



HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 7, 2024

10:30 A.M. SERVICE



Daniel Bonnel, Baptism of the Christ

Today we celebrate Baptism of the Lord Sunday,
remembering both the baptism of Jesus and our own baptism as God's calling for our lives.

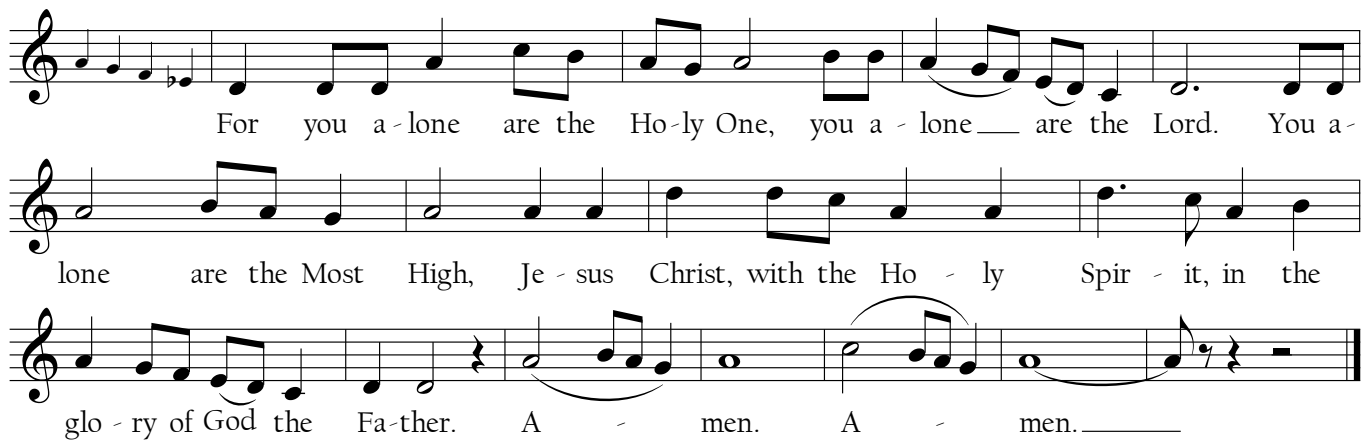
GLORIA

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 OF HOLY COMMUNION AND REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

PREACHING – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON
LITURGIST – REGGIE HOLDER
CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST – RICHARD PHILLIPS
VERGER – BRIAN BELLENGER

***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: Geoff Green, Will Stowe
Serving as Lay Reader: PJ Ellis
Serving as Acolytes: Adelia Arnold, Camille Baxley
Serving as Communion Stewards: Steve & PJ Ellis

PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS

Kara Cargile, chimer

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

PRELUDE

Praeludium in C
BWV 531

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

*HYMN IN PROCESSION 159

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER
Descant Setting: Richard Proulx

*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 BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray: Almighty God, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Grant that all who are baptized into his name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, One God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

PSALTER (*Sung by The Choir*)

Psalm 29: 1-6

Anglican Chant: Henry George Ley (1887-1962)

Afferte Domino

¹ *Ascribe to the Lord, you gods; ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.*

² *Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.*

³ *The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.*

⁴ *The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.*

⁵ *The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;*

⁶ *He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.*

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.

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 1:1-5

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of a series of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia!' are written below the notes on both staves. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff continues the melody and lyrics.

*GOSPEL LESSON

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

The Lesson

Mark 1:4-11

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

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881

THE APOSTLES' CREED

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reggie Holder

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.***

GREETING AND PARISH NOTICES

Reggie Holder

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Baptism of Jesus

The Choir

Thomas Head, baritone soloist

Jesus autem hodie regrésus est a Jordane.

TRANSLATION: JESUS WENT TO THE JORDAN TODAY.

When Jesus Christ baptized was, the Holy Ghost descended with grace; the Father's voice was heard in the place:

REFRAIN: *Hic est filius meus, ipsum inténde.*

TRANSLATION: THIS IS MY SON WITH WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED.

There were three persons and one Lord, the Son baptized with one accord, the Father said this blessed word: REFRAIN

Now, Jesus, as thou art both god and man, and were baptized in from Jordan, at our last end, we pray thee, say then: REFRAIN

Peter Hallock (b. 1941)

Text: Anon. Medieval, ca. 8th century

*DOXOLOGY WITH ALLELUIAS 94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

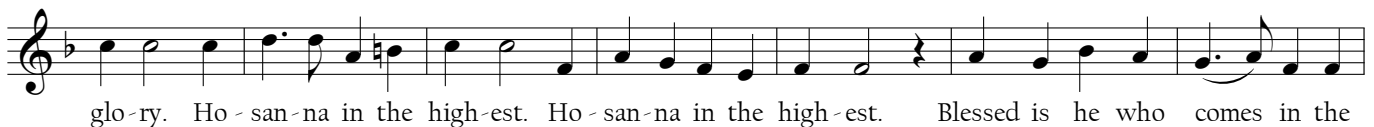
*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*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:



...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.



...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 AND REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Please come forward as directed by the ushers to receive the sacrament and reaffirm your baptism. Holy Communion will be served by intinction; clergy will dip the bread into the cup and place in congregants' hands. **Reflecting our conviction that God's grace is for all people, everyone is invited to the Lord's table.** *If you have never been baptized and would like to learn more, please speak to a member of the clergy following worship.*

COMMUNION HYMN 189

Fairest Lord Jesus The Choir and Congregation

ST. ELIZABETH

*COVENANT PRAYER IN THE WESLEYAN TRADITION

I am not my own self-made, self-reliant human being.
In truth, O God, I am yours.
Make me into what you will.
Make me a neighbor with those whom you will.
Guide me on the easy path for you.
Guide me on the rocky road for you.
Whether I am to step up for you or step aside for you;
Whether I am to be lifted high for you or brought low for you;
Whether I become full or empty, with all things or with nothing;
I give all that I have and all that I am for you. So be it.
And may I always remember that you, O God, and I belong to each other. Amen.

*HYMN 605

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

BEACH SPRING

Verses 1 and 3

*BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

ORGAN IMPROVISATION ON A HYMN TUNE



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.

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.

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, 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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