



HIGHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastor: Randy Harris

Associate Pastor: Debbie Layman

Associate Pastor: Courtney Stevens

Pastor Emeritus: Steve McCutchan

Director of Christian Education: Heather Ferguson

Director of Music: Christopher Gilliam

Organist: Chris Heckman

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www.highlandpres.org

2380 Cloverdale Avenue

Winston-Salem, NC 27103-2012

March 31, 2024 • Easter

Easter

March 31, 2024

11:00 a.m.

As the congregation gathers, the sanctuary lighting will remain subdued, signifying the time before dawn on that first Easter. The Christ candle, which was carried from the Sanctuary on Good Friday, will be returned symbolizing the dawn of Easter.

Please prepare in silence by reading 1 Corinthians 15:1–11.

The Gathering of the People of God

A Word of Welcome

Entrance of the Christ Candle

Prelude *Today God's Son Triumphs* J.S. Bach

Call to Worship

One: Beloved church, behold the victory of our God:
Jesus, our Lord, has conquered the grave.

All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

One: Sin and death shall reign no more.

All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

One: Let this place resound with joy.

All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

One: Alleluia! The Lord is risen!

All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Prayer of Praise

*Hymn 232 *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* arr. Jeremy Bankson

Special Music *The Bells of Easter Morning* Douglas E. Wagner
Handbell Choir

The Confession of the People of God

Call to Confession

Responsive Prayer of Confession

One: Forgive us, O God, if in the perplexity of this day
the musing of the church should lose its rightful focus.

* You are invited to rise in body, or in spirit
GTG = Glory to God

All: Let the sound of our hymns echo the wonder of the women who saw the empty tomb and ran to tell.

One: Forgive us, O God, if in the mystery of this day the voice of the church should be timid or frail.

All: Let the sound of our proclaiming echo the voice of bewildered disciples who at last found words to speak.

One: Forgive us, O God, if after the pageantry of this day the memory of the church should fade or grow weary.

All: Let the sound of our prayers echo the fearful confidence of parents and martyrs who have worshiped before us. We pray in the name of the risen Christ.

The prayer continues in a time of silent confession.

Assurance of God's Love

*Gloria Patri

GTG 581

*A Time of Sharing God's Peace

*Response 301

All Are Welcome

TWO OAKS

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
all are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

The Word for the People of God

A Time for Young Disciples

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 25:6–9

Page 652

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Lesson

John 20:1–18

Page 114

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Transformed by Love:

Randy Harris

Love Is Stronger than Death

The Response of the People of God

*Hymn 246

Christ Is Alive!

arr. Hal Hopson

Stanza 1: all *Stanza 2: choir only*

Stanza 3: all *Stanza 4: choir only* **Stanza 5: all**

*Affirmation of Faith (*from A Declaration of Faith, PCUSA*)

Jesus was dead and buried, but God raised him from the dead.

The risen Lord appeared to his followers.

They recognized him as their Master who had been crucified.

Before Jesus left them, he commissioned them

**to proclaim to all people the good news of his victory over death,
and promised to be with them always.**

We are certain that Jesus lives.

**He lives as God with us, touching all of human life
with the presence of God.**

He lives as one of us with God.

**Because he shares our humanity
and has bound us to himself in love,
we have an advocate in the innermost life of God.**

We declare that Jesus is Lord.

**His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers
that deform and destroy human life.**

His lordship is hidden.

**The world appears to be dominated by people and systems
that do not acknowledge his rule.**

But his lordship is real.

**It demands our loyalty and sets us free
from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us.**

**We maintain that ultimate sovereignty
now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life.**

Jesus is Lord!

He has been Lord from the beginning.

He will be Lord at the end.

Even now he is Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

GTG p. 35

Our Gifts to God

Anthem

To the Lamb on the Throne

arr. Dan Forrest

Chancel Choir

You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad Christ's wonderful name.
The name all victorious of Jesus extol,
whose kingdom is glorious, who rules over all.

“Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!”
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.

God rules in the height, almighty to save;
Though hid from our sight, his presence we have,
The great congregation his triumphs shall sing,
Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

Then let us adore and give him his right:
all glory and power, all wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!

*Response of Praise

Hymn 245, stanza 4

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!
Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia!
Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia!
Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

The Sending Forth of the People of God

*Hymn 238

Thine Is the Glory

arr. Robert Hobby

*Charge and Benediction

One: Receive the good news:

All: Christ is risen from the dead.

One: Tell the good news:

All: the power of death shall no more oppress us.

One: Live the good news:

All: we are free to love as Christ has loved us.

One: May God who raised Jesus from the dead bless us,

All: and raise us with Christ in glory. Amen!

*Postlude

Lift High the Cross
Highland Brass

arr. Sondra K. Tucker

Worship Notes

Carrying the Christ candle today is Susan Steere Burroughs.

We welcome to worship leadership the Highland Brass: Julio Jeri, trumpet; Hannah Markan, trumpet; Alex Partridge, horn; Cameron MacManus, trombone; Jared Gilbert, bass trombone; Colin Choat, percussion.

Childcare is available during the worship service. Children up to age five are welcome in Room 112 located on the first floor near the Chapel.

During worship we also offer a room for Children & Parents, Room 216, which is a friendly childcare space near the Sanctuary where parents can tend to the needs of their child and still share in the livestreamed service. **Children and Worship** will not gather this morning following the Time for Young Disciples. Families are encouraged to enjoy the PrayGround in the Balcony.

Large-print Bibles, bulletins, and hearing aids are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

A Loop Assisted Hearing System is in place in Highland's Sanctuary. You can access this service by switching your hearing aid's T-coil to "On" and adjusting the volume control if needed; you may also request a headset from an usher.

Welcome to Highland

We extend a warm welcome to all who come to this sanctuary on this joyful Easter Sunday. May you find in this place and among the people gathered here grace and peace from the living Christ who has promised to be present with us. To learn more about Highland, scan the QR code with your phone.



If you are visiting with us today, please include your contact information on the Visitor Card that you can find in the pew rack. You may place the card in the offering plate when it is passed. If you are a college or graduate school student, add your school name to the card as well.

We offer online ways to give in addition to our traditional giving in the offering plate. To give via smart phone, you may text the word *highland* to 73256 or scan the QR code. We are thankful for your generous sharing!



We are a Matthew 25 Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Matthew 25:31–46 calls all of us to engage actively in the world around us, helping our faith come alive. As a Matthew 25 congregation we pledge to work on *building congregational vitality*, *dismantling structural racism*, and *eradicating systemic poverty*. Learn more at pcusa.org/matthew25.

***Bless You!*—Our prayers for one another.** **FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 31**, please pray for Stephen, Kara, Stephen III, William and Charles Doughton; Grady, Kristine and Sophie Elliott; Marc, Laura, Heidi, Claire and Morgan Gillis; Mary Jane Jackson; Janice McBride; Margaret Pike, David Werle, Katie and Gracen Pike-Werle; Forrest and Virginia Truitt; Wendy, Maddie Grace, Charlie and Caroline Wagoner. *The Lord bless you and keep you. (Numbers 6:24)*

Calendar

Sunday March 31

- 9:30 a.m. Easter Potluck Breakfast,
Fellowship Hall
11:00 a.m. Worship Service (nurseries
provided), Sanctuary

Monday April 1

- Office Closed
2:00 p.m. Afternoon Circle, Ardmore Room
7:00 p.m. Fellowship & Communications
Committee, Salem Room

Tuesday April 2

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor
10:30 a.m. Morning Circle, Salem Room
5:00 p.m. Personnel Committee

- 6:00 p.m. Property Committee

Wednesday April 3

- 8:00 a.m. Monthly Mid-Week Morning Prayer
11:00 a.m. Lamentations and Laughter, AB 5

Thursday April 4

- 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study,
Ardmore Room
6:00 p.m. Congregational Care Committee,
Salem Room
7:00 p.m. Global Service Committee,
Salem Room
7:30 p.m. Young Adults, Fiddlin' Fish

Locations of church meetings and events are noted in the calendar.
If no location is specified, those gatherings will take place via Zoom.
For more information about the events in this calendar, please pick up a copy
of *Highlights*, the weekly newsletter, in the Narthex or Gallery Hall.
Check www.highlandpres.org, for changes or cancellations.

Easter Lilies

The Sanctuary lilies have been given to the glory of the Risen Christ and in memory and honor of Highland friends, family and loved ones as follows:

Given to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

My parents, Gray and Nell Boles, by Bobby Boles

Her father, Fred Grant, by TR and Susan Bowers

His mother, Dulcie Bowers, by TR and Susan Bowers

Her sister, Phyllis Conrad, by Kay and Ken Chalk

Our siblings, Jean Ligon and Brady, Stanley, and Richard Clemmer, by Rob and Phyllis Clemmer

Our parents, Louise and John Clemmer, and Ileene and Bill Ligon, by Rob and Phyllis Clemmer

Harry's mother, Virginia Arthur, by Harry Hall and Mark Queen

Our family, Earle, Radine and Skip Queen, by Harry Hall, Tina Queen and Mark Queen

My parents, Wilbur and Dorothy Hannah, by Bob Hannah

My parents, Charles and Georgianna Hoffman, by Myra Hannah

All Law Enforcement Officers killed in the line of duty, by Joy Hohmann

Her fur friends, Buster Pickett, Sol Abernethy, Brendle, Onyx and Chance Hohmann, by Joy Hohmann

Our friend, Carla Bryant, by Leslie and Michael Kamtman

Her grandmother, Myrtle Miller, by Leslie and Michael Kamtman

Her friend, Anita Cox, by Janice and Milo McBride

Piper's parents, Koni and Charles Millsaps, by Piper Millsaps and Sharon Wilmoth

Her parents, James and Judy Parro, by Judy Parro

Her husband, John Penick, by Jan Penick

Our friend, Sue Duncan and her family, by Present Word Class

Her mother, Beulah Romere, by Carla Romere and Molly Williams

Their friend and beloved family member, Cathy Seaver, by her
family and friends

Their mothers, Eleanor Rice and Lois Thorup, by Linda and
Don Thorup

Sharon's parents, Jean and Walter Wilmoth, by Sharon Wilmoth
and Piper Millsaps

Given to the glory of God and in honor of:

Our children, Scott, Jonathan, and Erin, by Ellen and John Doyle

Our friends, Highland's Senior High and Middle School Youth,
Courtney Stevens, and all of the Youth Advisors, by Harry
Hall and Mark Queen

Her friends, Tillman and Rudy Pickett, Milo McBride, Lenny and
Buddy Hohmann, by Joy Hohmann

Her friends, Esther and Les Preston, by Joy Hohmann

Our much-appreciated Highland Family, by Cam and Sue Kent

Our friends, Esther and Les Preston, by Ed and Margaret Sehon