



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

AUGUST 30, 2026 • TWENTY SECOND 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 SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 30, 2026 10:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

A WORD OF WELCOME

PRELUDE *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* arr. Spencer Ayscue

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Blessed be God, whose word gives us hope
and shapes our dreams,

All: whose love has conquered death.

One: Blessed be God, who orders our way and guides our steps,

All: who leads us into life.

PRAYER OF PRAISE

*HYMN 20 *All Things Bright and Beautiful* ROYAL OAK

THE CONFESSION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace and truth,
in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness.
We confess that we have not welcomed the light,
nor trusted good news to be good.
We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst,
expecting little, and hoping for less.
Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope,
so that we may receive the fullness of your grace,
and live in the truth of Christ our Lord.

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

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Romans 8:28-30

Page 158

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

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 50:15-20

Page 12

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

SERMON

God Intended It for Good

Randy Harris

THE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

***HYMN 815**

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

FESTAL SONG

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** adapted 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.
The Bible is the account of God's word and action in history,
together with the response of God's people's in faith.

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

It tells how the Lord has moved with Israel and the church
towards the kingdom of God.
That story is still unfolding and in faith we make it our own.
It forms our memory and our hope.
It tells us who we are and what we are to do.
To retell it is to declare what we believe.
We know that God is not confined to the story we can tell.
The story itself tells us of God's sovereign will
working 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

OFFERTORY *O Lord My God (How Great Thou Art)* arr. Spencer Ayscue
(the text for the offertory can be found at Hymn 625)

*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 774

There Is Now a New Creation

STUTTGART

*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

Jude's Benediction

arr. Spencer Ayscue

Now to him who is able to keep you,
who is able to keep you from stumbling,
and to make you stand in the presence
of his Glory, blameless with great joy;

To the only God our Saviour,
and through Jesus Christ our Lord,
be all glory, majesty, dominion, and power,
for all time, now and forever. Amen.

Christian worship
and service does
not end at the con-
clusion of the
Service for the
Lord's Day. The
Church is called to
follow its risen
Lord into the
world!

WORSHIP NOTES

Our guest liturgist today is Hannah Duane.

Today's guest musicians are Spencer Ayscue and Caroline Mendenhall.

The images on the bulletin cover are from a sculpture of Nelson Mandela. Created by Marco Cianfanelli and located on the spot of Mandela's arrest in South Africa before his 27-year imprisonment, the work is made from 50 jagged steel charcoal columns that create Mandela's head when viewed from a certain angle.

***Bless You!*—Our prayers for one another.** FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 30, please pray for Anna Hux; Debbie Layman, Glenn Otterbacher, Aspen and Christopher Layman; David Neely; John Woodmansee. *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 30

- 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
- 11:00 a.m. Lemonade and Cookies in the Shade, Patio
- 7:00 p.m. Mums Night Out, Home of Emily and Tim Collins

Monday August 31

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

Tuesday September 1

- 10:00 a.m. Coffee & Conversation, Camel City Coffee
- 5:00 p.m. Personnel Committee
- 6:00 p.m. Property Committee, Room 127
- 6:30 p.m. Children's Ministry Committee

Wednesday September 2

- 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
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice, Room 100

Thursday September 3

- 6:00 p.m. Congregational Care Committee, Salem Room
- 7:00 p.m. Global Service Committee, Salem 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. **Today, the Membership Committee is providing cookies to enjoy as well.** This is a wonderful, informal way to meet other Highlanders and greet visitors.

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 September, we are asking for donations of canned beans (no green beans please).

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.