

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 27, 2020



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.

In order to comply with current COVID-19 guidelines, we ask that you wear a mask the entire time you are in the church and practice safe social distancing. Please do not congregate in the Greeting Space or hallways after the service. If you wish to talk with fellow parishioners, please move outside. Thank you.

A Service of Music and Prayer

OFFICIANT – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON
CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST – RICHARD PHILLIPS

**Those who are able will please stand. Words in bold are spoken or sung by the congregation.*

PRELUDE **Adagio in A Flat Major** Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

WORDS OF WELCOME

***HYMN 451** **Be Thou My Vision** SLANE
Organ Improvisation: Noel Rawsthorne

***INVITATORY**

*O Lord, open our lips. **And our mouth shall show forth your praise.**
Make haste, O God, to deliver us. **Make haste to help us, O Lord.***

***GLORIA PATRI** MEINKE

**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.**

PSALTER (*Sung by The Choir*) Psalm 121
Anglican Chant Setting: James Turtle (1802-1882)

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?
²My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.
³He will not let your foot be moved and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
⁴Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep;
⁵The Lord himself watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
⁶So that the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
⁷The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; it is he who shall keep you safe.
⁸The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth 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.

THE LESSON **Philippians 2:1-13**
*May these words reveal Christ to us. **Thanks be to God***

*CANTICLE

The First Song of Isaiah

Jack Noble White (b. 1938)

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 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.

*THE APOSTLES' CREED 881

THE ANTHEM

Be Still My Soul

David Busby, Lindsay Dawson, Thomas Head, Mary Elizabeth Neal

*Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side. With patience bear thy cross of grief or pain;
 Leave to your God to order and provide; in every change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.*

*Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake to guide the future, as he has the past.
 Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: The waves and winds still know his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.*

*Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on when we shall be forever with the Lord,
 When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow for forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past, all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.*

Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)

Text, Katharina von Schlegel and Jane Borthwick

THE PRAYERS

*The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER 894

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works. Give to us, your people, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from all our fears, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, care for the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

Silent Prayer

INTERCESSIONS

...Lord in your mercy; Hear our prayer.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, we give you thanks for this life and all its blessings, for joys great and simple, for gifts and powers more than we deserve, for love at the heart of your purpose and wisdom in all your works, for light in the world brought once in Christ and always shining through your Spirit. Giving thanks to you, we pray for that light to dawn upon us daily, that we may always have grateful hearts and a will to love and serve you to the end of our days. Hear our prayers, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY WITH ALLELUIAS 94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Andante in B Flat Major

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)



WELCOME TO HIGHLANDS!

A RECONCILING CONGREGATION

www.highlandsumc.net/rmn



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.

1045 Twentieth Street South • Birmingham, Alabama 35205
(205) 933-8751 • www.highlandsumc.net