



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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2380 Cloverdale Avenue
Winston-Salem, NC 27103-2012

APRIL 19, 2026 • THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

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APRIL 19, 2026

11:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

CHORAL INTROIT

Zion's Walls

Aaron Copeland

Come fathers and mothers, come sisters and brothers,

Come join us in singing the praises of Zion.

O fathers, don't you feel determined to meet within the walls of Zion?

We'll shout and go round the walls of Zion.

A WORD OF WELCOME

MOMENT FOR MISSION *Highland Picture Directory*

Mike Culler

PRELUDE

Song for Athene

John Tavener

Alleluia, Alleluia. May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Remember me O Lord, when you come into your kingdom. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Give rest O Lord to your handmaid, who has fallen asleep. Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Choir of Saints have found the well-spring of life and door of paradise.

Alleluia, Alleluia. Life a shadow and a dream. Alleluia, Alleluia. Weeping at

the grave creates the song Alleluia. Come, enjoy rewards and crowns I have

prepared for you. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather today with joy, with fear, with questions of faith;
and to each of us, the risen Christ says,

All: "Peace be with you."

One: In peace, and with hope and joy,

All: let us worship the Living God!

PRAYER OF PRAISE

*HYMN 231

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

SUO GAN

THE CONFESSION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Faithful God, despite the news of Easter,

we remain restricted by our past, bound by our habits,

and stymied by the urges within that pull us down.

Forgive us, and free us, we pray, from the guilt that grips us,

and the habits that hamper us.

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.

Enable us to serve you willingly and joyfully,
that we may live fully and abundantly, as you intend.
We ask this in Christ's name.

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

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

One: My friends, you have been received into membership of this church by vote of its session. Do you promise to be active in your participation, generous in your support, faithful in your worship, and diligent in your search to understand God's purpose in your lives?

New Members: We do.

One: Do you, the members of this congregation, welcome these new friends? Do you promise to support them in their commitment by being active in your participation, generous in your support, faithful in your worship, and diligent in your search to understand God's purpose in your lives?

Congregation: We do.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 16 Page 495

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

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON John 20:19-31 Page 115

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

SERMON *The Forgiveness of Sins* Randy Harris

THE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*HYMN 754 *Help Us Accept Each Other* AURELIA

*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 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 Jim Gallaher

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

We will sing this
hymn to the tune
of *The Church's One
Foundation*

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

ANTHEM

Sweet Hallelujah

Mark A. Miller

Dante Thomas, percussion

Hallelujah! Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Come on and sing to the Lord!
Praise the Alpha and Omega! Sing sweet hallelujahs!

*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 SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

* HYMN 234

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

ST. KEVIN

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

Prayer for Shalom

Kyle Pederson

God, we ask you bring shalom so peace may dwell in ev'ry home;
Heal us all that we may know the wholeness of your great shalom.
To my friends and family, shalom; to the stranger who I see, shalom;
to those I'll never meet, shalom; to all humanity, shalom.
We pray the world may be restored, full of grace and fully yours. Shalom.
To my enemy I pray shalom; to the refugee I pray shalom.
Heal the hurt that tears the soul; hold our hearts and don't let go.
We pray the world may be restored, full of grace and fully yours. Shalom.
God's peace to you, and grace and truth, a place where you will be made new.
Shalom.

*POSTLUDE

Through Love to Light

Elaine Hagenberg

Through love to light! Oh wonderful the way that leads from darkness to the perfect day! From darkness and from sorrow of the night to morning that comes singing o'er the sea. Through love to light! Through light, O God, to thee, who art the love of love, the eternal light of light!

The Wake Forest University Chamber Choir is joined by our Chancel Choir.

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

We welcome to worship leadership the Wake Forest University Chamber Choir, under the direction of Dr. Chris Gilliam, and accompanied by Dr. Joanne Inkman.

We welcome to worship leadership Parker Bragg, a member of our Confirmation Class.

We welcome into church membership Ann and Chris Bergelin; and Grace Chao and Patrick Clarke. Please welcome them warmly!

Bless You!—Our prayers for one another. FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 19, please pray for Jim, Lydia and Allison Bass; Rachel Corbett; Ellen Law; Bob Musso; Justin, Courtney, Russell and Forrest Plaisted; Betsy Spencer; Scott, Carol, Sarah and Kelly Templeton; Elizabeth Walker. *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

Sunday April 19

- 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary
- 12:00 p.m. Congregational Meal, Fellowship Hall
- 4:00 p.m. LGBTQ Book Group, Salem Room

Monday April 20

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

Tuesday April 21

- 10:00 a.m. Coffee & Conversation, Camel City Coffee
- 6:30 p.m. Adult Christian Education Committee
- 7:00 p.m. Listening to Black Voices Book Group

Wednesday April 22

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

Thursday April 23

- 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study, Ardmore Room
- 4:00 p.m. Membership Committee, Gallery Hall
- 5:30 p.m. Moms of College Aged Kids, The Sherwood Restaurant
- 7:30 p.m. Young Adults, Little Richard's

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.

Children, join us in the PrayGround! This is a friendly space in the balcony for children ages 5 and older 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.



LIFE AT HIGHLAND



Churchwide

April Congregational Meal, Fellowship

Hall: We hope you made reservations to join us for our monthly catered luncheon after worship today. May 6 will be our final Fling fellowship meal of season, and May 17 will be our final catered Sunday lunch until the fall. Please plan to join us!

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 Qatra Coffee in Clemmons to continue our time together.

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



Service

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

Hygiene Kits Collection Begins April 26:

We will be accepting donations to provide for Hygiene Kits that will be used by the Church World Service program and disbursed to those in need. Our goal is to provide 250 Hygiene Kits to CWS to restock their warehouses and prepare for upcoming tornado and fire seasons.

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 wipes and adult diapers.



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 Room 307 for Worship Education. Parents can pick up following our worship.

Youth

Youth Fellowship Heads to the Dash: This afternoon, we will meet at the church at 1:30 p.m. to carpool to the game.



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. *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

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!