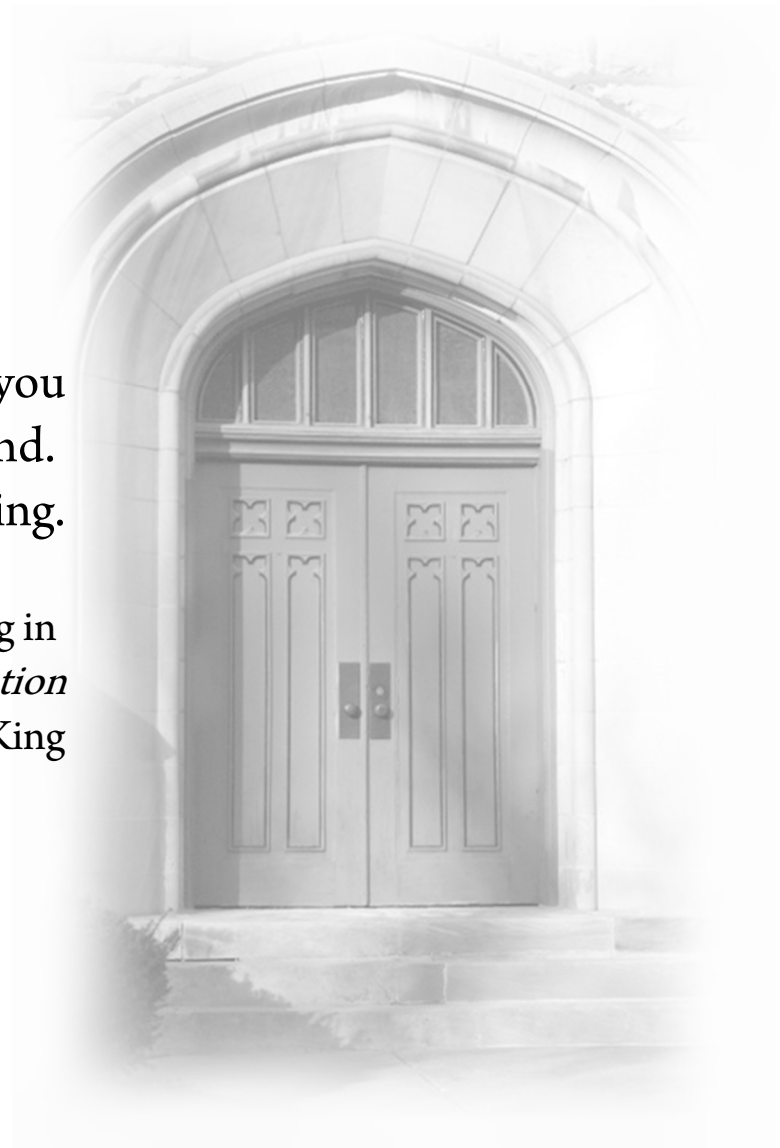


Let me tell you
something my friend.
Hope is a dangerous thing.

~ Ellis Boyd 'Red' Redding in
The Shawshank Redemption
by Stephen King



HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 23, 2023

8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Paul Henderson

CHRIST IS ALIVE! LET CHRISTIANS SING

Prelude

Dom Gregory Murray

Andante Tranquillo

Opening Words

Joey Eubank (8:45)
Alana Maddox (11:15)

As we are called to worship today, we remember that when God appeared on earth in the person of Jesus, he was not recognized. Today we ask for faith that will open our eyes to see Jesus. Friends, behold and see your God!

We open our eyes to see God's glory. We open our ears to hear God's wisdom. We open our hearts to offer God our love. We open our mouths to sing God's praise. Christ is alive, let us sing!

Processional Hymn (205) †

TRURO

Christ Is Alive

Prayer of Praise

Joey Eubank (8:45)
Alana Maddox (11:15)

Glory to the Creator †

MEINEKE

***Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Spirit, One.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

BREAD OF COMPASSION, OPEN OUR EYES

Choral Worship

John Rutter

Open Thou Mine Eyes

Open Thou mine eyes and I shall see; incline my heart and I shall desire; order my steps and I shall walk in the ways of Thy commandments. O Lord God, be Thou to me a God and beside Thee let there be none else, no other, naught else with Thee. Vouchsafe me to worship Thee and serve Thee according to Thy commandments, in truth of spirit, in reverence of body, in blessing of lips, in private and in public.

A Reading from Psalm 116

Erin Phelps

from *Psalms for Praying* by Nan Merrill

Prayer of Confession

Justin Sizemore

Holy God, we gather in this space to confess.

We confess ***that we are tired and weary.***

We confess ***that fear surrounds us.***

We confess ***that our cup of love is running dangerously low.***

We confess ***that being co-creators in our divided world is difficult and overwhelming.***

Silence

Loving God, may we drink from your cup of love once again and bear witness to your love to all those we encounter. ***Amen.***

Words of Assurance

The Exchange of Peace †

Justin Sizemore

GRANT US YOUR VISION

Hymn of Assurance (203) †

BUNESSAN

Day of Arising

The Gospel Lesson †

Luke 24:13-35 (Pew Bible page 113 – NT)

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Sermon

It's the Hope that Kills You

Children grades K-2 may be dismissed for Children's Worship (11:15)

THAT ALL CREATION WITH YOU MAY RISE

Hymn of Response (395) †

SCOTT

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Offertory Prayer †

Procter Eubank (8:45)
Zach Watson (11:15)

Offertory

Aria

Noel Rawsthorne

News for the Community

Renee Purtlebaugh and Erin Phelps

In response to your decision, ***we welcome you! We covenant to be the family of God for you in this place. We hope to learn from you, give to you, and receive from you, as we journey in faith together.***

For the ministries that shape the life of our community, ***thanks be to God.***

Doxology †

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below,
O praise God, Alleluia!
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One,
O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!***

Benediction †

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Postlude

Presto

Benedetto Marcello

† *For those who are able, we invite you to stand.*

Today in Worship

Highland's deacons (wearing identification name tags) are available at various locations for prayer, questions or information. Deacons are lay ministers of the church who have been called to a ministry of service.

Phrases from today's hymn of assurance, *Day of Arising*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service — praise, confession, proclamation and response.

The flowers on the chancel today are given in celebration of Erin Phelps' ordination and in deep gratitude for her beautiful ministry among the family of God in this place.

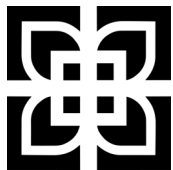
Our gratitude to our guest organist today, Laura Lea Duckworth.

Listening Assist Devices are available. Please see our sound technician or an usher for assistance.

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Notes and News for the Community of Faith

- **Ordination of Erin Phelps**—Over the past several years, we have all benefitted from the ministry of Erin Phelps among us at Highland. This week, she begins serving as Interim Associate Pastor during Lauren Jones Mayfield's sabbatical. **It is our great joy to ordain Erin to the gospel ministry this afternoon at 4:00 PM.** We hope you will join us in this time of affirmation and blessing over Erin's call to ministry. There will be a reception celebrating Erin following the service.
- **We look forward to welcoming several guest proclaimers in the coming weeks.** Our own **Justin Sizemore** will preach on Sunday, April 30, and **Karen Zimmerman**, one of Highland's global partners in Morocco, will preach on Sunday, May 7.
- **Deacon Nomination Process Continues**—Each year, our church nominates members to serve as Deacons at Highland. **Our Deacons are not an "administrative board," but rather servant leaders who invest themselves in the life of the church and care for our community of faith in a variety of ways.** The deacon body is a blend of new and long-time Highland Baptist Church members, young, seasoned, and diverse. You are invited to nominate up to 9 people to serve as Deacons at Highland in the coming year. The online nomination form can be found in the newsletter. Another option is to call the church office to make your nominations (502-451-3735). Nominees are considered by a subgroup of deacons who then proposes a list of names to the congregation for approval. **The deadline for nominations is next Sunday, April 30.**
- **Do conversations around racism make you feel uncomfortable, confused, defensive or curious? If so, you aren't alone!** Join us for an entry level 4-week class about racism, beginning April 26th and continuing each Wednesday through May 17th. Come ready to just listen or ask the questions you've been wanting to ask. We are here to lovingly support you on your journey to better understanding our call to racial justice and reparations.
- **Mary Alice Birdwhistell and Evan Jacoby invite the entire Highland family to join them for a come-and-go church-wide wedding reception on Thursday, June 8 from 6:00-9:00 PM at The Pointe in Butchertown (1205 East Washington St).** No gifts, please! What we would love most is the gift of spending the evening marking this special moment in our lives with our church family. All are welcome - including children! **Please RSVP by May 1 at <https://events.blackbirdsvp.com/maryaliceandevan>.**



HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

*A thinking, feeling, healing
community of faith*

Our Mission... God's Love compels us to cultivate a safe, welcoming community of faith where all are challenged to discover, grow, and serve, as together we boldly live out the worship that is our very lives.

David Bannister
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR

Troy Burden
DEACON CHAIR

Kathleen Gordon
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Erin Phelps
INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Jerre and Frank Bassett
CUSTODIANS

Don Burke
PASTOR EMERITUS

Paul Henderson
MINISTER OF MUSIC
AND WORSHIP

Renee Purtlebaugh
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN
AND THEIR FAMILIES

Mary Alice Birdwhistell
PASTOR

Cheryl Davis
OFFICE MANAGER

Lauren Jones Mayfield
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR CARE
AND JUSTICE

Sharon Sanders
INTERIM ORGANIST
AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE

Fred Bogert
MUSIC DIRECTOR
TO FRIDAY CHURCH

Megan Fuller
CHILDREN AND FAMILY
MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Walter McWhorter
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Justin Sizemore
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH
AND YOUNG ADULTS