



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

Organist: Susan Bates

(336) 724-6303

www.highlandpres.org

2380 Cloverdale Avenue

Winston-Salem, NC 27103-2012

MAY 4, 2025 • THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

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MAY 4, 2025

11:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

A WORD OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

Jesus Makes My Heart Rejoice

Margaret V. Sandresky

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather in the name of the risen Christ,
the head of the church and the Savior of the world.

All: We are here not because we invited Christ into our lives,
but because Christ has called us into his life.

One: We have come, not to tell Christ what we will do,

All: but to learn from Christ what we must do.

Let us praise the living Lord of the church!

PRAYER OF PRAISE

*HYMN 240

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

ALLELUIA NO.1

THE CONFESSION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, O God, that we have forgotten you
in the midst of the busyness of our lives.

We have gone our own way without being
mindful of your presence.

We have sought our own wellbeing
without thinking of others.

We have neglected your reign for the pursuit
of our own comfort, safety, and desires in this world.

Forgive us, we pray, and turn us again
to the remembrance of the priorities of your reign.

Renew our commitment to follow in the way
of Jesus Christ our Lord, we ask in Christ's name.

The prayer continues in a time of silent confession.

As we light candles
on the Retable,
place the Bible at
the Lectern, pour
water in the
Baptismal Font,
and set the
Communion Table,
we are reminded of
the presence of
Christ in Word
and Sacrament.

(*) When this
symbol precedes an
element of the
service, you are
invited to rise
in body or spirit.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE

*JOYFUL RESPONSE

Festival Alleluia

JAMES CHEPPONIS



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The good news of God’s forgiving love calls for our response of praise, and for words of peace and welcome to one another.

*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.

Our song of “welcome” affirms our belief that the risen Christ breaks down the walls by which we may otherwise be separated.

THE WORD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 150 Page 583

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

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Revelation 1:1-8 Page 245

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

SERMON *The Revelation of Jesus Christ* Randy Harris

THE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

GTG p. 34

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,

The Nicene Creed, dated to the 4th Century C.E., is the most universally affirmed creed in the Church.

The grace of God
calls for a response!
Our giving is of-
fered in a spirit of
gratitude for God's
blessings.

of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD (*INCLUDING 5 CENTS A MEAL*)

ANTHEM

Pilgrim's Hymn

Stephen Paulus

Even before we call on your name to ask you, O God,
when we seek for the words to glorify you, you hear our prayer;
unceasing love, O unceasing love, surpassing all we know.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Even with darkness sealing us in, we breathe your name,
and through all the days that follow so fast, we trust in you;
endless your grace, O endless your grace, beyond all mortal dream.
Both now and forever, and unto ages and ages, Amen.

*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 COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

*HYMN 505

The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing

THE FEAST IS READY

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise. *The prayer continues ...*

Holy, Holy, Holy (*sung by all*)

Hymn 552

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest. *The prayer continues ...*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

GTG p. 35

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*HYMN 268

Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE (Hymn 750) *Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil* GOODNESS IS STRONGER

Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate;
light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death.

Victory is ours; victory is ours through God who loves us.

Victory is ours; victory is ours through God who loves us.

*POSTLUDE

Laudation

Gilbert M. Martin

The congregation is invited to come forward to receive communion. Gluten- and nut-free bread is available at the station to the right of the Lectern.

Christian worship and service does not end at the conclusion of the Service for the Lord's Day. The Church is called to follow its risen Lord into the world!

WORSHIP NOTES

Our worship banners, crafted from hand-cut paper, follow the Gospel readings from the lectionary for the Easter season, guiding us through the moments and days after the tomb is found empty. These stories remind us that we, too, are bearers of the Gospel, revealing Christ's presence through our own everyday acts of grace and love. Artists include members of the Arts and Worship group: Jamie Blankinship, Clara Bryant-Prosterman, Ralph Burroughs, Lola Culler, Wendy Guerri, Elaine Minton, Margo Searls-Begy, Courtney Stevens, and Carol Tash.

***Bless You!*—Our prayers for one another.** FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 4, please pray for Tom Arcury and Sara Quandt; Richard and Janice Howerton; Peter, Kim and Matthew Minford; Peggy and Andy Tyson; John Vladyka and Carolyn Sellars; Molly Williams and Carla Romere. *The Lord bless you and keep you. (Numbers 6:24)*

CALENDAR

Sunday May 4

9:30 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages
11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary
12:15 p.m. Worship Committee, Parlor
2:00 p.m. New Members Class, Parlor
4:00 p.m. *Join or Die* Spring Forum, Ardmore Room

Monday May 5

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor
7:00 p.m. Fellowship & Communications Committee, Salem Room

Tuesday May 6

10:00 a.m. Coffee & Conversation, Camel City Coffee
10:00 a.m. Tuesday Circle, Salem Room
5:00 p.m. Personnel Committee

6:00 p.m. Property Committee, Room 127

6:30 p.m. Children's Ministry Committee

Wednesday May 7

11:00 a.m. Lamentations & Laughter, AB
5:30 p.m. Highland Ukuleles, Room 126
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Room 100

Thursday May 8

10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study, Ardmore Room
11:30 a.m. Caring Friends
7:30 p.m. Young Adults, Home of Liz Bragg

For more information about the events in this calendar, please pick up a copy of *Highlights*, the church 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.

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.

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.

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.

We are an Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)! We pledge in our *worship* and discipleship to celebrate God's grace and glory in creation. Our *education* strives to encourage and support each other in keeping and healing the creation. We seek to manage, maintain, and upgrade our *facilities* to respect and cherish all creation, and our *outreach* will encourage community involvement and public policy to protect and restore the earth.

LIFE AT HIGHLAND



Churchwide

Spring Forum, Come join us this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. in the Ardmore Room as we discuss the documentary film *Join or Die*. The film explores the decline of civic engagement in the United States, drawing on the work of social scientist Robert Putnam, whose book *Bowling Alone* examines the decline in community connections. Reverend Dr. Jan Edmiston, General Presbyter of the Presbytery of Charlotte, will lead us in a thought-provoking discussion.

New Member Class, Today, 2:00 p.m.

Please let Debbie or Randy know if you are interested in attending.

Fellowship Lunch, May 18, Sign up today for our final fellowship lunch of the season. The meal will be catered by Providence Catering.

To sign up for meals, service work, and more, scan this QR code.



Service

Moore School Food Pantry, Highland and Temple Emmanuel support Moore Elementary by providing a food pantry for students and their families. For the month of May, we are asking for donations of rice.

Diaper Drive and Toy Collection, Beginning Mother's Day and continuing through Father's Day, we will be receiving your gifts of diapers and baby wipes for The Shalom Project and Clemmons Food Pantry. In addition, this year we are collecting specific toys for a Play Therapy room at CareNet. Watch for the Sign-up Genius.

Meal Preparation for Flourish Program, We are looking for meal providers for about 30 women and children on May 19 for Flourish, a program of Shalom Project. Contact Debbie, dlayman@highlandpres.org, if interested.



Children

Sunday Mornings, 9:30 a.m.

Children ages 2 through 4th grade are invited to *God's Good Neighborhood*, the third floor of our Education Building, for exciting faith formation experiences and choir.

Youth

Sign Up for summer trips now! Senior High Montreat Youth Conference will be June 8-14, and Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference is July 15-18.



Adults

Church School Offerings

Sunday Mornings, 9:30 a.m.

Created in Love, Ardmore Room

Lectionary Café, Salem Room

The Present Word, Room 124

Parents' Coffee & Conversation, Room 126

Coffee & Conversation

Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.

Camel City Coffee, 110 Oakwood Drive

Join us for drop-in conversation with friends and Highland staff. All are welcome!

Scan this QR code for more information in our current *Highlights* newsletter.

