



# HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### YOUTH SUNDAY AND SENIOR RECOGNITION

MAY 5, 2024 • 10:30 A.M. SERVICE

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### 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.*

## GLORIA

Richard Proulx

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo-ple on  
 earth. Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we  
 wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for — your glo - ry.

*(Sung by the Choir) Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,*

*You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;*

*You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.*

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone — are the Lord. You a -  
 lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men. \_\_\_\_\_

# ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION

PREACHING – AUSTIN MEREDITH

LITURGISTS – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON, 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:* Reina McFarland

*Serving as Greeters:* Will Thompson, Henry Shacka

*Serving as Ushers:* Bess Forrester, Reed Forrester, Robert White, Virginia White

*Serving as Acolytes:* Sedgie Edmondson, Will Soong, Liam Stowe

*Serving as Communion Stewards:* Lucy Edmondson, Beatrice Lowery

PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS

*Kara Cargile, Chimer*

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

PRELUDE

*Chorale Prelude on Amazing Grace*  
*Ben Shacka (Class of 2024), trumpet*  
*Richard Phillips, organ*

*19<sup>th</sup> Century American Melody*

\*HYMN 154

All Hail the Power of Jesus Name

CORONATION  
*Descant Setting: Richard Phillips*

\*COLLECT FOR PURITY

Julia Stowe

*Alleluia! Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

*Let us pray:* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires are known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

\*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (*See facing page*)

*Richard Proulx (1937-2010)*

Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, Almighty God and Father,

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

*(Sung by the Choir) Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,*

*You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;*

*You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.*

For you alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Lucy Edmondson

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

*God of mercy, as we rejoice in the resurrection of your Son, the Bread of Life, nourish us and increase in us compassion for the hungry; through Jesus Christ our Savior; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 98

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

*Gracie Lowery, reader*

## EPISTLE LESSON

1 John 5:1-6

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

*Millie Taylor, reader*

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Fintan O'Carroll (1922-1981) and Christopher Walker (b. 1947)*

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## \*GOSPEL LESSON

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

*The Lesson*

John 15:9-17

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

## THE HOMILY

Austin Meredith (*Class of 2024*)

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

CREATED BY THE YOUTH OF HIGHLANDS UMC

*Liam Stowe, leader*

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.

Austin Meredith

Lauren Rogers

Ben Shacka

Katie Soong

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lizzy Glenn

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

*Communion Musical Setting: A Community Mass – Richard Proulx (1937-2010)*

**\*INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION & THE PEACE**

*God in Christ breaks down the walls that make us strangers to ourselves and divide us from one another. We are the body of Christ. Around this table, we enact our faith. The Communion Table is open to all who are in love with God and their neighbor and seek forgiveness and healing in this broken world.*  
*The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.***

GREETINGS AND PARISH NOTICES

Leslie Williams

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

**I Will Not Leave You Comfortless**  
*The Choir*

*I will not leave you comfortless,  
 I will come to you yet again: Alleluia.  
 And your heart shall be joyful. Alleluia.*

Everett Titcomb (1884 - 1968)

*Text, Holy Scriptures adapted from John 14:18*

**\*DOXOLOGY 94**

LAST UNS ERFREUEN WITH ALLELUIAS

**\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*The Lord be with you. **And also with you.***  
*Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.***  
*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

*...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your  
 glo-ry. Ho - san-na in the high-est. Ho - san-na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est. \_\_\_\_\_

...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.



...Through your Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.



### THE LORD'S PRAYER 895

### BREAKING OF THE BREAD

### THE FRACTION ANTHEM

### Agnus Dei The Choir

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.*

### RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Reflecting our conviction that God's grace is for all people, everyone is invited to the Lord's table. Please come forward as directed by the ushers to receive the sacrament. Holy Communion will be served by intinction; clergy will dip the bread into the cup and place in congregants' hands. Gluten-free communion wafers are available upon request. Congregants are welcome to kneel at the chancel rail for prayer before returning to their seats.

### COMMUNION HYMN 369

### Blessed Assurance The Choir & Congregation Hymn of the Month chosen by the Highlands Youth Group

ASSURANCE

### PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

Katie Soong (Class of 2024)

*God of all, we give you thanks and praise that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gates of glory. May we who share Christ's body, live his risen life; we who drink his cup, bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

\*HYMN 400

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

\*BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

Written by Lillian Rand  
Emmalynne Hudson, reader

*Remember the Lord always watches over and guides you.  
Remember all your simple acts of kindness bring love and joy to the world.  
Remember to always love God and serve your neighbor.  
As we depart from this sacred space now that worship has ended, let our service begin.  
Amen, thanks be to God.*

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

The Lord Bless You And Keep You

*The Choir*

*The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace;  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. Amen.*

*Peter C. Lutkin (1858-1931)*

*Text, Numbers 6:24-26*

ORGAN IMPROVISATION ON A HYMN TUNE

ALL ARE INVITED TO CONGRATULATE OUR GRADUATING SENIORS  
AND TAKE PHOTOS IN THE GREETING SPACE FOLLOWING WORSHIP.



# WELCOME TO HIGHLANDS!

## ALL ARE WELCOME



*A Reconciling Congregation with the Reconciling Ministries Network – [rmnetwork.org](http://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.*

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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.

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### 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](http://www.highlandsumc.net/giving) to give using a debit card, credit card, or bank account.*

#### *Sustainable Giving:*

- *To set up automatic monthly bank drafts, contact financial manager Tyra Johnson-Pirtle at [finance@highlandsumc.net](mailto:finance@highlandsumc.net).*



SCAN THE CODE WITH YOUR MOBILE  
DEVICE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT'S  
HAPPENING AT HIGHLANDS!

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