



The secret to tapping into resilience, strength, and resistance is hearing the promise of God and believing it.

That's why we keep coming back to church – or at least one of the reasons – to hear the promises of unconditional love, of forgiveness even when we feel hopelessly inadequate, of the possibility of transformation, and the promise that the arc of history is bending toward justice as we follow the path of faith.

~ Delores Williams

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JUNE 25, 2023
8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING TILL EARTH AND HEAVEN RING

Prelude

Ron Boud

Prelude on FOREST GREEN

Opening Words (from Matthew 10:29-31)

Buddy Lee (8:45)
David Bannister (11:15)

Not one sparrow will fall to the ground apart from their Creator.
God tells us we are of more value than many sparrows.
God knows us and loves us. Even the hairs of our head are all counted.
We praise you, O God! Grateful are we for your love and care!

Hymn (19) †

FOREST GREEN

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God**

Prayer of Praise †

Buddy Lee (8:45)
David Bannister (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.

SING A SONG FULL OF THE FAITH THAT THE DARK PAST HAS TAUGHT US

The Hebrew Lesson

Paul Henderson

Psalm 86:1-10 (Pew Bible pages 532-533 – OT)

Prayer of Confession

Renee Purtlebaugh

“Do not fear,” you tell us.
But we cower before threats to our comfort and security, not trusting your promise to care for us, nor boldly stepping forward in faith.
“Take up the cross,” you tell us.
But we live as though death still holds dominion, and refuse to take risks for the sake of the gospel; we fail to challenge powers that diminish and principalities that destroy.
Forgive us, Lord.
Help us to live with you and for you. Make us worthy to bear the name of Christ.

Choral Words of Assurance

W. A. Mozart

Benedictus sit Deus

Benedictus sit Deus Pater Blessed be God the Creator
Unigenitusque Dei Filius and the only begotten Christ
Sanctus quoque Spiritus Sanctus and the Holy Spirit
Quia fecit, nobiscum misericordiam suam . . . because they have shown us mercy

Exchange of Peace †

Justin Sizemore

*In worship at Highland, we aim to sing music with a theology that reflects an expansive and inclusive God. Occasionally, our printed music may use language that limits God. When we are unable to re-print a more inclusive text, we encourage you to use language that better fits your image of God. Our ministers and choir will often replace “He/Him” with “God” or “Love” (1 syllable) and “Father” with “Parent,” “Holy,” or “Divine” (2 syllables). We would love to hear what creative language for God you might use in worship, too.

SING A SONG FULL OF THE HOPE THAT THE PRESENT HAS BROUGHT US

Hymn (387) †

GALILEE

God Who Made Us, Christ Who Calls Us

The Hebrew Lesson

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Genesis 21:8-21 (Pew Bible pages 16-17 – OT)
with *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*
Phil Collier, clarinet

*I want Jesus to walk with me. I want Jesus to walk with me.
All along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.*

Verses 8-13

*In my trials, Lord, walk with me. In my trials, Lord, walk with me.
When my heart is almost breaking, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.*

Verses 14-16

*When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me. When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me.
When my head is bowed in sorrow, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.*

Verses 17-21

*I want Jesus to walk with me. I want Jesus to walk with me.
All along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.*

Sermon

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

The Faith That the Dark Past Has Taught Us

FACING THE RISING SUN OF OUR NEW DAY BEGUN, LET US MARCH ON TILL VICTORY IS WON

Hymn of Response (638) †

LIFT EVERY VOICE

Lift Every Voice and Sing
Robert Lee, instrumentalist

Offertory Prayer †

Marilyn Whisler (8:45)
Margaret Pennington (11:15)

Offertory

Wayfaring Stranger (8:45)
Improvisation (11:15)

Joseph Martin

News for the Community

Lauren Jones Mayfield

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

Reflections

† *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 response, *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service—praise, confession, proclamation and response.

Often referred to as "The Black National Anthem," *Lift Every Voice and Sing* began as a poem by NAACP leader James Weldon Johnson in 1900. His brother, John Rosamond Johnson, later composed the music. Set against the religious invocation of God and the promise of freedom, the song was later adopted by the NAACP and prominently used as a rallying cry during the Civil Rights Movement. A donation from our reparations fund will go to Louisville's Black community in honor of our singing it in worship today.

Thanks to Phil Collier and Robert Lee for sharing their musical gifts with us today.

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

- **Soul Journal: Art, Poetry, Prose, and Prayer.** On Thursday mornings in July from 10:00 AM -12:00 PM, Lauren Jones Mayfield will teach a class on soul journaling. Participants will use a variety of artistic media to create their own soul journal, which seeks to express the Divine Guidance within us. RSVP to laurenjm@hbclouisville.org. Space is limited to 15. More details will be included in this week's newsletter.
- **Online Streaming Volunteers: We're looking for a few folks to be a part of a regular rotation of people to help run our Sunday 11:15 am on-line streaming service.** We'll soon arrange a couple of training sessions and would love to include you if you're 16 or older and have an interest in using your geek skills for the church. Contact walter@hbclouisville.org to sign up or for any questions.
- **Wall Volunteers Urgently Needed!** Do you have one hour per month to meet an important need in our faith community? More than 20 faithful volunteers give an hour each month to build the walls that we use for our adult Bible study classes and then take them down afterwards. **We currently have eight openings that need to be filled for this vital role.** Some of these vacancies are for fifth Sundays, which is another option for those who are unable to make a monthly commitment. Our volunteers will happily train folks to join them—no experience necessary. If you'd like to volunteer or learn more, please contact cheryl@hbclouisville.org.
- **Looking Ahead:**
 - Wednesday, July 12: Youth Outdoor Movie Night
 - Sunday, July 16: Preschool Potluck, 4:00-7:00 PM, Pink Elephant Farm, Smithfield, KY
 - Wednesday, July 19: Youth Pool Party
 - Wednesday, July 26: Youth Cookout and Outdoor Games at the Sizemore's



**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

Jerre and Frank Bassett
CUSTODIANS

Mary Alice Birdwhistell
PASTOR

Fred Bogert
MUSIC DIRECTOR
TO FRIDAY CHURCH

Troy Burden
DEACON CHAIR

Don Burke
PASTOR EMERITUS

Cheryl Davis
OFFICE MANAGER

Megan Fuller
CHILDREN AND FAMILY
MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Kathleen Gordon
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Paul Henderson
MINISTER OF MUSIC
AND WORSHIP

Lauren Jones Mayfield
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR CARE
AND JUSTICE

Walter McWhorter
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Renee Purtlebaugh
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN
AND THEIR FAMILIES

Sharon Sanders
INTERIM ORGANIST
AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE

Justin Sizemore
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH
AND YOUNG ADULTS