

HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH The Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

NOVEMBER 12, 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.

Order for Morning Worship

Preaching – Reggie Holder Liturgist – Danny Jones Guest Choirmaster and Organist – Jack Smith Verger – Wilson Nash

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

Serving for Altar Guild: Nancy Barkemeyer Serving as Ushers: Craig Taylor, Adam Caldwell Serving as Lay Reader: Cinda York Serving as Acolytes: Adelia Arnold, Polly Dawson, Austin Meredith

PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Great Is Thy Faithfulness The Handbell Choir Kathy Burdette, Director William Marion Rynyon (1870-1957) Arranged By Mitchell Eithun

Kara Cargile, chimer

Reggie Holder

This anthem was placed in the music library to the glory of God and in memory of Tim Hilton, brother of Naomi Hilton Archer.

*Hymn In Procession 702	Sing with All the Saints in Glory	HYMN TO JOY
*The Invitatory and 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.



Psalm 98:1-6 The Choir

Cantate Domino

¹Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. ²With his right hand and his holy arm, has he won for himself the victory. ³The Lord has made known his victory; his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations. ⁴He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. ⁵Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing. ⁶Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song. 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

Isaiah 41:4b-10 May these words reveal Christ to us. **Thanks be to God**

*CANTICLE (See inside back cover)

The First Song of Isaiah

Jack Noble White (1938-2019)

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation. And on that day you shall say, "Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name."

Make his deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that his name is exalted. Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior.

*Gospel Lesson

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

The Lesson

Matthew 6:19-33

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

THE HOMILY

Reggie Holder

We believe in God, the Creator, all powerful and all knowing, who formed us in God's own image, and calls us to justice; leading us, guiding us, loving us.

We believe in God the Son, the Redeemer,

God among us in the form of a selfless human,

who teaches, forgives, and accepts us,

calling us to liberation and to liberate others.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, ever present, guiding us and encouraging us, motivating us and enabling us, sustaining us and comforting us.

THE PRAYERS

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Eternal God, in whose perfect realm no sword is drawn by the sword of justice, and no strength known by the strength of love: guide and inspire all who seek your kingdom, that peoples and nations may find their security in the love with casts out fear; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer 895

GREETINGS AND PARISH NOTICES

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Sing to the Lord a New Song The Choir

People and tongues of ev'ry nation sing to the Lord a new song. Bring him a song of jubilation; sing to the Lord a new song. All God's creatures, old amen and children, voices raised in hymns of love. He crowns the humble with salvation. Sing to the Lord a new song. Mountains and hills and all creation sing to the Lord a new song. Join in a hymn of adoration. sing to the Lord a new song. Praise him! Praise his name, sing, "Alleluia!" Praise him for his mighty deeds. This is our song, our supplication: "Sing to the Lord a new song." Praise him, shining stars, and praise him highest heavens. Oh, all kings and princes his holy name. Angels above make melody to him. Now lift your voice, lift up your heart, and sing! Come, Christians all, now raise your voices, sing to the Lord a new song. Praise and thanksgiving be your choices, sing to the Lord a new song. Make music now as heav'n rejoices, sing a new song!

Robert Lau (b. 1943)

Text, Psalms 148, 149, 150, paraphrased

Danny Jones

Introduction to Youth Hymn of the Month

*Hymn 405

Seek Ye First Hymn of the Month chosen by the Highlands Youth Group Austin Meredith

SEEK YE

*Blessing and Sending Forth

Organ Improvisation on a Hymn Tune

The First Song of Isaiah

Jack Noble White (1938-2019)





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 <u>www.highlandsumc.net/giving</u> 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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