



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

AUGUST 23, 2026 • TWENTY-FIRST 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.

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 23, 2026 10:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

A WORD OF WELCOME

PRELUDE *Jesus, May Our Hearts Be Burning* arr. Erik J Salzwedel
Jesus, may our hearts be burning with more fervent love for you.
May our eyes be ever turning to behold your cross anew; till in glory,
parted never from the blessed Savior's side, graven in our hearts forever,
dwell the cross, the Crucified.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come and worship God with joy!
**All: The house of the Lord will be
a house of prayer for all peoples.**
One: How good it is to live in unity.
All: This is the blessing of the Lord: life forevermore.

PRAYER OF PRAISE

***HYMN 54** *Make a Joyful Noise to God!* DIX

THE CONFESSION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord our God, we confess
that we do not reflect your glory.
You invite us to live together in unity;
we allow family drama to drive us apart.
You welcome all to the table of grace;
too often we turn away strangers who ask for crumbs.
Forgive us; restore and reorder our lives
by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
so that we may be one as you are one,
sharing the blessing of life forevermore,
to the glory of your holy name.

The prayer continues in a time of silent confession.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

*JOYFUL RESPONSE

Glory to God

GTG 583



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.

THE WORD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Elizabeth Dulcie Sartin

PRESENTATION

*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.

Baptism is a rite of profound significance. It is the symbol of initiation into the household of faith, a sign of cleansing from sin, and a dramatic proclamation of dying and rising with Christ. Baptism is the mark of belonging to a community of saints that extends beyond time and space. It signifies the presence of the Holy Spirit working among us to comfort, strengthen, and empower us in God's service.
✠ The Companion to the Book of Common Worship.

THE BAPTISM

WELCOME

One: Libby has been received into the one holy catholic and apostolic church through baptism. God has made her a member of the household of God, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ. Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All: With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.

*HYMN 484

Out of Deep, Unordered Water

RUSTINGTON

Water on the human forehead, birthmark of the love of God,
Is the sign of death and rising; through the seas there runs a road.
There is water in the river bringing life to tree and plant.
Let creation praise its giver: There is water in the font.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Colossians 3:12-17

Page 201

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 44:18-34

Page 41

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Character of Our Life

Randy Harris

THE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

*HYMN 720

Jesus Calls Us

GALILEE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Richard Howerton

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

The grace of God
calls for a response!

Our giving is
offered in a spirit of
gratitude for
God's blessings.

OFFERTORY

Blessedness

Erik J Salzwedel

Erik Salzwedel, Trombone

Blessed is he who loves and does not therefore desire to be loved; blessed is he who fears and does not therefore desire to be feared; blessed is he who serves and does not therefore desire to be served; blessed is he who behaves well toward others and does not desire that others behave well toward him; and because these are great things, the foolish do not rise to them.

*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 SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

* HYMN 203

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

CHEREPONI

*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

Marche Joyeuse

arr. Sue Mitchell-Wallace

WORSHIP NOTES

The rose on the lectern today is in honor of the birth of Ava Jamison Stott, daughter of John and Kate Elliott Stott.

We welcome by baptism Elizabeth Dulcie Sartin, daughter of Jim and Emily Bowers Sartin.

We welcome Erik Salzwedel, trombonist, as our guest musician today.

Bless You!—Our prayers for one another. **FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 23**, please pray for Fred and Marilena Conrad; Kristin, Thomas and John Eckart; Lauren Kent; Trinette Kirkman; Jay Mikush; Richard and Connie Smith; Robin Taylor and Sallie West. *The Lord bless you and keep you. (Numbers 6:24)*

Bless Our Neighbors!—Our prayers for our community. **FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST**, please pray for our neighbors who provide justice for children through Action 4 Equity and Triad Restorative Justice.

CALENDAR

Sunday August 23

- 9:00 a.m. Present Word, Room 124
- 9:00 a.m. Deeper Dive, Room 126
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary
- 11:30 a.m. Church Picnic, Bolton Park

Monday August 24

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor

Tuesday August 25

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

Wednesday August 26

- 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

Thursday August 27

- 10:30 a.m. ArtRageous Pop-Up Class, Drawing Circle, Room 309
- 4:00 p.m. Membership 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, 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

All Church Picnic, Today, Join us for our annual picnic at Bolton Park. Following Worship, all are invited to join us for this wonderful time of laughter, fellowship, and tasty food!

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



Service

Collection boxes for the following Drives can be found in the Gallery Hallway. Thank you!

Moore Food Pantry: For the month of August, we are asking for donations of macaroni and cheese.

The Earth Care Committee is collecting used sneakers for GotSneakers. Learn more about this wonderful recycling program by visiting their website www.gotsneakers.com.

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.

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!

Fall Rally Day

September 13: At 9:30 a.m., we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a Potluck Breakfast

Worship returns to 11:00 a.m.

September 20: Christian Education for All Ages returns at 9:30 a.m.