



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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www.highlandpres.org

2380 Cloverdale Avenue

Winston-Salem, NC 27103-2012

JULY 12, 2026 • FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 12, 2026

10:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

A WORD OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

What Splendid Rays of Truth and Grace

Karl Kroeger

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Glory be to God, whose majesty is without end,

All: whose faithfulness is forever, whose mercy is everlasting;

One: whose justice is without error, whose will is our peace.

All: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised!

PRAYER OF PRAISE

*HYMN 611

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

THE CONFESSION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of heaven and earth, creator of all things visible and invisible,
we confess that we have not lived as you intended us to live.

We have fallen short of your image within us.

As your disciples, we have followed you hesitantly and unwillingly.

As your sheep, we have not followed your leading.

Forgive our sin, and pardon our stumbling.

Restore us through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

The prayer continues in a time of silent confession.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

*JOYFUL RESPONSE

Glory to God GTG 583

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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

THE WORD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-46

Page 14

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

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 18:1-15

Page 14

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

SERMON

The Laughter of Faith

Randy Harris

THE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

GTG, p. 34

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

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

The text from to-
day's anthem comes
from Micah 6:6-8.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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

ANTHEM

Thy Word

arr. Jack Schrader

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still You're there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear as long as You are near. Please be near me to the end.

Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God,
I will still give the aid. I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

I will not forget Your love for me, and yet my heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide, and hold me to Your side; and I will love You to the end.

* DOXOLOGY

GTG 608

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

*HYMN 507

Come to the Table of Grace

TABLE OF GRACE

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 305

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

DARWALL'S 148TH

*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.**

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

*POSTLUDE

Presto

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

Bless You!—Our prayers for one another. FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 12, please pray for Parks Berryhill; Mark and Susan Doughton; Tom and Betty Jones; Ryan, Kathryn, Simon and Sam Michel; Marianne Parham; Scott, Lindsay and Ian Rushing. *The Lord bless you and keep you.* (Numbers 6:24)

Bless Our Neighbors!—Our prayers for our community. FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, please pray for our neighbors who provide support and care for older adults through *Senior Services* and *The Shepherd Center*.

CALENDAR

Sunday July 12

- 9:30 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary
- 11:15 a.m. Worship Committee, Library
- 11:15 a.m. Lemonade in the Shade, Patio
- 11:15 a.m. Summer Sunshine Visitors, Parlor
- 12:00 p.m. Quest for the Best Pizza, Crust & Craft

Monday July 13

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

Tuesday July 14–July 17

Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference

Tuesday July 14

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

Wednesday July 15

- 10:30 a.m. Caregiver Support Group, Ardmore Room
- 11:00 a.m. Lamentations & Laughter, AB 5
- 5:30 p.m. Highland Ukuleles, Room 126
- 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee

Thursday July 16

- 4:00 p.m. Property Task Force, 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, 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. Highland has a safe and engaging Nursery for our youngest children (ages 0-5 years) on the first floor of the Education Building. We have a professional child care provider along with several volunteer Highland members who have all been trained with our Child and Youth Protection Policy. Age-appropriate toys, books and activities keep your child engaged as parents and grandparents attend the worship service. If you need help locating the Nursery, please ask a Greeter.

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

Lemonade in the Shade: During the summer, following worship all are invited for fellowship and lemonade on the Narthex Patio. This is a wonderful, informal way to meet other Highlanders and greet visitors.

Congregational Meeting: The Session has called two Congregational Meetings. Following Worship today, we will hear the report of the Nominating Committee regarding their recommendation for Deacons and Ruling Elders for the Class of 2029. At the second meeting, on July 19, we will act on the Nominating Committee's recommendation. All active members are encouraged to attend.

Intergenerational Book Group: Following Worship today, all who read *The Wild Robot* are invited to join us in the Ardmore Room as we discuss the book and enjoy refreshments together.

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



Service

Moore Food Pantry: For the month of July, we are asking for donations of cereal.

Moore Food Pantry School Supply Drive: Through August 2, we will be collecting school supplies for children of Moore Elementary. We are asking for donations of backpacks, composition books, colored pencils, pencils, erasers (pencil top and rectangular), colored two pocket folders, washable markers, glue sticks, crayons, hand sanitizer,

scissors, headphones, and pencil pouches or pencil boxes. Thank you!

Forsyth Prison Ministry: Highland has a partnership with Forsyth Prison Ministry, and they need help stocking their hygiene closet. Now through August 2, we are collecting full sized bars of soap, full sized stick deodorant, travel size toothpaste and travel size shampoo. Thank you for considering this ministry.

Children

Sunday Mornings, 10:00 a.m.

Children, join us in the PrayGround! This is a friendly space in the balcony for children ages 5 and up to worship while enjoying quiet and engaging activities such as puzzles, storybooks, and coloring sheets.

Youth

Quest for the Best Pizza: continues noon today at Crust and Craft.

The Big Chill: July 18, join us at Knollwood Baptist for the annual ice cream event benefitting the Shalom Project.

Adults

Summer Sunday Church School Offerings:

9:00 a.m. *The Present Word*, Room 124

9:00 a.m. *Deeper Dive: A Summer Series of Faith-Shaping Video Podcasts*, Room 126

Coffee & Conversation,

Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.

Camel City Coffee, 110 Oakwood Drive
Join us for drop-in conversation with friends and Highland staff. All are welcome!