



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*

*(336) 724-6303
www.highlandpres.org
2380 Cloverdale Avenue
Winston-Salem, NC 27103-2012*

MARCH 1, 2026 • SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 1, 2026

11:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

A WORD OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

Adagio

Antonio Vivaldi

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God calls us to follow in trust,

All: and makes us more than we have been.

One: Christ invites us to become a new creation,

All: and gives us new life through him.

One: The Spirit empowers us as witnesses to God's love,

All: and draws us together in worship.

PRAYER OF PRAISE

*HYMN 215

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

THE CONFESSION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most merciful God

whose Son, Jesus Christ, was tempted in every way,

yet was without sin,

we confess before you our own sinfulness.

We have hungered after that which does not satisfy;

we have compromised with evil;

we have doubted your power to protect us.

Forgive our lack of faith; have mercy on our weakness.

Restore in us such trust and love

that we may walk in your ways and delight in doing your will.

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.

KYRIE

Kyrie Eleison

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

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 12:1-4a

Page 10

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

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

John 3:1-17

Page 93

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

SERMON

The God We Would Rather Have

Randy Harris

THE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *A Declaration of Faith, PCUSA*

We acknowledge one God alone,
 whose demands on us are absolute,
 whose help for us is sufficient.

That One is the Lord, whom we worship, serve, and love.
We do not fully comprehend who God is or how God works.
God's reality far exceeds all our words can say.
The Lord's requirements are not always what we think is best.
The Lord's care for us is not always what we want.
Yet God is able to do far more than we ask or think.
We know that God is not confined to the story we can tell.
The story itself tells us that God's sovereign will is at work
among all peoples of the earth.
We believe God works beyond our imagining
throughout the universe.
We must not set our ultimate reliance on any other help.
We must not yield unconditional obedience to any other power.
We must not love anyone or anything more than we love God.
To worship God is highest joy.
To serve God is perfect freedom. Amen.

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

ANTHEM

Thy Perfect Love
Chancel Choir

John Rutter

Jesu, my love, my joy, my rest, thy perfect love close in my breast
that I thee love and never rest. And make me love thee of all things best.
And wound my heart in thy love free,
that I may reign in joy evermore with thee. (15th Century)

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 COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

*HYMN 498

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken

BEACH SPRING

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 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST.DENIO

*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

Allegro

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 MARCH 1, please pray for Stephen, Kara, Stephen III, William and Charles Doughton; Grady, Kristine and Sophie Elliott; Marc, Laura, Heidi, Claire and Morgan Gillis; Mary Jane Jackson; Janice McBride; Sandy Simmons. *The Lord bless you and keep you. (Numbers 6:24)*

Bless Our Neighbors!—Our prayers for our community. FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, please pray for our neighbors who provide loving and creative support for those with diverse capabilities: ABC of NC; iCan House; Riverwood Therapeutic Riding Center.

CALENDAR

Sunday March 1

- 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary
- 12:15 p.m. Youth Planning Lunch, AB 5
- 4:00 p.m. Acoustic Café, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Mums Night Out, Home of Pam Webb

Monday March 2

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor
- 2:00 p.m. Monday Circle, Ardmore Room
- 7:00 p.m. Fellowship & Communications Committee, Salem Room

Tuesday March 3

- 10:00 a.m. Coffee & Conversation, Bagel Station
- 10:00 a.m. Tuesday Circle, Salem Room
- 5:00 p.m. Personnel Committee
- 6:00 p.m. Property Committee, Room 127

Wednesday March 4

- 11:00 a.m. Lamentations & Laughter, AB 5
- 12:00 p.m. Lenten Study Group, Salem Room
- 6:00 p.m. Fling Fellowship Meal, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Room 100

Thursday March 5

- 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study, Ardmore Room
- 4:00 p.m. Journeying Together in Faith, Chapel
- 6:00 p.m. Congregational Care Committee, Salem Room
- 7:00 p.m. Global Service Committee, Salem Room
- 7:30 p.m. Young Adults, Footnote

Saturday, March 7

- 11:00 a.m. Highland Uke Practice, Room 126

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

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

Fling Fellowship Meal, March 4, 6:00 p.m. We hope you will sign up to join us for a fabulous meal of Southwestern Bowls (both meat and veggie toppings) being prepared by the Andrus family.

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



Service

Moore Food Pantry: For the month of March, we are asking for donations of canned beans. Thank you!

March Madness Is Coming: Bring your pasta sauce March 15–April 5 and vote for your favorite team – Crisis Control will be our winner!



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 today! 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 for this wonderful service.



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
- 9:30 a.m. *For When You Need Something to Believe In*, Room 127

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!