

# 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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# **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

April 21, 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 In dir ist Freude (In Thee Is Gladness) J.S. Bach

Call to Worship

One: The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

All: He lays down his life for his sheep.

One: The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

All: He knows us, and we belong to him.

One: The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd.

All: He speaks, and we listen for his voice.

Prayer of Praise

\*Hymn 245 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today! LLANFAIR

# The Confession of the People of God

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of love and truth, in trust we confess our sin to you.

Instead of loving one another as you have loved us,

we find ourselves damaging one another with words.

How easy it is for us to utter lies and speak against one another.

Forgive us, and turn us around;

abide in us, as we seek to abide in you.

The prayer continues in a time of silent confession.

Assurance of God's Love

\*Response Festival Alleluia James Chepponis Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

\*A Time of Sharing God's Peace

\* All who are able please stand. *GTG* = *Glory to God* 

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

Joanna Wyn Jackson

Presentation

\*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

*GTG* p.35

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Baptism

Welcome

One: Joanna 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

Unison Old Testament Reading Psalm 23 (RSV)

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;

he makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I fear no evil; for thou art with me;

thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies; thou anointest my head with oil, my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

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

New Testament Lesson John 10:11–18 Page 103

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

Sermon The Good Shepherd Randy Harris

## The Response of the People of God

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

*GTG* 35

Our Gifts to God

Anthem O God, Beyond All Praising arr. Richard Proulx
Chancel Choir

O God beyond all praising, we worship you today and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay; for we can only wonder at every gift you send, at blessings without number and mercies without end: we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word, we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

The flower of earthly splendor in time must surely die, its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high; but hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown though small in mortal stature, to heaven's garden grown; for Christ the man from heaven from death has set us free, and we through him are given the final victory.

Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring, that we who know your favor may serve you as our king; and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill, we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still: to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways, and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

\*Doxology GTG 606

## The Sending Forth of the People of God

\*Hymn 366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling HYFRYDOL

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Postlude Toccata on Gaudeamus Pariter James Biery

<sup>\*</sup>Prayer of Dedication

# **Worship Notes**

We welcome to worship leadership Susan Foster, organist.

We welcome by baptism Joanna Wyn Jackson, daughter of Meredith Davis and Matt Jackson.

**Today's Chancel flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of their granddaughter, Joanna Wyn Jackson, by Zan and John Dayis.

**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

SII	ndav	Δn	ril	21

9:30 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (nurseries

provided), Sanctuary

12:15 p.m. Fling Task Force, Salem Room 4:00 p.m. Spring Forum, Fellowship Hall

4:00 p.m. Spring Forum, Fellowship Hall 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Progressive

Dinner, Home of Jim and Carrie Swing

#### Monday April 22

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor 5:30 p.m. Nominating Committee.

Ardmore Room

#### **Tuesday April 23**

10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry,

Salem Room

1:30 p.m. Moore Food Pantry, Curbside

### Wednesday April 24

11:00 a.m. Lamentations and Laughter, AB 5

#### **Thursday April 25**

10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study,

Ardmore Room

4:00 p.m. Membership Committee,

Ardmore Room

6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

7:30 p.m. Young Adults, Little Richard's

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 21, please pray for Beth Barksdale, Laura Clay and Kip Barksdale; John and Shari Dallas; Tony, Margo, Ethan and Anna Kummer; Jim and Lucy Lancaster; Bob and Emelda Lawing; John and Lili Loftis; Mary Pace; Sarah, Alex and Wil Pitcher; Margo Searls-Begy. *The Lord bless you and keep you.* (Numbers 6:24)