

# 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: Chris Gilliam

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## Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024 11:00 a.m.

The pealing bell calls us to worship, reminding us to quiet our hearts and minds as we prepare for the worship of the living God.

#### The Gathering of the People of God

A Word of Welcome

Prelude I Am Thine, O Lord Emma Lou Diemer

Call to Worship

One: O God, we live in the radiance of your glory.

All: Our worship comes from

the gladness you have put in our hearts.

One: We give you thanks for the peace of your salvation,

All: and we lift our hearts in joyful praise!

Prayer of Praise

\*Hymn 236 The Strife Is O'er

VICTORY

### The Confession of the People of God

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Wondrous God, you broke the power of sin and death. By your great mercy you give us new life and living hope. We want to believe in your power and mercy, but doubt grows quickly in our hearts. We turn away from your empty tomb and trust our own strength instead.

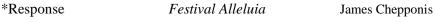
O God, in your great mercy forgive our unbelief.

Reveal yourself to us once again and draw us close to you, that we may know your presence and put our trust in you.

The prayer continues in a time of silent confession.

Assurance of God's Love

<sup>\*</sup> All who are able please stand. *GTG* = *Glory to God* 







\*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 in this place.

## The Word for the People of God

Sacrament of Baptism

Isabelle Caroline Simpson

Presentation

\*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

*GTG* p.35

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Baptism

Welcome

One: Isabelle has been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through baptism.

God has made her a member of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.

Hymn 484 Out of Deep, Unordered Water

RUSTINGTON

Water on the human forehead, birthmark of the love of God, Is the sign of death and rising; through the seas there runs a road. There is water in the river bringing life to tree and plant. Let creation praise its giver: There is water in the font. Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson Psalm 4 Page 490

New Testament Lesson Luke 24:36–48 Page 91

One: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Real Presence Randy Harris

#### The Response of the People of God

\*Hymn 231 Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers suo gan

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer, *GTG* 35 John Loftis

Our Gifts to God

Anthem Fairest Lord Jesus arr. Derek Hayes
Chancel Choir

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of God to earth come down, thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring. Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling, starry host. Jesus shines brighter; Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.

Beautiful Savior, Ruler of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

\*Doxology GTG 606

\*Prayer of Dedication

#### The Sending Forth of the People of God

\*Hymn 234 Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain st. kevin

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Postlude Joyful, Joyful Christina Harmon

## **Worship Notes**

We welcome to worship leadership Susan Bates, organist.

We welcome by baptism Isabelle Caroline Simpson, daughter of Sarah and Turner Simpson, and sister of Sophie.

**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.

Today's bulletin cover was painted by Diane Plaisted.

#### Calendar

Sunday April 14		Wednesday April 17		
	9:30 a.m.	Christian Education for All Ages	7:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service (nurseries	11:00 a.m.	Lamentations and Laughter, AB 5
		provided), Sanctuary	6:30 p.m.	Arts & Worship Committee, Parlor
	2:00 p.m.	Spring Stroll, Bethania	6:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Room 100
	4:00 p.m.	Middle School Youth, AB 3		
	4:45 p.m.	High School Youth, AB 4	Thursday April 18	
			10:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study,
Monday April 15				Ardmore Room
	9:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting, Parlor	11:30 a.m.	Caring Friends
	5:30 p.m.	Long Range Planning	5:30 p.m.	ArtRageous Planning Team,
	•		-	Parlor
Tuesday April 16			5:45 p.m.	Community Service Committee,
	6:30 p.m.	Adult Christian Education		Ardmore Room
		Committee	6:00 p.m.	Finance Committee
	7:00 p.m.	Listening to Black Voices Group	7:30 p.m.	Young Adults, Home of Spencer
	•	-	·	and Megan Ayscue

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.

## Welcome to Highland

We extend a warm welcome to all who come to this sanctuary today. 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.

**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. All volunteers are vaccinated and will be masked. **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 & Worship** is available for kindergartners and first graders. Following the Time for Young Disciples, they are invited to room 307 for a creative and interactive time to learn more about worship.

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 APRIL 14, please pray for Spencer and Megan Ayscue; Randy, Carol Ann and Morgan Harris; Pierce and Nancy Johnson; Michael, Leslie and Jeremiah Kamtman; Pat and Jess Kirkman; Andrew, Lori, Charlotte Grace and Amelia Murray; Skip, London, Allen and Banks Pickett; Leslie Sizemore; Johnnie Taylor. The Lord bless you and keep you. (Numbers 6:24)