



Listen to your life.
See it for the fathomless
mystery it is.
In the boredom and pain of it,
no less than in the excitement
and gladness:
touch, taste, smell your way
to the holy and hidden heart of it,
because in the last analysis
all moments
are key moments,
and life itself is grace.

~ Frederick Buechner, *Now and Then:
A Memoir of Vocation*

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 14, 2023
8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING,
JOY OF HEAVEN TO EARTH COME DOWN

Prelude

Ralph Vaughan Williams, arr. R. Lau

Rhosymedre

Opening Words

Gabe Heeke (8:45)
Abigail Berrios (11:15)

Come and hear, all you who love God, and we will tell what God has done for us.
God is the Sovereign of heaven and earth, maker of this world and all within it.
God has given to all mortals life and breath and every blessing.
Bless our God, O peoples!
Let the sound of God's praise be heard. We sing the power of God!
We sing the power of God! WE SING THE POWER OF GOD!

Processional Hymn †

ELLACOMBE

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

*I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.*

*I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures through the Word, and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where're I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!*

*There's not a plant or flower below but makes thy glories known.
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne,
while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care,
and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.*

Prayer of Praise †

Gabe Heeke (8:45)
Abigail Berrios (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.***

BREATHE, O BREATHE THY LOVING SPIRIT
INTO EVERY TROUBLED BREAST

Anthem

Thomas Tallis

If Ye Love Me

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever, ev'n the spirit of truth.

The Hebrew Lesson

Psalms 66:8-20 (from *Psalms for Praying* by Nan Merrill)

Justin Sizemore

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

Prayer of Confession

Renee Purtlebaugh

Holy One, the Psalmist reminds us that you hear our prayers, and yet we still wonder if you listen. You nudge us toward solid ground, and yet we wonder if you really understand the demands of daily living. You have drawn near to us in our pain, and yet still we wonder if you are there. Forgive our narrow vision and short memories. Remind us again and again of your Loving Companion Presence embracing and renewing our lives. Amen.

Words of Assurance

**THEE WE WOULD BE ALWAYS BLESSING,
SERVE THEE AS THY HOSTS ABOVE**

Exchange of Peace †

Erin Phelps

Hymn of Assurance (281) †

BEECHER

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

The Gospel Lesson †

John 14:15-21 (Pew Bible page 107—NT)

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Sermon

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

Hymn of Response (33) †

CWM RHONDDA

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

**PRAY AND PRAISE THEE WITHOUT CEASING,
GLORY IN THY PERFECT LOVE**

Global Mission Moment and Offertory Prayer †

Denee Walsh (8:45)
Greg Clark (11:15)

Offertory

arr. Dan Forrest

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

News for the Community

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

Flor Peeters

Postlude

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.

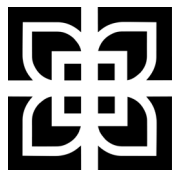
Phrases from today's hymn of assurance, *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service — praise, confession, proclamation and response.

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

- **Global Mission Offering**—Every year, Highland dedicates a month to acknowledging and raising financial support for our various mission partners through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Throughout May, we will hear more about CBF Global Missions and the field personnel whose presence is making an impact around the world. The 2023 theme for this global mission offering is “A Place at the Table for Everyone,” and Highland's goal for the offering this year is \$10,000. When you give to this offering, you are supporting more than 50 field personnel in 18 countries who are cultivating community and doing transformational work in communities both locally and around the world. **Please prayerfully consider your contribution to this work of Love. You may give online on the HBC website or by check, noting Missions Offering on the memo line.**
- **Do conversations around racism make you feel uncomfortable, confused, defensive, or curious? If so, you aren't alone!** Join us for this entry level class about racism, continuing each Wednesday through May 17th at 6:15 PM. Come ready to just listen or ask the questions you've been wanting to ask during this last week of class.
- **The Young Adults at Highland are inviting the entire church (everyone 21+) to our next Theology on Tap on Thursday, May 18th!** We will be gathering to discuss the hit Apple TV+ show, Ted Lasso! Join us as we will be discussing some of our favorite moments, themes, and stories from the show and exploring all of the theology and faith found within! We will gather at West 6th Brewing in Nulu (817 E Market St Suite 101, Louisville, KY 40206) from 6:00-8:00 PM.
- **Please join us on Sunday, May 21, at 6:00 PM for a beautiful service of music provided by Highland's youngest musicians, walking toddlers through the fifth grade.** Four choirs gather weekly on Wednesday evenings and will pause their learning processes to share music, scripture, and movement activities. Please invite family and friends and also share the news that this service will be live-streamed on our Facebook and YouTube accounts. Everyone is invited to enjoy popsicles on the playground following the program!
- **Orchestra Spring Concert is coming up!** The HBC Orchestra will have their first spring concert in three years on Wednesday, May 24, and you're invited! Join us in the sanctuary at 6:15 PM for music both serious and fun.
- **Looking Ahead:**
 - Thursday, June 8: Mary Alice and Evan's Church-Wide Wedding Reception, 6:00-9:00 PM at The Pointe
 - Thursday, June 15: Drag Revival: A Pride Family-Friendly Spiritual Night of Music and Joy at Highland Community Ministries



**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