Lord's forever.*

³⁰ *They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn the saving deeds that he has done.*

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

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



1. O___ Lord who rules the heav-en's host, O___ God of A - bra - ham, Lord,
 2. But___ yet your love sur - pass - es all the mea - sure of___our mind; You,
 3. And___ now, O Lord, I bend my knee and make my sure ap - peal; For



God of Isa - ac, Ja - cob, and of___ all their right eous clan. You
 Lord, are pa - tient, mer - ci - ful, and in - fi - nite - ly kind. You
 I have sinned, Lord, and I know my wick - ed - ness too well. I___



made the heav'ns and formed the earth with all their vast ar - ray, be -
 do not judge as we de - serve, and in your good - ness, Lord, You
 there - fore make this prayer to you: for - give me, Lord, for - give; Let



fore you all___ things quake with fear and trem - ble in___ dis - may.
 of - fer par - don that we may re - pent and be___ re - stored.
 me not per - ish___ in my sin, nor let me die___ but live.

THE HOMILY

Reggie Holder

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 883

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
 who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence,

to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
 to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

THE PRAYERS

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray: Christ, Son of the Living God, who for a season laid aside the divine glory and learned obedience through suffering: teach us in all our afflictions to raise our eyes to the place of your mercy and to find in you our peace and deliverance. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer 895

GREETINGS AND PARISH NOTICES

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

The Choir

*Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways!
 Reclothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives thy service find, in deeper reverence, praise.
 In simple trust like theirs who heard beside the Syrian sea the gracious calling of the Lord,
 Let us, like them, without a word rise up and follow thee.
 Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease;
 Take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace.
 Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy balm;
 Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
 O still, small voice of calm.*

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)

Text, John Greenleaf Whittier

*DOXOLOGY 95

OLD 100TH

*HYMN 534

Be Still My Soul

Verses 1 and 3

FINLANDIA

*BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

ORGAN IMPROVISATION ON A HYMN TUNE

Highlands United Methodist Church is blessed to have one of the most beautiful pipe organs in the Southeast. Our Möller pipe organ is currently being re-leathered and repaired by the R. A. Colby Organ Company and will be out of commission for several months. I want to thank our congregation for raising over \$300,000 to refurbish our beloved instrument. Until the restoration is completed, we will be using an electronic organ as a substitute during our worship services.

Rick Phillips, Choirmaster and Organist



In
remembrance
of me...

LENTEN MIDDAY COMMUNION

Tuesdays at Noon
Lunch to follow in the
Fellowship Hall (\$10)



Highlands United Methodist Church
1045 20th Street South
Birmingham, AL 35205

www.highlandsumc.net/lent



February 20

Reverend Amy DeWitt

Trinity UMC - Homewood



February 27

Reverend Erica Cooper

Baptist Church of the Covenant



March 5

Reverend Mary Henley

Assistant District Superintendent



March 12

Reverend Dr. Tim Kelley

Southside Baptist Church



March 19

Stephen Ingram

Grace United Methodist Church



March 26

Reverend Charles Lee

Retired United Methodist Clergy



WELCOME TO HIGHLANDS!

ALL ARE WELCOME



A Reconciling Congregation with the Reconciling Ministries Network – 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.

OFFERING

Cash or Check Giving:

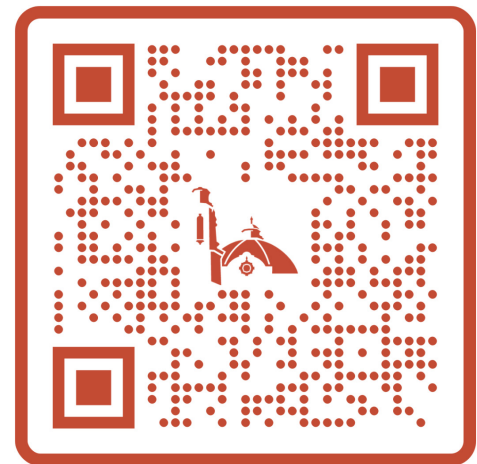
- Giving envelopes are available in the pew racks.
Checks may be made payable to HUMC.

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 to give using a debit card, credit card, or bank account.

Sustainable Giving:

- To set up automatic monthly bank drafts, contact financial manager Tyra Johnson-Pirtle at finance@highlandsumc.net.



SCAN THE CODE WITH YOUR MOBILE
DEVICE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT'S
HAPPENING AT HIGHLANDS!

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