

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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NOVEMBER 8, 2026 • THIRTY-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.

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 8, 2026 11:00 a.m.

The Gathering of the People of God

A Word of Welcome

Moment for Mission *Bearing Fruit That Lasts* Pat Kirkman

Prelude *Let All Things Now Living* arr. Dale Wood

Call to Worship

One: The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it;
All: the world, and those who dwell in it.
One: It is good to praise the Lord,
and make music to your name, O Most High,
All: to proclaim your love in the morning
and your faithfulness at night.

Prayer of Praise

(*) When this symbol precedes an element of the service, you are invited to rise in body or spirit.

***Hymn 19** *God of Great and God of Small* GOD OF GREAT AND SMALL

The Confession of the People of God

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

O God, have mercy upon us.
Christ makes us stewards, but we squander your gifts.
He gives us tasks to perform, yet we do as we please.
He sends us to minister on behalf of those suffering;
we are slow to respond until our own needs are met.
He expects us to praise you in all that we do;
we take all the credit for those things we do well.
Forgive us, and help us to live more faithfully
as followers of Jesus Christ.
The prayer continues in a time of silent confession.

Assurance of God's Love

***JOYFUL RESPONSE** *Glory to God* *GTG* 583



***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

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Deuteronomy 8:11–18 Page 165
One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 25:14–30 Page 28
One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Stewarding Our Talents* Randy Harris

THE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

***HYMN 708** *We Give Thee but Thine Own* SCHUMANN

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from *A Declaration of Faith, PCUSA*

Jesus lived with a constant sense of God's presence.
He put God's claim on his life above all else.
He joined others in God's worship and praise.
He drew strength from the Scriptures.
He prayed and taught his disciples to pray.

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

We believe Christ gives us and demands of us
personal lives that are centered in God
and open to God's reality and rule.
Christ teaches us to put obedience to God
above the interests of self, family, race or nation;
to offer God joyously our money, ability, and time.
It is part of our discipline to observe a day of worship and rest,
setting aside our own working to enjoy God's work,
celebrating with friends and siblings the Lord's goodness.
Life in God's presence issues in life for others,
for if we do not love neighbors whom we see,
we cannot love God whom we do not see.

Jesus is Lord!
He has been Lord from the beginning.
He will be Lord at the end.
Even now he is Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER John Bain

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
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.

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

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

ANTHEM *The Majesty and Glory of Your Name* Tom Fettke

When I gaze into the night sky, and see the work of your fingers.
The moon and stars suspended in space. But who are we that
you are mindful of us? You have given us a crown of glory and honor.
And have made us a little lower than the angels.
You have put us in charge of all creation;
The beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea.
But who are we, oh, what are we, that you are mindful of us?

O Lord, our God the majesty and glory of your name
transcends the earth and fills the heavens.
O Lord, our God little children praise him perfectly.
And so would we, and so would we.
Alleluia, Alleluia. The majesty and glory of your name! Alleluia, Alleluia.

*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 307** *God of Grace and God of Glory* CWM RHONDDA

*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 *Prelude and Fugue in F Major* Dietrich Buxtehude

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 our worship leadership Edwin Walker, organist.

***Bless You!*—Our prayers for one another. For the week of November 8,** please pray for Jeff, Debbie, Jake and Tori Patton; Megan Bryant, Dan Prosterman, Clara, Sam and Gabriel Bryant-Prosterman; Wendell and Jayn Schollander; Carol West. *The Lord bless you and keep you. (Numbers 6:24)*

***Bless Our Neighbors!*–Our prayers for our community. For the month of November,** please pray for our neighbors experiencing food insecurity and for the agencies that assist them: Forsyth Backpack Program, Moore School Food Pantry, and Second Harvest Food Bank.

Calendar

Sunday November 8
9:30 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages
11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary
12:30 p.m. Officer Preparation, Ardmore Room
1:00 p.m. Stepping Stones, AB 8
2:00 p.m. Fall Stroll, Salem Lake
5:00 p.m. All Youth, Agape Meal, Fellowship Hall

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

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

Wednesday November 11
10:30 a.m. Salemtowne Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Lamentations & Laughter, AB 5
5:15 p.m. Bell Choir Practice, Room 100
5:30 p.m. Highland Ukuleles, Room 126
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice, Room 100

Thursday November 12
10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study, Ardmore Room
7:30 p.m. Young Adults, West Salem Public House

Friday November 13–15 Senior High Retreat

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.

Stewardship Dedication Sunday is November 15.
All are invited to share commitments of time, talent, and treasure as we seek to bear lasting fruit in our ministry in 2027!

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's 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 childcare 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.

Children during worship: Join us at 11:00 a.m. 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.

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.

Churchwide

Fall Stroll, Today, November 8, 2:00 p.m.: We look forward to sharing a stroll part-way around Salem Lake. Meet in Highland's parking lot at 1:30 p.m. to carpool, or at 2:00 p.m. in the parking lot off Salem Lake Road.

Mission Fair and Congregational Luncheon, Sunday, November 15, following worship: We hope you will share a BBQ lunch and meet representatives from many community agencies which Highland supports and learn about ways you can support their work in our community. Sign up today!

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. For more information, please read the current issue of Highlights. Thank you!

Moore Food Pantry: For the month of November, we are asking for donations of dried beans.

We are collecting Gingerbread Houses once again for students of Ashley Elementary. Please see the latest issue of Highlights for more details; sign up with the QR code.

Shepherd Center Christmas Donations: Now through November 22 we are collecting donations for seniors in our area. Highland will host a Christmas dinner on December 5; we will pass out gift bags to each attendee. Sign up through the QR code.

Children

Sunday Mornings, 9:30 a.m., Faith Formation for Children: Classes for children, 3 years old through 4th Grade, are located on the third floor of the Education Building.

Youth

Youth Agape Meal: Bring a favorite dish to share as we gather at 5:00 p.m. for a youth Agape Meal, a shared meal celebrating God's love and our life together.

Senior High Fall Retreat, November 13–15: Join us at the lake for a chance to unplug, recharge, grow in faith, and enjoy time together.

Young Adults

Thursday Night at 7:30 p.m. Join us for an evening of Bible study and conversation at West Salem Public House.

Adults

Sunday Church School Offerings 9:30 a.m.:

The Present Word, Room 124
Lectionary Café, Salem Room
Parents' Coffee & Conversation, Room 126
Soul Food: Feasting on the Wisdom of Others, Room 127
On the Road to Empathy, Ardmore Room
Little Steps, Big Faith, Chapel

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!