



HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MOTHER'S DAY & BLESSING OF THE INFANTS

MAY 14, 2023 – 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.



Mother's Day Hydrangeas Given in Honor of ...

Katherine Bellenger given by Brian Bellenger

Raegan Whitten Bellenger given by Brian Bellenger

Nan Bellenger Burrow given by Brian Bellenger

Grand Carol, and JoJo given by Lucas Starnes

Alison Starnes given by Lucas and Dan Starnes

Andrea White given by Virginia and Robert White

Majorie White given by Goodloe White

April Sides given by Jonathan and Estelle Sides

Sarah Sides given by The Sides family

Gayle Green given by The Sides Family

Mattie Gaskin given by Loula, Bea, and George Gaskin

Sarah Pitts given by Oliver and Jamison Pitts

Marsha Long given by Laura Long

Leslie Jeff Davis given by Dave Davis

Debbi Towns given by Jordan Towns

June Bryan given by Steve and PJ Ellis

Lavone Sanders given by The Rand family

Anne Rand given by Lewis and Lillian Rand

Angela Stowe given by Liam and Julia Stowe

Orlean Hydinger given by The Arnold family

Sarah Darby given by Matt and James Darby

Ondene W. Johnson given by The Pirtle family

Michelle Jones given by Sam and Nathan Jones

Lynn L'Eplattnier given by Chase, Chad, and Aimee

Romona Shannon given by Jimmy and Jim Shannon

Lisa Reed given by Kirk, Tate, Bess, Reed, Mack,
and Sam Forrester

Kirk Forrester given by Bess, Reed, Mack, and
Sam Forrester

Renee Peacock given by The Thistle family and
The Jacques family

Caroline Laird Caldwell given by Adam and John
Thomas Caldwell

Allison Lowery given by Wade, Gradie, and
Beatrice Lowery

Marsha Long given by Wade, Allison, Gradie, and
Beatrice Lowery

Kathy White given by Ethan, Ethan Jr., Jackson,
and Maggie White

Missie Hudson, Kathy Cowling, and Paula Doggett
given by Mikah, Emmalynne, Eleanor, Miriam,
Whit, and Wesley Hudson

Janet Hughes Holt given by her children,
grandchildren, and great grandchildren

Susan Gaskin given by her children and
grandchildren

Given in Memory of ...

Jean Drennen given by The Arnold Family

Beverly Rausch given by Andrea White

Myrell Ellis given by Steve and PJ Ellis

Betsy Smith Watson given by The Pirtle Family

Carol Tate Forrester given by Kirk, Tate, Bess,
Reed, Mack, and Sam Forrester

Terry McNeel and Duluth Lagman given by
Henry and Marion Lagman

Jan Stowe given by Angela, Will, Liam, and Julia
Stowe

Eloise Long and Linnie Martin given by Laura,
Mary, and Allison

Myrtle Mae Guise Bellenger given by Brian
Bellenger

*Thank you for supporting the ministries of Highlands through the purchase of Mother's Day hydrangeas.
Honorees may pick up hydrangeas at the conclusion of the worship service.*

ORDER FOR MORNING WORSHIP

PREACHING – THE REVEREND SHERYL THORNTON

LITURGISTS – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON, 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: Linda Gaffney, Marion Lagman • *Serving as Ushers:* Danny Jones, Scott Williams

Serving as Acolytes: Camille Baxley, Polly Dawson

Serving as Lay Reader: Nancy Harris

PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS

Kara Cargile, chimer

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRELUDE

Ave Maria

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Opus 52, No. 5

Tessa Brown, soprano

Ave Maria, gratia plena: Dominus tecum: benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.

Sancta Maria mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus, nunc, et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

TRANSLATION: *Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.*

Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and in the hour of our death. Amen.

*HYMN IN PROCESSION 139

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

Organ Improvisation: Noel Rawsthorne

Descant Setting: Richard Proulx

*THE INVITATORY & GLORIA PATRI 70

MEINEKE

Alleluia! The Lord is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.

*VENITE

Psalm 95: Come, Sing With Joy to God

DARWALL'S 148TH



Come, sing with joy to God, our Rock and Sa-**vi**or praise; come en-**ter** in with shouts of joy, your
The heights and depths of earth are cra-**dl**ed in God's hand; the same al-**mi**ght-y power made moun-**tain**s,



voic-**es** raise. O might-y God, You are the Lord, the God of gods by all a-**do**red.
sea, and land. Come wor-**ship** God, come kneel and bow be-**fore** the Lord our Mak-**er** now.

BLESSING OF THE INFANTS

Beloved in Christ: The birth or adoption of a child is a joyous and solemn occasion in the life of a family. It is also an occasion for rejoicing in the church family. I bid you, therefore, to join with the parents in giving thanks to God for the gift of these children and their families.

Sam Bishop

John Thomas Caldwell

Bea Gaskin

Bonnie McKinnon

Oliver Pitts

Gavin Prewitt

Thomas Slay

Gracious God, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named: We come before you with gratitude for the gift of these children, for the joy that has come into their families, and the grace that surrounds them and all of us. Help us joyfully to nurture them within your Church. By the power of your Holy Spirit, fill their homes with love, trust, and understanding. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PSALTER

Psalm 66:1-8

Anglican Chant: Richard Woodward (1744-1777)

The Choir

Jubilate Deo

¹Be joyful in God, all you lands; sing the glory of his name; sing the glory of his praise.

²Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds, because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.

³All the earth bows down before you, sings to you, sings out your name."

⁴Come now and see the works of God, how wonderful he is in his doing toward all people.

⁵He turned the sea into dry land, so that they went through the water on foot, and there we rejoiced in him.

⁶In his might he rules for ever; his eyes keep watch over the nations; let no rebel rise up against him.

⁷Bless our God, you peoples; make the voice of his praise to be heard;

⁸Who holds our souls in life, and will not allow our feet to slip.

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

2 Timothy 1:3-7

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

*CANTICLE (See inside back cover)

Glory to You

John Rutter (b.1945)

1. Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
2. Glory to you for the radiance of your holy name; we will praise you and highly exalt you forever.
3. Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.
4. Glory to you, seated between the cherubim; we will praise you and highly exalt you forever.
5. Glory to you, beholding the depths; in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
6. Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; we will praise you and highly exalt you forever.

*GOSPEL LESSON

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

The Lesson

John 14:15-21

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

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST PREACHER

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Sheryl Thornton

*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

Leslie Williams

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

In you, O God, every family on earth receives its name. Illumine the homes of this earth with the light of your love, granting courage to those who are hurt or lonely, endurance to those who care for the sick, and wisdom to those in fearful times of change. We thank you for the gifts of love we have received, especially from our mothers. As we have been loved by you and by others, so may we love. Grant us your peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer 895

GREETINGS AND PARISH NOTICES

Reggie Holder

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Peace I Leave With You

The Choir

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give unto you.

Matthew Glandorf (b. 1972)

Text, John 14:27

*DOXOLOGY WITH ALLELUIAS 94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*HYMN 89

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

*BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

ORGAN IMPROVISATION ON A HYMN TUNE

A graphic illustration for a summer cookout. At the top center is a large yellow sun with rays. Below it, a picnic table with a red and white checkered tablecloth holds a hamburger, a drink with a straw, two condiment bottles (ketchup and mustard), and a hot dog. The scene is set against a light blue sky with two stylized trees, one orange and one green, on a green grassy ground.

Summer Sunday Cook Outs

Save the Dates!

YOU'RE INVITED!

Join the Highlands family in celebrating the summer holidays! Each month this summer, we'll have an after-church cook out serving up grilled hamburgers and hot dogs with sides, desserts, and plenty of fellowship.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Highlands
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Love God & Serve Your Neighbor

June 18 - Father's Day

July 2 - Fourth of July Weekend

August 13 - Back to School

September 3 - Labor Day Weekend

Glory to You

John Rutter (b. 1945)



Glo-ry to you, — Lord God of our fa-thers; — you are wor-thy of praise;



glo-ry to you. — Glo-ry to you — for the ra-di-ance of your



ho-ly name; — we will praise you and high-ly ex-alt you for-ev-er. —



Glo-ry to you, — in the splen-dor of your tem-ple; — on the throne of your ma-jes-ty,



glo-ry to you. — Glo-ry to you seat-ed be-tween the Che-ru-



bim; — we will praise you and high-ly ex-alt you for-ev-er. —



Glo-ry to you, — be-hold-ing the depths; — in the high vault of hea-ven,



glo-ry to you. — Glo-ry to you — Fa-ther, Son — and Ho-ly



Spi-rit; — we will praise you and high-ly ex-alt you for-ev-er. —



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.*
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