



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
Music Associate: Haley Chapman*

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FEBRUARY 22, 2026 • FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

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FEBRUARY 22, 2026

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

O Holy Lamb of God

Johann Sebastian Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The season of Lent sets us on a journey.

All: The journey begins in the wilderness.

One: We follow the way of Jesus,
who faced trials, trouble, temptation, and testing.

All: Like Jesus, we are not alone.

The Holy Spirit is with us. God's Word is on our lips.

One: Our call is to trust in God alone,
to do God's will in all things.

**All: God leads us not only into the wilderness,
but also through the wilderness. Thanks be to God!**

PRAYER OF PRAISE

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

*HYMN 166

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN

THE CONFESSION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, our refuge and fortress,
forgive us when we fail to trust in you.

We fall to temptation;

we are swayed by false words,

and we speak false words of our own.

We choose our ease and comfort

over your demanding claims upon us and upon the world.

In turning from you,

we settle for less than the abundant generosity you intend.

Forgive us, we pray. Do not let us be put to shame, O God.

Hear us as we call to you, and show us your salvation.

In Christ's name we pray.

The prayer continues in a time of silent confession.

KYRIE

Kyrie Eleison

Musical score for Kyrie Eleison, 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. The third staff features a triplet of eighth notes.

During the season of Lent, we omit the singing of the Gloria Patri. *Kyrie Eleison* means "Lord, have mercy."

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

*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 Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

Page 2

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

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 4:1-11

Page 3

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

SERMON

Jesus' Temptations, and Ours

Randy Harris

THE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*HYMN 819

Be Still, My Soul

FINLANDIA

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *A Declaration of Faith, PCUSA*

Jesus was what we are.

He grew up in a family and a society

troubled by the common problems of the world.

His knowledge was limited by his time and place in history.

He felt deeply the joy of friendship

and the hurt of being rejected.

Jesus prayed, struggled with temptation,

knew anger, and was subject to suffering and death.

He was like us in every way except sin.

Jesus was what we should be.

He served his Father with complete trust

and unwavering obedience.

He loved all kinds of people and accepted their love.

In constant dependence upon the Holy Spirit,

Jesus allowed no temptation or threat to keep him

from loving God with his whole being

and his neighbor as himself.

We recognize in Jesus what God created us to be.

He exposes our failure to live as he lived.

He demonstrates the new humanity

God promises to give us through him. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Mark Queen

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

Hear My Prayer

Moses Hogan

Chancel Choir

O Lord, please hear my prayer, in the mornin' when I rise.

It's your servant bound for glory. O dear Lord, please hear my prayer.

O Lord, please hear my prayer, keep me safe within your arms.

It's your servant bound for glory. O dear Lord, please hear my prayer.

When my work on earth is done, and you come to take me home.
Just to know I'm bound for glory. And to hear you say well done.
Done with sin and sorrow, have mercy, Amen.

GTG = *Glory to God*
hymnal

*DOXOLOGY

GTG 606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

* HYMN 415

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

RESTORATION

*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.

*POSTLUDE

Concerto in A Minor

Johann Sebastian Bach

Christian worship and service does not end at the conclusion of the Service for the Lord's Day. The mission of the church remains the same in this and every season: we go forth to love and serve the Lord, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

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.

Children, join us in the PrayGround! This is a friendly space in the balcony for children of all ages to worship while enjoying quiet and engaging activities such as puzzles, storybooks, and coloring sheets. All are welcome!

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.



WORSHIP NOTES

Bless You!—Our prayers for one another. FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22, please pray for Jay and Betty Dominick; Rita Ennis; Mary Kay Eberle; Greg and Sandi Hall; Steve and Joyce Hansel; Henry and Susan Heidtmann; Bob Holmes; Ginny Mei; Linda Schroeder; Charlie and Sandy Scott; James, Melissa, Max and Julia Switzer; Elizabeth Vance. *The Lord bless you and keep you. (Numbers 6:24)*

Bless Our Neighbors!—Our prayers for our community. FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, please pray for our neighbors who are transitioning into permanent housing and those who are helping them: GreeNest and Habitat for Humanity.

CALENDAR

Sunday February 22

- 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary
- 12:00 p.m. Congregational Meal & Retirement Celebration for Joy Hohmann

Monday February 23

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor
- 5:30 p.m. Youth & Young Adults Committee, AB 4
- 7:00 p.m. Poverty Book Group, Salem Room

Tuesday February 24

- 10:00 a.m. Coffee & Conversation, Bagel Station
- 1:30 p.m. Moore Food Pantry, Curbside

Wednesday February 25

- 11:00 a.m. Lamentations & Laughter, AB 5
- 12:00 p.m. Lenten Study Group, Salem Room
- 5:30 p.m. Highland Ukuleles, Room 126
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Room 100

Thursday February 26

- 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study, Ardmore Room
- 4:00 p.m. Membership Committee, Ardmore Room
- 5:30 p.m. Moms of College Aged Children Dinner, Saffron

Friday February 27

- 5:30 p.m. Fourth Friday Fun Night

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.

LIFE AT HIGHLAND



Churchwide

Joy Hohmann's Retirement Celebration and Congregational Lunch: We hope you made reservations to join us following worship today to celebrate Joy with a catered lunch in the Fellowship Hall.

Acoustic Café, March 1: Join us at 4:00 p.m. for a delightful music extravaganza from Highland musicians. Bring friends!

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



Service

Moore Food Pantry: For the month of February, we are asking for donations of pasta. Thank you!

Meal Preparation for Flourish: We are looking for a couple of additional people to help provide a meal for women and children on Monday, February 23 for Flourish, a program of The Shalom Project. Contact Debbie, dlayman@highlandpres.org, if able to help.

Our Lady of Salem Women's Shelter at St. Timothy's: Please prayerfully consider how you can help with a meal team, a hospitality check-in shift, or snack/to-go bags. Sign up with the QR code above.



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 new faith formation experiences and choir.

Worship & Wonder

Following the *Time for Young Disciples*, K-2nd Grade children are invited to gather in Room 307 for Worship Education. Parents can pick up children following our worship service.

☺ Youth

Youth Sunday planning kicks off on March 1! Senior Highs will gather after worship for lunch as we begin dreaming, creating, and shaping this year's service together. Come hungry and ready to let your creativity flow as we imagine how God might speak through us.



Adults

Sunday Church School Offerings

9:30 a.m. *The Present Word*, Room 124

9:30 a.m. *The Lectionary Cafe*, Salem Room

9:30 a.m. *Parents Conversation and Coffee*, Room 126

9:30 a.m. *Forgiveness: A Lenten Study*, Ardmore Room

Wednesdays Now–March 25

12:00 p.m. *Forgiveness: A Lenten Study*, Salem Room and via Zoom

Men's and Women's Retreats offer time away for rest, reflection, and connection in the beauty of Montreat. Women's Retreat April 10–12 and Men's Retreat April 24–26. Sign up through the QR code on this page.

Coffee & Conversation,

Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.

Bagel Station, 129 Oakwood Drive

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