



HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE SUNDAY OF THE ASCENSION

MAY 21, 2023 – 10:30 A.M. SERVICE

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

ORDER FOR MORNING WORSHIP

*Those who are able, 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: Robert White, Virginia White • *Serving as Lay Reader:* Susan Crow

PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS

Kara Cargile, chimer

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

PRELUDE

Prologue on ASCENSION

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

*HYMN IN PROCESSION 312

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

LLANFAIR

Organ Improvisation: Noel Rawsthorne

*THE INVITATORY & GLORIA PATRI 70

MEINEKE

Alleluia! Christ 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-dled in God's hand; the same al-might-y power made moun-tains,



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

¹The Lord is King; he has put on splendid apparel; the Lord has put on his apparel and girded himself with strength.

²He has made the whole world so sure that it cannot be moved;

³Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; you are from everlasting.

⁴The waters have lifted up, O Lord, the waters have lifted up their voice; the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

⁵Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, mightier is the Lord who dwells on high.

⁶Your testimonies are very sure, and holiness adorns your house, O Lord, forever and for evermore.

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

Ephesians 1:15-23

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

*CANTICLE

Glory to You

John Rutter (b. 1945)



Glo-ry to you, Lord God of our fa-ters; 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.

***GOSPEL LESSON**

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

The Lesson

Luke 24:44-53

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

Reggie Holder

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

O God, whose son Jesus is the Great Physician, keep us ever mindful that we were created in love, by love, and for love. Surround us, especially in time of illness and need, with your steadfast love, mercy, and grace. Enable us to seek well-being for all people and all creation. We entrust all to your love and care through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen

Silent Prayer

Prayers of the People

GREETING AND PARISH NOTICES

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O Clap Your Hands

The Choir

*O, clap your hands, all ye people, shout unto God with the voice of triumph,
For the Lord most high is terrible: he is a great King over all the earth.
God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises unto our King, sing praises.
For God is King of all the earth; sing ye praises everyone that hath understanding.
God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness.
Sing praises unto our King, sing praises.*

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Text, Psalm 47

***DOXOLOGY 94**

LAST UNS ERFREUEN WITH ALLELUIAS

***HYMN 315**

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

ST. KEVIN

Verses 1, 2, and 5

Organ Improvisation: T. Tertius Noble

***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.
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