



**HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**  
**OCTOBER 1, 2023**  
**8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.**

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Invitation to Worship

Paul Henderson

**IN THIS JOYFUL CELEBRATION, RECALL WHAT GOD HAS DONE**

Prelude

*Variations on ST. PETER, Var. I-III*

James Pethel

Opening Words

Larry Hoover (8:45)  
Angela Dennison (11:15)

We gather today as a community of Christ.

***We come from many places and bring with us many stories.***

With followers of Jesus through the ages, let us gather together.

***With siblings from near and far, let us gather together to worship God.***

Hymn (467) †

THAXTED

*We Are One in Christ*

Prayer of Praise †

Larry Hoover (8:45)  
Angela Dennison (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.*

## IN THE CUP OF LOVE HERE OFFERED, AFFIRM WHAT WE BELIEVE

The Hebrew Lesson  
(Japanese)

Amos 5:12-15 (Pew Bible page 838—OT)

Yoshi Zoeller

Prayer of Confession

Renee Purtlebaugh

*Holy One, each day is an opportunity. And yet, we find that our lists grow,  
our work becomes overwhelming, our anxieties and worries consume, our search  
for success takes priority. Our vision begins to narrow, and ever so subtly, we lose sight  
of our neighbor. Our voices overshadow those in need, and privilege in all its forms  
muddies our clarity. Forgive us, and ground us again in your Way of Love. Give us courage  
to be aware, to seek justice and to be attuned to the common good. Amen.*

Words of Assurance

Hymn (463) †

ST. PETER

*From Every Race, from Every Clime*

## IN THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED HERE, THE GOOD NEWS OF TRUTH IS HEARD

The Gospel Lesson †  
(Spanish)

John 9:1-11 (Pew Bible page 100—NT)

Karen Park

Sermon

*Who Sinned?: Transforming Power and Authority*

Meredith Stone

## SENT AS BLESSING FOR GOD'S PEOPLE, TO GO FORTH IN LOVE AND PEACE

The Celebration of Holy Communion

Lauren Jones Mayfield

Invitation to the Table

Exchange of Peace †

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Reception of the Bread and Cup †

*Everyone is invited forward to receive bread and cup. All bread served is gluten friendly.  
Deacons will receive tithes and offerings in the offering plates as you return to your pew.*

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

Ave verum corpus, natum de Maria virgine, vere passum immolatum in cruce pro homine.  
Cujus latus perforatum unda fluxit et sanguine, esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine,  
in mortis examine.

Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary, having truly suffered, sacrificed on the cross  
for humankind, from whose pierced side water and blood flowed: Be for us a sweet  
foretaste in the trial of death!

Hymn of Response †

MCKEE

*In Christ There is No East or West*

***In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;  
but one community of love throughout the whole wide earth.***

***In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;  
God's service is the golden cord close-binding humankind.***

***In Christ is neither Jew nor Greek, and neither slave nor free;  
for men and women live in God, and all are kin to me.***

***In Christ now meet both East and West, in Christ meet South and North;  
one joyous, true community throughout the whole wide earth.***

Faithful Giving Testimony and Offertory Prayer

Debbie Hoover (8:45)  
Georgianna Miller (11:15)

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 †

TALLIS' CANON

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One, Amen.***

Benediction †

THAXTED

*We Are One in Christ*

***As the bread of life is broken, the cup of love outpoured.  
We are one in Christ, our Savior, and sent to serve the Lord.***

Postlude

James Pethel

*Variations on ST. PETER, Var. IV-V*

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.

## 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 opening hymn, *We Are One in Christ*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service—praise, confession, proclamation and response.

Today we welcome Meredith Stone to the pulpit. Meredith is the Executive Director of Baptist Women in Ministry and a long-time advocate for women in Baptist life. She is in town for the 40th anniversary celebration of BWIM, which began because of the bold, visionary work of a group of women who bravely gathered for the first time here in Louisville 40 years ago. That group of visionaries includes Highland's very own Lela Hendrix and Pat Bailey, who will be honored at the gathering this week!

The stoles in use by the ministers today feature fabrics from all over the world. They serve as a reminder that Christians globally are celebrating communion today separately, but united as one.

Listening Assist Devices are available. Please see our sound technician or an usher for assistance. Large print hymn sheets are also available upon request for visually impaired persons. An usher can provide a copy for you.

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### Notes and News for the Community of Faith

- Highland enters our annual **Commitment Season through the month of October** — Together, we have the opportunity to use our financial resources to support the 2024 Ministry Fund, as well as our Sacred Space for Everyone campaign. Commitment cards will be mailed this week and can be turned in to the church office at any point this month, with a special emphasis happening in worship on October 15. Join us as we engage the work of creating a world where Love and justice are abundant through generous giving of our financial resources!
- **Parking**—Beginning tomorrow, Monday, October 2, the main parking lot behind the church will be closed for 4 to 5 weeks while the geothermal wells for our HVAC upgrade will be drilled. During the parking lot closure, please leave the parking spaces closest to the church (street-side and in the other two parking lots) for our senior citizens, families with young children, and those with mobility issues.
- **Won't You Be My Neighbor?** In our growing context of religious diversity, you may be curious about what it means to pray to Allah with our Muslim siblings, or meditate alongside our Buddhist siblings, or pray with our Jewish siblings. Rev. Dr. Tyler Mayfield will lead us in reflecting on the biblical and theological category of "neighbor" with special attention to the ministry of Fred Rogers on Wednesday evenings at 6:15 PM beginning on October 18.
- **Looking Ahead**
  - October 4: No Wednesday evening activities (JCPS Fall Break) *except Sanctuary Choir rehearsal at 6:30 PM*
  - October 11: Cloud of Witnesses at 6:15 PM
  - October 18: "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" series with Tyler Mayfield begins at 6:15 PM



**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

**Don Burke**  
PASTOR EMERITUS

**Paul Henderson**  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF MUSIC  
AND WORSHIP

**Sharon Sanders**  
INTERIM ORGANIST  
AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE

**Jerre and Frank Bassett**  
CUSTODIANS

**Cheryl Davis**  
OFFICE MANAGER

**Lauren Jones Mayfield**  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR CARE  
AND JUSTICE

**Justin Sizemore**  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH  
AND YOUNG ADULTS

**Mary Alice Birdwhistell**  
PASTOR

**Megan Fuller**  
CHILDREN AND FAMILY  
MINISTRY ASSISTANT

**Walter McWhorter**  
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

**Tyler Swim**  
DEACON CHAIR

**Fred Bogert**  
MUSIC DIRECTOR  
TO FRIDAY CHURCH

**Kathleen Gordon**  
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

**Renee Purtlebaugh**  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN  
AND THEIR FAMILIES