

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
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NOVEMBER 15, 2026 • THIRTY-THIRD 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.

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 15, 2026 11:00 a.m.

The Gathering of the People of God

A Word of Welcome

Prelude *All Things Bright and Beautiful* James M. Bates

Call to Worship

One: Sing to our God a new song.
All: God has done marvelous things!
One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord!
All: Let the world and its people sing together for joy!

Prayer of Praise

***Hymn 643** *Now We Thank Thee All Our God* NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

The Confession of the People of God

Call to Confession
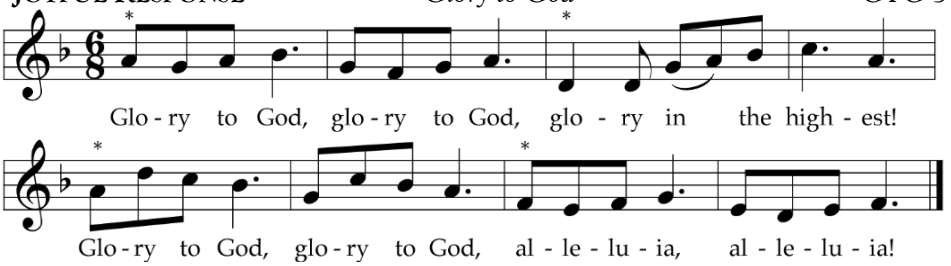
Unison Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we have not loved you
or each other with our whole hearts.
Forgive us, we pray,
and lead us toward wholeness,
that we may be filled with your joy.
We ask this in Jesus' name.

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

Anthem *Feed My Lambs* Natalie Sleeth
Children's Choir

Feed my lambs, tend my sheep, overall a vigil keep;
in my name lead them forth gently as a shepherd.

When they wander, when they stray, their protector be.
As ye do unto my flock, thus ye do to me.

Feed my lambs, tend my sheep, overall a vigil keep;
in my name lead them forth gently as a shepherd.

Unto all who lose the way, hope and comfort be.
As ye do unto my flock, thus ye do to me.

Feed my lambs, tend my sheep, overall a vigil keep;
in my name lead them forth gently as a shepherd.

A Time for Young Disciples

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson Psalm 98 Page 551
One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Lesson John 15:9–17 Page 109
One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *Bearing Fruit That Lasts* Randy Harris

The Response of the People of God

***Affirmation of Faith** *The Apostles' Creed* *GTG* p.35

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of Heaven and earth,

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

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.

ANTHEM *Our Grateful Hymn of Praise* arr. Chris Gilliam

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our grateful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our grateful hymn of praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our grateful hymn of praise.

For thy church, that evermore lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love;
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our grateful hymn of praise.

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.
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

***Hymn 700** *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* I'M GONNA LIVE

Presenting Today's Offerings and Our Commitments for 2027

(We will continue singing as needed through the offering.)

Gratitude for the gifts of God's grace, mercy, and love is at the heart of the Christian faith. Such gratitude is the primary motivation for our giving, and for the commitments we make for the coming year, all of which are done in a spirit of joy and generosity!

***Litany of Dedication**

One: O God, you have entrusted us with gifts—
All: time, talent, relationships, energy, money—
One: and asked us to use them to serve your kingdom.
All: With thanks and praise we respond to your call.
One: We bring our gifts in response to the gifts you have given.
All: We offer ourselves, our lives, our dollars, and our hours.
We commit ourselves to work for your world
to love and serve wherever you call.
One: We ask your blessing on this, your church,
as we seek to follow you with heart, mind, and soul.
All: Bless also these gifts, our investment in your future,
that they may multiply in faith, hope, and love. Amen.

The Sending Forth of the People of God

*** Hymn 697** *Take My Life* HENDON

***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.

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!

***Postlude** *Let the People Respond – Amen!* Dan Locklair

Worship Notes

Today's Chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of William B. "Bill" Kay's 90th Birthday, by his loving wife, Lottie Kay.

***Bless You!*—Our prayers for one another. For the week of November 15,** please pray for Melanie Adams; Emily Black, Anais Ovalle and Sebastian Ovalle-Black; Elizabeth Gee and Jerry Cecil; Joe and Harriet Mitchener; Sharon Wilmoth and Piper Milsaps. *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 15
9:30 a.m. Christian Education for All Ages
11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery provided), Sanctuary
12:00 p.m. Congregational Lunch & Mission Fair, Fellowship Hall
1:15 p.m. Earth Care Committee, Ardmore Room

Monday November 16
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Parlor
7:00 p.m. Matthew 25 Book Group, Ardmore Room

Tuesday November 17
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 Group

Wednesday November 18
7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
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
6:00 p.m. Finance Committee
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice, Room 100

Thursday November 19
10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study, Ardmore Room
5:45 p.m. Community Service Committee, Ardmore Room
6:30 p.m. Young Adults, Home of Katie Alexander

Friday November 20
5:00 p.m. Fourth Friday Fun Night, Fellowship Hall

For more information about the events in this calendar, please pick up a copy of H*ighlights*, 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'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

Mission Fair and Congregational Luncheon, Today, 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.

Fellowship Outing to MUSE Museum, Saturday, November 21: Join us as we explore the historic Camel-Train exhibit (donated by Scott Walker's mom, Carolyn). Meet in Highland's parking lot at 1:30 p.m. to carpool or at the museum at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are available online.

Advent Event, Sunday, November 22, 9:30 a.m.: Join us for Christmas crafting, hot chocolate, coffee, and light breakfast snacks as we kick off the Advent season in the Gathering Garden. This event is appropriate for all ages! *Please note there will be no regular church school during the event.*

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.

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, 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

Lunch Out, November 22 All youth are invited to lunch at The Loop after worship. Come enjoy good food, catch up with friends, and spend some time together before Thanksgiving week.

Young Adults

Thursday Night at 6:30 p.m. Katie hosts a night of intro to Mahjong with snacks and all materials. No experience necessary!

Adults

Sunday Church School Offerings 9:30 a.m.:
The Present Word, Room 124
Lectionary Café, AB 8
Parents' Coffee & Conversation, Room 126
Church school will resume on November 29.

Coffee & Conversation,
Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.
Bagel Station, 129 Oakwood Drive
Join us for drop-in conversation with friends and Highland staff. All are welcome!