



# HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 6, 2022

10:30 A.M. SERVICE



### 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 depth of our estrangement from God, and to begin to put things right. 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.



# ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

PREACHING – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON  
LITURGISTS – REGGIE HOLDER, LESLIE WILLIAMS  
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:* Beth Crane, Dinah Hughes • *Serving as Ushers:* Joe Hughes, Todd Edmondson

*Serving as Acolytes:* Austin Meredith, Will Soong • *Serving as Lay Reader:* Warren Laird

*Serving as Communion Stewards:* Leisha Harris, Vance Holder

*The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Eivor H. Callahan, given by Timothy A. R. Callahan.*

**Congregants are asked to wear a face mask throughout the service to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.**

PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS

Kara Cargile, Chimer

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

**Fantasia in C Minor**

Johan Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

BWV 537

*And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness.*

*He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. – Mark 1:12-13*

\*HYMN IN PROCESSION 127

**Guide Me, O, Thou Great Jehovah**

CWM RHONNDA

Organ Improvisation: Noel Rawsthorne

THE GREAT LITANY

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

*The Great Litany is an intercessory prayer including various petitions with fixed responses by the congregation. It is the first recorded English-language rite – prepared by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, first published in 1544, and printed in the 1549 Book of Common Prayer. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, included The Great Litany in his Sunday Service for the Methodists of North America. This prayer of supplication is broadly inclusive, offering prayers for everyone and everything. Because of its penitential tone, The Great Litany is especially appropriate during Lent. The clergy will speak each petition, followed by a sung response. The congregation is encouraged to join in singing.*

## GENERAL PETITIONS

God the Father, creator of heaven and earth,



Have mer - cy up - on us.

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

Have mercy upon us.

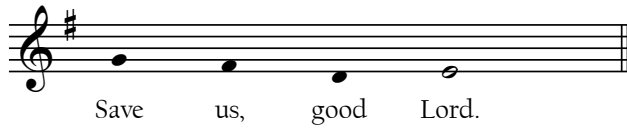
God the Holy Spirit, giver of life,

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,*



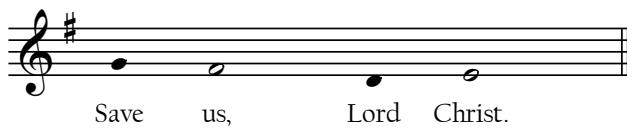
*From sins of thought, word and deed, from the lusts of the flesh, from the deceits of the world and the temptations of evil,  
Save us, good Lord.*

*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.*

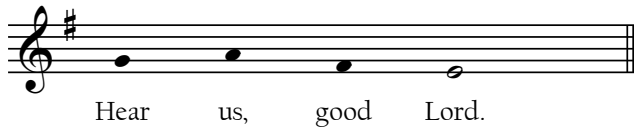
*Give all people grace to receive your word and to bring forth the fruit of the Spirit,  
Hear us, good Lord.*

*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.**

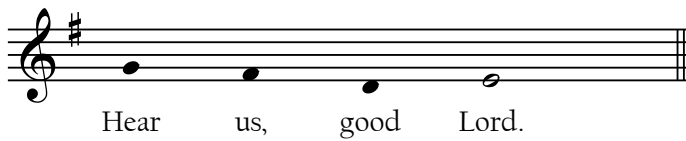
*Keep parents and children united in their family life, and give them wisdom and strength in times of stress,*  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

*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,



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,

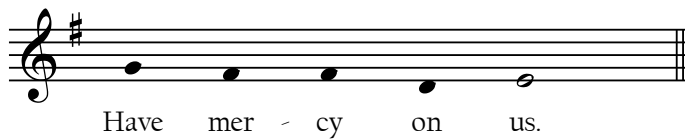
Hear us, good Lord.

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.

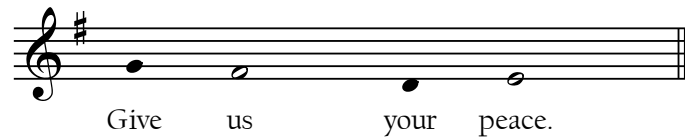
Jesus, Lamb of God,



Jesus, bearer of our sins,



Jesus, Redeemer of the world,



THE LESSON

Romans 10:8b-13  
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.

## \*GOSPEL LESSON

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

The Lesson

Luke 4:1-13

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

## THE HOMILY

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881

THE APOSTLES' CREED

## SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Communion Musical Setting: Franz Schubert (1797-1828)*

## \*INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

*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.*

**\*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 PEACE**

**GREETING AND PARISH NOTICES**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

**Behold the Lamb of God**  
*from MESSIAH*  
*The Choir*

*Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.*

*George Frederick Handel (1685–1759)*

*Text, John 1:29*

**\*DOXOLOGY 95**

OLD 100th

**\*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 pow'r and might. \_\_\_ might. \_\_\_

Heav - en and earth are full, \_\_\_ full \_\_\_ of \_\_\_ your glo - ry. Ho -  
Bless - ed is he who comes, \_\_\_ in the name of the Lord. \_\_\_

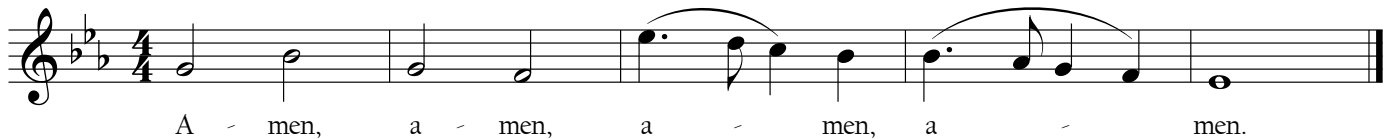
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



...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



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



**THE LORD'S PRAYER 895**

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

**THE FRACTION ANTHEM**

**Agnus Dei**  
The Choir

Franz Schubert

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.

**RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP**

**COMMUNION HYMN 396**

**O Jesus, I Have Promised**  
The Choir and Congregation

ANGEL'S STORY

**PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING**

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**\*HYMN 178**

**Hope of the World**  
Verses 1, 2, and 5

VICAR

**\*BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH**

Following the retiring procession, please be seated until the conclusion of the voluntary or exit quietly.

**\*RETIRING VOLUNTARY**

*Fugue on Erbarm' dich mein, O Herre Gott*

Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)

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



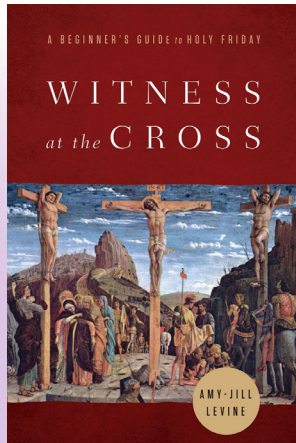
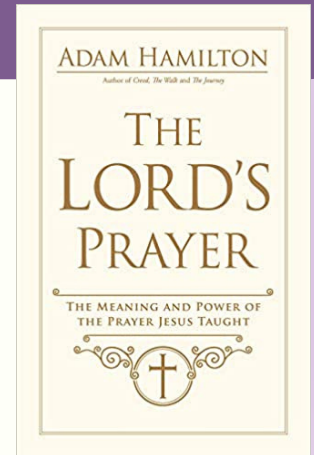
# LENTEN STUDIES

at Highlands United Methodist Church

*Join a small group book study this Lenten season.*

## Adult Sunday School at 9:30 AM

*The Lord's Prayer* by Adam Hamilton  
Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall  
Led by Janet Holt and Matthew Penfield

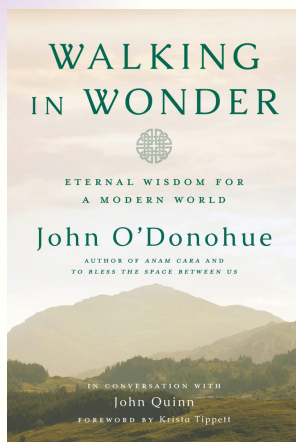
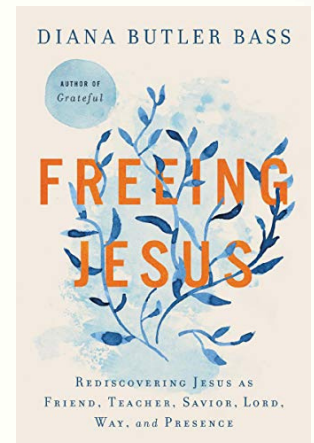


## Tuesdays at 7:30 AM

*Witness at the Cross* by Amy-Jill Levine  
Led by Michael Lalor in Room E209  
*Place yourself as a witness of the cross and determine what your own testimony will be.*

## Thursdays at Noon

*Freeing Jesus* by Diana Butler Bass  
Led by Mikah Hudson in Room E 209  
*Rediscovering Jesus as friend, teacher, savior, lord, way, and presence.*



## Sundays at 4 PM

*Walking in Wonder* by John O'Donohue  
Led by Reggie Holder in the Chancel  
*Eternal wisdom for a modern world.*



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](http://www.highlandsumc.net/lent)



**March 8**

*Rev. Steve Reneau*  
Elba United Methodist Church



**March 15**

*Rev. Caroline Foster*  
St. Mark's Episcopal Church



**March 22**

*Rev. Caitlin Harper*  
Community Church Without Walls



**March 29**

*Rev. Sarah Shelton*  
Baptist Church of the Covenant



**April 5**

*Rev. Kevin Higgs*  
Sylvan Springs United Methodist Church



**April 12**

*Rev. Elizabeth Goodrich*  
Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley





# 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.*

*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.*

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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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### COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS

- If you have been exposed to COVID-19 or exhibit symptoms of illness, please join us for online worship. *Worship services are livestreamed on Facebook, Youtube, and Vimeo. Visit [www.highlandsumc.net](http://www.highlandsumc.net) for more information.*
- Face masks that cover both the mouth and nose are required throughout the building at all times, regardless of your vaccination status.
- Hand sanitizer is available throughout the Sanctuary and church building. Congregants are especially encouraged to sanitize hands prior to receiving Holy Communion.
- Please be mindful of social distancing, especially in narrow hallways and in restroom facilities.

*If you have questions or concerns regarding in-person worship COVID protocols, please contact the church office at 205-933-8751.*

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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).*