



# HIGHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*Pastor: Randy Harris*

*Associate Pastor: Debbie Layman*

*Associate Pastor: Courtney Montoya*

*Pastor Emeritus: Steve McCutchan*

*Director of Christian Education: Heather Ferguson*

*Director of Music: Chris Gilliam*

*Organist: Susan Bates*

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2380 Cloverdale Avenue

Winston-Salem, NC 27103-2012

**MAY 18, 2025 • FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 18, 2025

11:00 a.m.

## THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

### A WORD OF WELCOME

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.

### PRELUDE

*Finale from Sonata VI*

Felix Mendelssohn

### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In Christ, the God of heaven has made a home on earth.

**All: Christ dwells among us and is one with us.**

One: Highest of all creation, he lives among the least.

**All: He journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.**

One: Come now, all who thirst,

**All: and drink the water of life.**

One: Come now, all who hunger,

**All: and be filled with good things.**

One: Come now, all who seek,

**All: and be warmed by the fire of love.**

### PRAYER OF PRAISE

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

### \*HYMN 246

*Christ Is Alive!*

TRURO

## THE CONFESSION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of love, we long for peace within and peace without.

We long for harmony in our families,

for serenity in the midst of struggle.

Yet we confess that we are often anxious;

we do not trust each other, and we harbor violence.

Too often, we are unwilling to take the risks

or make the sacrifices that love requires.

Make your home among us, O God,

and look upon us with kindness and grace.

Forgive our sin, and show us how to walk in your paths,

through the mercy of Christ our Savior.

*The prayer continues in a time of silent confession.*

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE

\*JOYFUL RESPONSE

*Festival Alleluia*

JAMES CHEPPONIS

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

\*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

Exodus 33:7-14

Page 79

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

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Revelation 21:1-6

Page 259

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

SERMON

*The Longing for Home*

Randy Harris

THE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

\*HYMN 22

*God of the Sparrow*

ROEDER

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*The Apostles’ Creed*

GTG p.35

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of Heaven and earth,  
  
And in Jesus Christ his only son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell;

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

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

As a family of faith, we celebrate God’s faithfulness in every season of growth. At baptism, we promise to support each child in the life of faith. Honoring our graduates is one way we live out that promise—marking this milestone with prayer, blessing, and a reminder of the Spirit’s ongoing presence.

the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

#### OUR GIFTS TO GOD

ANTHEM *The Majesty and Glory of Your Name* Tom Fettke

When I gaze into the night sky, and see the work of your fingers.  
The moon and stars suspended in space. But what is man that you are  
mindful of him? You have given man a crown of glory and honor. And have  
made him a little lower than the angels. You have put him in charge of all  
creation; the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea. But what  
is man, oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?

O Lord, our God the majesty and glory of your name transcends the earth and  
fills the heavens. O Lord, our God, little children praise him perfectly. And so  
would we, and so would we. Alleluia, Alleluia. The majesty and glory of your  
name! Alleluia, Alleluia.

#### \*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 grace of God  
calls for a response!

Our giving is of-  
fered in a spirit of  
gratitude for God's  
blessings.

# THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

\* HYMN 475

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

NETTLETON

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

One: Life is short, and we do not have too much time  
to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us.

**All: So let us be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.**

One: Let us go out into the world in peace, have courage,  
hold onto what is good, and return no one evil for evil.

**All: May we strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak,  
help the suffering, honor all people, love and serve the Lord,  
and rejoice in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

One: May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God,  
and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

**All: Amen.**

\*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

*Lift High the Cross*

arr. John Leavitt

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

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We welcome our guest organist today, Beth Martin.

**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 Guerry, Elaine Minton, Courtney Montoya, Margo Searls-Begy, and Carol Tash.

***Bless You!*—Our prayers for one another.** FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 18, please pray for Kevin and Miriam Davie; Rick Grogan; Katie and Nathan Harris; Terry Leach Hauser; Will, Robyn, Ani, Katie and William McElwee and Evie and Tucker Holland; Edmond and Margaret Pendrich; Bill Seamans; Elizabeth, Charlie, Caroline and Katie Skinner; Rick Weavil and Susan McBurney. *The Lord bless you and keep you. (Numbers 6:24)*

## CALENDAR

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### Sunday May 18

- 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary
- 12:15 p.m. Fellowship Lunch, Fellowship Hall
- 1:30 p.m. Earth Care Team, Salem Room
- 4:00 p.m. Dolorosa Grief Gathering, Chapel

### Monday May 19

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor
- 5:45 p.m. Long Range Planning, Ardmore Room
- 7:00 p.m. Matthew 25 Book Group, Salem Room

### Tuesday May 20

- 10:00 a.m. Coffee & Conversation, Camel City Coffee
- 7:00 p.m. Listening to Black Voices Group

### Wednesday May 21

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- 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 22

- 4:00 p.m. Membership Committee, Ardmore Room
- 7:30 p.m. Young Adults, Radar Brewing

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](http://www.highlandpres.org), for changes or cancellations.

# WELCOME TO HIGHLAND

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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](http://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.

## Summer Worship Hours

Beginning on May 25 and continuing through September 7,

Worship will begin at 10:00 a.m. each Sunday.

Church School (except for *The Present Word*) will also take a break over the summer and will resume classes on September 14.

# LIFE AT HIGHLAND

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## Churchwide

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**Fellowship Lunch, May 18,** Even if you did not make a reservation for the lunch, we hope you will join us across the street following worship as we celebrate Sally Brown and our graduates!

**Night Out at the Ballpark:** Sign up now to reserve your ticket(s) for Highland's annual trip to the ballpark on Thursday, June 12 to watch the Dash baseball game. Tickets are \$12, and it will be a fun night for all ages. We hope you will join us and bring a friend!

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



## Service

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**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.

**Desserts for Ashley Elementary Staff,** The staff of Ashley Elementary share love and support with Ashley kids each day. We are showing our appreciation by showering them with desserts at the end of the year. Sign up through the QR code above to bring yours on Tuesday, May 27.

**Diaper Drive and Toy Collection,** Between now and Father's Day, we will receive 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. Sign up today with the QR code above.



## Children

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**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 new faith formation experiences and choir.



## Youth

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Senior High Montreat Youth Conference will be June 8-14, and Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference is July 15-18.



## Adults

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**Church School Offerings**

**Concluding Today, 9:30 a.m.**

*Created in Love*, Ardmore Room

*Lectionary Café*, Salem Room

*Parents' Coffee & Conversation*, Room 126

*The Present Word*, Room 124 (continuing through the summer, Sundays at 9:00 a.m.)

**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.

