



HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 19, 2023 – 10:30 A.M. SERVICE

PREACHING – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON

LITURGIST – LESLIE WILLIAMS

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: Nancy Barkemeyer

Serving as Ushers: Craig Taylor, Adam Caldwell

Serving as Lay Reader: Brian Bellenger

Serving as Acolytes: Camille Baxley, Ann Harper Nash, Lillian Rand

PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS

Kara Cargile, chimer

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

PRELUDE

Elegy

Sir George Thalben-Ball (1896-1987)

*HYMN IN PROCESSION 150

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

HOLY MANNA

*THE INVITATORY & 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.

*VENITE

Psalm 95: Come, Sing With Joy to God

DARWALL'S 148TH



Come, sing with joy to God, our Rock and Sa-
vior 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.

PSALTER

Psalm 90:1-6

Anglican Chant: Arthur Henry Mann (1850-1929)

The Choir

Domine, refugium

¹Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

²Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.

³You turn us back to the dust and say, "Go back, O child of earth."

⁴For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night.

⁵You sweep us away like a dream; we fade away suddenly like the grass.

⁶In the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered.

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

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

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

*SEQUENCE HYMN 131

We Gather Together

KREMSER

*GOSPEL LESSON

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

The Lesson

Matthew 25:14-30

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

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Leslie Williams

Children of all ages are invited to participate. Following the Children's Moment, all children are invited to Children's Church. After the service, parents may pick up children in the Fellowship Hall. If this is your first time at Highlands, a parent is asked to accompany their child to meet staff and provide contact information.

HYMN 191

Jesus Loves Me

JESUS LOVES ME

Verses 1 and 2

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881

THE APOSTLES' CREED

THE PRAYERS

Leslie Williams

*The Lord be with you. **And also with you.***

*Eternal God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in justice and peace your kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.***

Silent Prayer

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer 895

GREETINGS AND PARISH NOTICES

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Phil and Sara Amthor

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O How Amiable

The Choir

*O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord:
My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
Even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be always praising thee.
The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us:
Prosper thou the work of our hands upon us. O prosper thou our handy work.
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.*

Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958)

Text, Psalms 84 and 90

*DOXOLOGY WITH ALLELUIAS 94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*HYMN 694

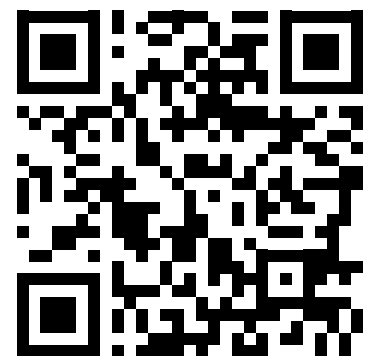
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Verses 1 and 4

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

*BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

ORGAN IMPROVISATION ON A HYMN TUNE



All are invited to prayerfully consider giving to support the ministries of Highlands in 2024.

Pledges are requested by December 24, 2023



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.

HEALTH AND 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 for more information.*
- Hand sanitizer is available throughout the Sanctuary and church building. Congregants are especially encouraged to sanitize hands prior to receiving Holy Communion.

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

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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