



Highlands

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 6, 2024

Morning Worship - 9:00 - 10:15

Sunday School and Communities - 10:30 - 11:30

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

October 6, 2024

Gathering Song

Sometimes a Light Surprises

Sometimes a light surprises the Christian while he sings;
it is the Lord Who rises with healing in His wings.
When comforts are declining, He grants the soul again
a season of clear shining, to cheer it after rain.

In holy contemplation, we sweetly then pursue
the theme of God's salvation, and find it ever new.
Set free from present sorrow, we cheerfully can say,
"Let the unknown tomorrow bring with it what it may."

Words: William Cowper, 1779,
alt. by Mike Murphy
Music: Mike Murphy,
Allie Murphy, 2018

Welcome

Meditation and Preparation for Worship

Doxology

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen

Words: Thomas Ken, 1709
Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1551

The Call to Worship

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!

**People: Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!**

Pastor: Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

**All: Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually!
Remember the wondrous works that he has done!**

Psalms 105:1-5a

All Creatures of Our God and King

1. All crea - tures of our God and King,
2. Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless,

lift up your voice and let us
and wor - ship Him in hum - ble -

sing!
ness. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu -
O - praise Him! Al - le - lu -

ia! Thou burn - ing sun with gol - den beam,
ia! Praise, praise the Fa - ther, praise the Son,

thou sil - ver moon with sof - ter gleam, O - praise Him! O -
and praise the Spir - it, three in One!

praise Him! Al - le lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le

lu - - - ia!

Words by St. Francis of Assisi, ca. 1225. Trans. by William Draper, 1926. Traditional German Melody, 1623.

Arranged by Mike Murphy. © 2021 MikeMurphySound

The Old Testament Reading

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;
your judgments are like the great deep;
man and beast you save, O Lord.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light do we see light.

Oh, continue your steadfast love to those who know you,
and your righteousness to the upright of heart!

Let not the foot of arrogance come upon me,
nor the hand of the wicked drive me away.

There the evildoers lie fallen;
they are thrust down, unable to rise.

Psalm 36:5-12

Come, Thou Fount/Blest the One

Come, Thou Fount of ev-'ry bless-ing, tune my
Blest the one that fears Je-ho-vah, ev-er
Lo, on you who fear Je-ho-vah, shall this

heart to sing Thy grace; streams of mer-cy, nev-er
walk-ing in His ways; by your toil you shall be
bless-ed-ness at-tend, for Je-ho-vah, out of

ceas-ing, call for songs of loud-est praise. Teach me
pros-pered and be hap-py all your days. Joy-ful
Zi-on shall to you his bless-ing send. You shall



some mel - o - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a -
 chil - dren, sons and daugh - ters, shall a - bout your ta - ble
 see God's king - dom pros - per all your days, till life shall

bove; praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of
 meet, o - live plants, in strength and beau - ty, full of
 cease, you shall see your chil - dren's chil - dren; on Your

God's un - chang - ing love.
 hope and prom - ise sweet.
 peo - ple, Lord, be peace.

Words: St. 1, Robert Robinson, 1758; St. 2-3, Psalm 128, The Psalter, 1912.
 Music by Asahel Nettleton, 1825. Arranged by Mike Murphy. © 2011 MikeMurphySound

The Morning Prayer

We Bring God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offering plates will be passed, but you may place your offering in one of the offering boxes outside the sanctuary doors or inside the balcony entrance. To give online, please visit highlandspca.org or follow the QR code on page 7 of the bulletin.

Offertory: The Beatitudes

Words: Isaac Watts, 1709

Music: Mike Murphy, 2024

Blest are the humble souls that see
 their emptiness and poverty;
 treasures of grace to them are giv'n,
 and crowns of joy laid up in heav'n.

Blest are the men of broken heart,
 who mourn for sin with inward smart;
 the blood of Christ divinely flows,
 a healing balm for all their woes.

Blest are the meek, who stand afar
 from rage and passion, noise and war;
 God will secure their happy state,
 and plead their cause against the great.

Continued on following page.

Offertory, continued

Blest are the souls that thirst for grace,
hunger and long for righteousness;
they shall be well supplied and fed,
with living streams and living bread.

Blest are the men whose hearts do move
and melt with sympathy and love;
Christ the Lord shall they obtain
like sympathy and love again.

Blest are the pure, whose hearts are clean
from the defiling pow'rs of sin;
with endless pleasure they shall see
a God of spotless purity.

Blest are the men of peaceful life,
who quench the coals of growing strife;
they shall be called the heirs of bliss,
the sons of God, the God of peace.

Blest are the suff'ers who partake
of pain and shame for Jesus' sake;
their souls shall triumph in the Lord,
glory and joy are their reward.

The New Testament Reading

Matthew 5:1-16

We Receive God's Word

The Rev. Bradford Mercer

“Who Am I?”

Blessed Assurance



Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a
Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, I in my



fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
Sav - ior am hap - py and blest; watching and wait - ing, look - ing a -



God, born of His Spi - rit, washed in His blood. This is my
bove, filled with His good - ness, lost in His love.



sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day



long; this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my



Sav - ior all the day long.

Lyrics by Fanny J. Crosby, 1873. Music by Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873.

The Benediction

CCLI #624966

GENERAL FUND GIVING UPDATE THROUGH SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

Regular monthly giving provides for the ongoing ministry of Highlands. Although offering plates will be passed during the worship service, you may place your offering in one of the four wall-mounted boxes located outside the main sanctuary doors, just inside the balcony doors, or at the Welcome Desk. Your gifts can also be mailed to the church office or made through online giving at highlandspca.org. The QR code to the right links directly to our online giving page.

General Fund Budget through October 31, 2024 \$1,394,136

General Fund giving received through September 29 \$1,364,995

Thank you for your support of the ministry and outreach of Highlands!



HPC STUDENT MINISTRY

- **JR. AND SR. HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL** meet behind the church in "The U" at 10:30am (immediately following the worship service).
- **NO SMALL GROUPS TONIGHT.**
- **MIDWEEK AT HIGHLANDS CONTINUES THIS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER OCTOBER 9.** Join us for food, fun, worship and *Concise Theology* by J.I. Packer. Dinner is served at 5:15pm in the Atrium. Gather in The U at 5:30, play games at 5:45, worship and teaching at 6:15. All activities end by 7:00.

SAVE THE DATE!

- November 2: Youth Father/Son and Friends Event
- December 1: Youth Hymn Sing at Highlands - 7:30-8:30 p.m.

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MINISTRIES: MICHAEL HAWKINS • MHAWKINS@HIGHLANDSPCA.ORG

INTERIM JRHI MINISTRY COORDINATOR: STEVE WEEKS • SWEEEKS@HIGHLANDSPCA.ORG

CONTACT US AT THE CHURCH - 601-853-0636

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Harvest Festival, October 27 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. Come join us outdoors on Sunday, October 27 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. for our Harvest Festival! We'll enjoy live bluegrass music while the kids play on Space Jumps and outdoor games. Dinner is provided: adults may choose between a hamburger or bratwurst with baked beans and fries; kids will have hot dogs and fries. Be sure to leave room for dessert from our pie social! Children are invited to dress up and participate in the costume contest. So that we will know how best to plan, please sign up at one of the Welcome Centers, in your Sunday school classroom, OR by using the QR code at the right. If you are able to serve, you can also indicate that on the form.



CRATES FOR UKRAINE 4.0: The Session of Highlands has approved a goal to fund TEN CRATES – a total of \$25,000, for medical supplies which will again be distributed by the churches MTW planted in Ukraine. You may donate (tax deductible) on our website at highlandspca.org/ukraine or by using the QR code at the left. Items will be purchased in bulk and packed by Park Cities Presbyterian Church in Dallas, then sent to our church in Lviv for distribution.



Save the Date!

- Saturday, November 2: Youth Father/Son and Friends Event
- Sunday, December 1: Youth Hymn Sing at Highlands - 7:30-8:30 p.m.
- Sunday, December 8: Highlands Family Christmas - 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Midweek at Highlands continues this Wednesday, October 9!

Join us this Wednesday, October 9 for dinner and our Fall Midweek Series! The meal begins at 5:15pm in the Atrium. Adult elective classes begin at 6:00. Children have playtime at 5:30, music in the sanctuary at 5:55, and teaching time at 6:15 (see facing page for topics). Youth gather in The U at 5:30, play games at 5:45, and have worship and teaching at 6:15. All activities end by 7:00. This week's menu includes barbequed ribs, baked beans, potato salad, and cobbler. A grilled chicken salad is also available as a meal. A kid's meal includes chicken tenders, green peas, and a cookie. Adult meals are \$6 each and kids' meals are \$4 each (family max is \$24). Please use the QR code to the right or visit highlandspca.org/midweek to reserve and pay for your meal.



Adult Electives

“How Do I Develop a Devotional Life?”

Room 211

Many of us know that Bible reading, prayer, and worship are vital to the Christian life. Often, we feel discouraged in not being consistent in each. We want to pursue God but sometimes need help. This elective will teach us how to devotionally read the Bible, pray, and worship together. It will focus on how God uses these means to deepen our love for him and show us how to serve him. We will see the necessity of community and corporate worship in our Christian life and how we also pursue God together.

“God’s Answers”

Danny Ketchum - Room 209

The great strength of the Reformed Faith is its willingness to provide biblical answers for life's most intriguing questions. Topics will include: How Reliable is the Bible? What kind of Man was Jesus? How Can I Know God's Will? What is Hell Like? What is Heaven Like? and more. This study is open to all adults.

For Men: Let's Study Ephesians

Brad Mercer - Room 210

A group discussion class for men based on Sinclair Ferguson's book, *Let's Study: Ephesians*. This is a great opportunity to build relationships with other men as we study God's Word together. Our focus will be Ephesians 4-6 and the second half of Ferguson's book. This is the practical/application section of the book. We will cover topics like fellowship, gifts, work, marriage, parenting, and spiritual warfare. Books will be provided.

For Women: In All Things - a Devotional Bible Study on Unshakeable Joy

Leigh Taylor & Olivia Strain - Room 212

Melissa Kruger's accessible and practical Bible study of the book of Philippians invites you to discover a joy and contentment that will carry you through every circumstance of life.

Continued...

For Women: Forever: Why You Can't Live Without It

Robyn Farber & Sissy Jackson - Room 301

Is this all you're living for? Instead of embracing the world's motto, "You only live once," follow Paul David Tripp as he unpacks the biblical truth of the world as a broken place, longing for a second chance. Come alive as you discover the meaning and redemption all this brokenness can bring to your life today.

**Midweek
Elementary Age Kids
Fall, 2024**

5:30-5:55 ~ Playground/Fellowship Hall

5:55-6:15 ~ Music in Sanctuary

6:15-7:00 ~ Teaching time

Grade:	Room:	Teaching topic
Pre-K 4	305	Bible Stories
K-5	306	Beginning Kid's Quest Catechism, Vol. 2
1st & 2nd Grades	307	Kid's Quest Catechism, Vol. 3
3rd & 4th Grades	310	The Names of God
5th Grade	311	The Secret of Handling Money

Women's Weekly Daytime Bible Studies

Wednesday

9:30a.m. ~ Room 212 ~ Mom-to-Mom ~ Laurie Nordan

In All Things: Unshakeable Joy ~ A study of Philippians by Melissa Kruger

9:30a.m. ~ Room 210 ~ Becky Brown

What a Royal Mess: A Study of I & II Kings by Susan Tyner

Thursday - Begins September 5

9:00a.m. ~ Room 210 ~ Sandra Dewey

Precepts: Isaiah Part 1 ~ Zoom is also available.

Friday

7:00a.m. ~ Room 210 ~ Marilyn Tinnin & Cindy Mercer

What a Royal Mess: A Study of I & II Kings by Susan Tyner

Adult Sunday School

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

College

Current College Students

Leaders: Jim Brown and Chuck McBride

Room 212

Young Adults

Adults in their 20s-early 30s

Leaders: Gabe May and Wesley Rule

Room 118

Lighthouse

Adults in their 30s

Leaders: Drew Coker, Jim Scott, Chris Wolfe

Room 209

The Refuge

Adults in their 30s-40s

Leaders: Scott Jones and Andrew Wilson

Room 301

Covenant

Adults in their 40s-50s

Leaders: Clark Robinson and Thomas Gandy

Room 210

Seekers

Adults in their 50s-60s

Leaders: Kevin Russell and John Nordan

Room 211

Crossroads

Adults 60+

Leader: Charlie Saums

Fellowship Hall

For more information, contact Bradford Mercer

bmercer@highlandspca.org • 601-853-0636

Nursery opens at 8:45am <i>Age as of September 1, 2024</i>	Kids' Sunday School 10:30am
<p><u>Room 104</u> Infants <i>after shots - crawling</i></p> <p><u>Room 105</u> Toddlers <i>crawling - 23 months</i></p> <p><u>Room 106</u> 2 year-olds</p> <p><u>Room 108</u> 3 year-olds</p> <p><i>Nursery is provided for Sunday School & Worship.</i></p> <p>For more information, please contact Julie Crosland at julie@highlandspca.org.</p>	<p><u>Room 305</u> K4</p> <p><u>Room 306</u> K5</p> <p><u>Room 307</u> 1st grade</p> <p><u>Room 309</u> 2nd and 3rd grade</p> <p><u>Room 310</u> 4th grade</p> <p><u>Room 311</u> 5th Grade</p> <p>For more information, please contact Laurie Nordan at laurie@highlandspca.org.</p>
<p>Youth Sunday School 10:30am - 11:30am The U (behind the church) Michael Hawkins, Director of Student Ministries mhawkins@highlandspca.org <u>JrHi (6th to 8th Grade)</u> <u>SrHi (9th to 12th Grade)</u></p> <p><i>Both groups meet together for fellowship, then go to their respective classrooms for teaching time.</i></p>	

CHURCH OFFICERS

THE SESSION

Jim Brown
Carroll Dew*
Scott Jones
Mac McGehee
Jim Pettis
Stephen Sellers
Trey Toler
Max Yates

*Emeritus

Shannon Carroll
Richard Dixon
Chuck McBride
Billy Mounger
Clark Robinson
Monty Simpkins
Will Watson

Craig Crosland
Hap Farber
Bill McDonald
Clay Parker
Kevin Russell
Brad Tisdale
Andrew Wilson

THE DIACONATE

Randy Assink
Trent Butler
Bryan Clay
Craig Eversole
David Harbaugh
Andy Sensing
Steve Weeks

* Emeritus

Nathan Beavers
T. C. Castleberry
Scott Day
Thomas Gandy
Gary Heine*
Chandler Strain
Taylor Wilson

Barr Biggs
Todd Clark
Jerry Eichelberger
Mike Green
Chip Johnson
Andy Thaggard

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor _____ Joseph Wheat

Senior Associate Pastor _____ Bradford Mercer

Director of Music _____ Mike Murphy

Women's and Children's Ministries Director _____ Laurie Nordan

Young Adults Ministry Coordinator _____ Wesley Rule

Young Adults Female Coordinator _____ Kathryn Mann

Director of Student Ministries _____ Michael Hawkins

Interim Junior High Coordinator _____ Steve Weeks

Nursery Coordinator _____ Julie Crosland

Director of Administration _____ Larnie Shinnick

Communications Coordinator _____ Kristen Walters

Administrative Assistant, Receptionist _____ Marsha Areundo

Administrative Assistant, Ministry Support _____ Becky Brown

Housekeeping _____ Kathy Richardson

Facility and Grounds Maintenance _____ Damon Winston

For additional contact information, please call the church office at 601.853.0636
or visit our website at highlandspca.org.

HIGHLANDS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HARVEST *Festival*

.....
Food • Games • Music • Pies • Costume Contest
.....

OCT 27
4:30-6:00 PM
.....

Sign up in your Sunday School class or online.



Harvest Festival