



# HIGHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*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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**APRIL 12, 2026 • SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

# SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 12, 2026

11:00 a.m.

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.

## THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

### A WORD OF WELCOME

MOMENT FOR MISSION      *Nominating Committee*      Scott Templeton

PRELUDE      *O Holy Lamb of God*      Johann Sebastian Bach

### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

One: When Jesus speaks, our hearts burn within us;

All: our eyes are opened when he breaks the bread.

### PRAYER OF PRAISE

\*HYMN 248      *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!*

HYMN TO JOY

## THE CONFESSION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living God, despite the news of this Easter season,  
we continue to look for the living among the dead.

You speak to us through your living Word,  
but we refuse to listen.

You feed us with the bread of life,  
but we hunger for other things.

Forgive us; give us new life!

Lead us to repent and to remember  
the promise of our baptism:

the promise of life in you that death cannot destroy.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray.

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

## 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

Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19

Page 564

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

### NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Luke 24:13-35

Page 90

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

### SERMON

*The Stranger*

Randy Harris

## THE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *A Declaration of Faith* (PCUSA)

In the history of God's interaction with us in the world,  
God has often made material things channels through which  
divine grace is understood and powerfully experienced.

We believe that at the Lord's supper, the  
community of believers

is renewed by the memory of Christ's life and death,  
by his real presence in the power of the Holy Spirit,  
and by the promise of his coming again.  
Christ makes himself known to us in the breaking of bread  
and in the sharing of the cup,  
his life poured out for ours.  
We accept his promises and gifts  
and depend on his life to sustain ours.  
In turn we offer ourselves in thanksgiving  
to the risen Lord who has conquered death.  
So we celebrate his victory here and now  
and anticipate the joyous feast in his coming kingdom.  
Reunited around one loaf and cup,  
we receive strength and courage  
to continue our pilgrimage with God in the world. Amen.

#### OUR GIFTS TO GOD

##### ANTHEM

*Most Glorious of Life*

William Harris

Most glorious Lord of life, that on this day didst make thy triumph over death and sin and, having harrowed hell, didst bring away captivity thence captive, us to win, this joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin, and grant that we for whom thou didst die, being with thy dear blood clean washed from sin, may live forever in felicity; and that thy love we weighing worthily, may likewise love thee for the same again; and for thy sake, that all like dear didst buy, with love may one another entertain. So let us love, dear love, like as we ought; love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.

##### \*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 offered  
in a spirit of gratitude  
for God's blessings.

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

\*HYMN 500

*Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread*

ST.FLAVIAN

## 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 157

*I Danced in the Morning*

LORD OF THE DANCE

### \*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

*Fugue in C Major*

*Johann Sebastian Bach*

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

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We welcome to worship leadership the Rev. Glenn Otterbacher.

***Bless You!***—Our prayers for one another. FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 12, please pray for Richard and Janice Howerton; Peter, Kim and Matthew Minford; Alex and Emily Taylor; John Vladyka and Carolyn Sellars; Molly Williams and Carla Romere. *The Lord bless you and keep you. (Numbers 6:24)*

***Bless Our Neighbors!***—Our prayers for our community. FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, please pray for our neighbors who provide justice for those in need: Family Services and The Children’s Law Center.

## CALENDAR

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### Sunday April 12

- 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary
- 12:30 p.m. LGBTQ Team, Salem Room

### Monday April 13

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor
- 5:45 p.m. Stewardship Committee
- 7:00 p.m. Faith & Film, The Sherwood

### Tuesday April 14

- 10:00 a.m. Coffee & Conversation, Camel City Coffee
- 1:30 p.m. Moore Food Pantry, Curbside
- 5:45 p.m. Diaconate Meeting, Ardmore Room
- 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting, Ardmore Room

### Wednesday April 15

- 7:00 a.m. Men’s Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Lamentations & Laughter, AB 5
- 5:30 p.m. Highland Ukuleles, Room 126
- 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice, Room 100

### Thursday April 16

- 10:00 a.m. Women’s Bible Study, Ardmore Room
- 5:45 p.m. Community Service Committee, Ardmore Room

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.

**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](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.



# LIFE AT HIGHLAND

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## Churchwide

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**April Congregational Meal, April 19, 12:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall:** We hope you will join us for our monthly catered fellowship luncheon. In Demand Burger Bar will cater options of beef, chicken, and vegan. Click the QR code to sign up!

**Spring Stroll, Sunday, April 26, 3:00 p.m.:** Join us at Tanglewood for a lovely spring stroll where we will enjoy God's creation and meaningful fellowship! Following the stroll, we will meet up at Quatra Coffee in Clemmons to continue our time together.

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



## Service

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**Moore Food Pantry:** For the month of April, we are asking for donations of canned fruit. Thank you!

**Diaper Drive Begins May 10:** Our annual diaper drive, benefitting Shalom Project and Clemmons Food Pantry, will run from May 10 through June 21. We accept opened and unopened packages as well as adult diapers and wipes. Contact Debbie, [dlayman@highlandpres.org](mailto:dlayman@highlandpres.org), if you have questions.



## 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.

## Worship & Wonder

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

## Youth

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**Youth Fellowship Heads to the Dash:** April 19 we will meet at the church at 1:30 p.m. to carpool to the game.

## Adults

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**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. *Walking Home Well: End of Life Questions, Conversations, and Preparations*, Highland's Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. *Envisioning a World Without Christian Nationalism*, Ardmore Room

**We still have a few spots left for the Men's Retreat!** We will gather in Montreat April 24-26 at Reynolds Lodge. Food, fun, and fellowship at a price you just can't beat! Sign up today before it's too late!

**Coffee & Conversation, Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.**

Camel City Coffee, 110 Oakwood Drive  
Join us for drop-in conversation with friends and Highland staff. We are back to our warm-weather location at Camel City. All are welcome!