



**Highlands**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**July 20, 2025**

Morning Worship - 9:00 - 10:15

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

# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

July 20, 2025

## Prelude

Our Great God

Words and Music: Fernando Ortega  
and Mac Powell, 2002.

## Gathering Song

We Will Feast in The House of Zion

Words and Music: Sandra McCracken  
and Joshua Moore. 2015

We will not be burned by the fire;  
He is the Lord our God!  
We are not consumed by the flood:  
upheld, protected, gathered up.

We will feast in the house of Zion,  
we will sing with our hearts restored,  
“He has done great things!” we will say together,  
we will feast and weep no more.

In the dark of night, before the dawn, my soul, be not afraid,  
For the promised morning, O how long? O God of Jacob, be my strength!

Every vow we’ve broken and betrayed, You are the faithful one,  
and from the garden to the grave, bind us together, bring shalom!

## Welcome

## Meditation and Preparation for Worship

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Words: Thomas O. Chisolm, 1923.  
Music: William M. Runyan, 1923.

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
there is no shadow of turning with Thee.  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not,  
as Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see:  
all I have needed Thy hand hath provided.  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

## The Call to Worship

Pastor: Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion!

**People: When God restores the fortunes of his people,  
let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.**

Psalms 53:6

### Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly  
Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing and si - lent as  
Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of

wise, in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our  
light, nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, Thou rul - est in  
light, Thine an - gels a - dore Thee, all veil - ing their

eyes, most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of  
might; Thy jus - tice, like moun - tains, high soar - ing a -  
sight; all praise we would ren - der; O help us to

Days, al - might - y, vic - to - rious, Thy great name we praise.  
bove, Thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
see 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth Thee!

Words: Walter Smith, 1867. Music: traditional Welsh hymn melody.

## The Morning Prayer


# The New Testament Reading

For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

Hebrews 12:18-29

## How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place



1. How	sweet	and	awe	-	some	is	the
2. While	all	our	hearts	and	all	our	
3. "Why	was	I	made	to	hear	Your	
4. 'Twas	the	same	love	that	spread	the	
5. Pi	-	ty	the	na	-	tions,	O
6. We	long	to	see	Your	chur	-	ches



place with Christ with - in the doors,  
 songs join to ad - mire the feast,  
 voice, and en - ter while there's room,  
 feast that sweet - ly drew us in,  
 God, con - strain the earth to come,  
 full, that all the cho - sen race



while ev - er - last - ing love dis -  
 each of us cries, with thank - ful  
 when thou - sands make a wretch - ed  
 else we had still rel - fused to  
 send Your vic - tor - ious Word a -  
 may with one voice and heart and



plays the choic - est of her stores. \_\_\_\_\_  
 tongue, "Lord, why was I a guest?" \_\_\_\_\_  
 choice, and rath - er starve than come?" \_\_\_\_\_  
 taste, and per - ished in our sin. \_\_\_\_\_  
 broad, and bring the stran - gers home. \_\_\_\_\_  
 soul sing Your re - deem - ing grace. \_\_\_\_\_

Words by Isaac Watts, 1707. Music: old Irish hymn melody.

## The Morning Prayer

# The Offering

*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](http://highlandspca.org) or follow the QR code on page 9 of the bulletin.*

**Offertory:** His Glory and My Good

Words and Music by Ben Fielding,  
Jonny Robinson and Rich Thompson, 2024.

I have seen my Father's glory  
revealed in Jesus Christ,  
and the more that I behold Him, the more He satisfies.  
When I gaze upon His beauty, when I see Him as I should,  
then my eyes are lifted upward for His glory and my good.

There is hope in every trial, for I can trust the Lord.  
He will turn my heart towards Him, and help me bear the thorn.  
So in faith I follow Jesus on the road not understood,  
for I know that He is working for His glory and my good.

To our God be the glory! To our God be praise,  
He alone, the Name above all names.  
I will boast ever only in the Lord my God,  
for I know His glory is my good.

See the open arms of Jesus, upon the cross that day.  
What they understood as weakness deserves my every praise.  
For the charge that was against me, it was nailed into the wood.  
Yes, I know that He has saved me for His glory and my good.

Would I gladly be made nothing, that Christ would be made more,  
would I seek the only kingdom that far outweighs them all.  
I will stand before my Father, where the faithful saints have stood,  
and with joy my heart shall praise Him for His glory and my good!

## The Old Testament Reading

Psalm 53

## We Receive God's Word

The Rev. Wesley Rule

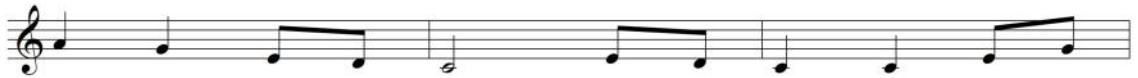
THE PSALMS - BOOK TWO

"A Fool-Saving God"

# Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



Come, Thou fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my  
Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer; hi - ther  
O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly



heart to sing Thy grace; streams of mer - cy, nev - er  
by Thy help I'm come; and I hope, by Thy good  
I'm con - strained to be; let that grace now, like a



ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise. Teach me  
plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus  
fet - ter, bind my wan - d'ring heart to Thee. Prone to



some mel - o - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a -  
sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of  
wan - der— Lord, I feel it— prone to leave the God I



bove; praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of  
God: He, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter -  
love: here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it



God's un - chang - ing love.  
posed His pre - cious blood.  
for Thy courts a - bove.

Words by Robert Robinson, 1758. Music by Ashael Nettleton, 1825.

## **SERMON NOTES**

JULY 20, 2025

Psalm 53

“A Fool-Saving God”

**Main Idea: God saves repentant fools.**

I. Foolish humanity has rejected God (verses 1-4).

II. God rejects fools (verse 5).

III. God saves repentant fools (v. 6).



## GENERAL FUND GIVING UPDATE THROUGH JULY 13, 2025

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](http://highlandspca.org). The QR code to the right links directly to our online giving page.

General Fund Budget through July 31, 2025     \$1,147,293

General Fund giving received through July 13     \$975,095

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



## HPC STUDENT MINISTRY

- **JR. AND SR. HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Both groups meet in the Student Center (behind the church) at 10:30am (immediately following the worship service).
- **SAVE THE DATE!**
  - August 17 - Small Groups kickoff celebration! Join us at the Trotters' house on the Reservoir from 5-7pm for boating, tubing, and grilling! Please use the QR code to sign up so that we can prepare.
  - August 20: *Midweek at Highlands* begins.



**DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MINISTRY: MICHAEL HAWKINS • [MHAWKINS@HIGHLANDSPCA.ORG](mailto:MHAWKINS@HIGHLANDSPCA.ORG)**

**STUDENT MINISTRY ASSISTANT COORDINATOR: GUS CROTTY • [GCROTTY@HIGHLANDSPCA.ORG](mailto:GCROTTY@HIGHLANDSPCA.ORG)**

**STUDENT MINISTRY ASSISTANT COORDINATOR: CORINNE PARSONS • [CORINNE@HIGHLANDSPCA.ORG](mailto:CORINNE@HIGHLANDSPCA.ORG)**

CONTACT US AT THE CHURCH - 601-853-0636

## REACHING Beyond the Walls: Monthly Mercy & Missions Spotlight

*For the month of July, please be in prayer for:*

**Missionary Libby Scanio:** Libby serves with Mission to the World in El Salvador, sharing the Gospel with teens and young adults. In 2024, a Highlands mission team joined her for a week of ministry. She's thankful to partner with leaders she's known since 2015 to advance God's kingdom. Use the QR code to learn more.



**Mercy Ministry: Gateway Rescue Mission** shares the hope of the gospel with the homeless by providing meals, shelter, counseling, and discipleship. To learn more or get involved, contact Highlands Mercy partner Kelli Irby at [kellirby@yahoo.com](mailto:kellirby@yahoo.com) or at 601-906-0927.

### CHURCH OFFICERS

#### THE SESSION

Jim Brown	Shannon Carroll	Craig Crosland
Carroll Dew*	Richard Dixon	Hap Farber
Scott Jones	Chuck McBride	Bill McDonald
Mac McGehee	Billy Mounger	Clay Parker
Jim Pettis	Clark Robinson	Stephen Sellers
Monty Simpkins	Brad Tisdale	Trey Toler
Will Watson	Andrew Wilson	Max Yates
*Emeritus		

#### THE DIACONATE

Randy Assink	Barr Biggs	Trent Butler
T. C. Castleberry	Bryan Clay	Scott Day
Jerry Eichelberger	Thomas Gandy	Mike Green
David Harbaugh	Chip Johnson	Andy Sensing
Chandler Strain	Andy Thaggard	Steve Weeks
Taylor Wilson		

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**This week! July 22-24: VBS for the Canton Kids' Club.** *True North* is going a little further NORTH! On July 22, 23, 24 from 4-6 pm we will provide refreshments, recreation, music, crafts and a Bible lesson using some of the same props and curriculum from our recent VBS. This will be held at the building located behind Pleasant Green Church of Christ Holiness in Canton, MS. The church van will be available for the youth. There will be one planning meeting to attend prior to the event. If you would like to participate in this local Missions project, please contact Terry Sensing at [tfsrn@bellsouth.net](mailto:tfsrn@bellsouth.net).

**Women's Summer Study Series continues this Wednesday:** All women are invited to the Summer Study Series this Wednesday, July 23 from 6:00pm-7:30pm for ***Seeing the Unseen: A Study of Colossians***. Maj Perkins will be our teacher. Light refreshments will be served. This is a great time to connect with women of all ages and enjoy fellowship. There is no book for this study; please read through Colossians several times to prepare your heart. Contact Laurie Nordan at [laurie@highlandspca.org](mailto:laurie@highlandspca.org) for more information.

**August 3 is Promotion Sunday!** Children will move to the same class that they are in in school on Sunday, August 3. Sunday School begins at 10:30am. Please take your child to their new classroom so you can meet his/her teachers before you go to your Sunday school class.

**Young Adults Brunch August 3:** Join the Young Adults (20s-early 30s) on August 3 for brunch in the Parlor immediately following Sunday School. We will connect with one another and hear about what is upcoming for a new semester together!

### **Save the Date!**

- Sunday, August 10: Congregational meeting for the purpose of electing officers.
- Sunday, August 17: Communicants Class begins.
- Wednesday, August 20: *Midweek at Highlands* begins, Women's Bible Studies begin.
- Sunday, September 7: Inquirer's Class begins, Men's Steak Supper.

**WOMEN'S SUMMER STUDY SERIES**

# *Seeing the* **UNSEEN**

**A STUDY OF COLOSSIANS**

**WEDNESDAYS, JULY 9, 16, 23, 30 FROM 6:00-7:30PM ROOM 211**

**LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED  
NURSERY AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**

**Contact Laurie Nordan at [laurie@highlandspca.org](mailto:laurie@highlandspca.org)  
for more information**



**Highlands**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH