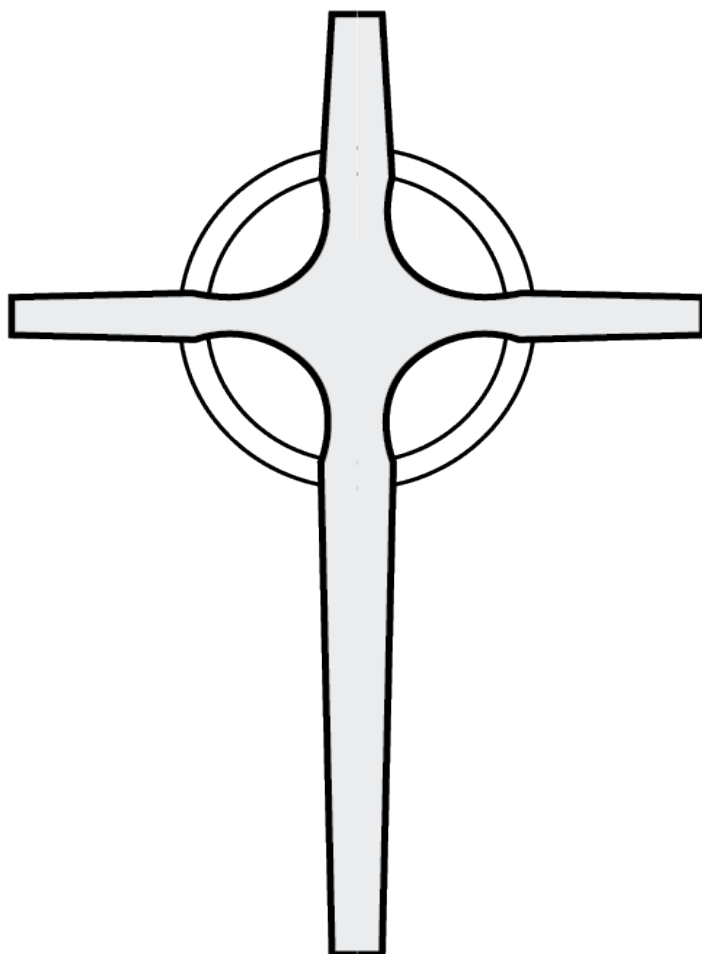
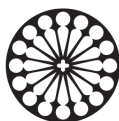


FULLY ALIVE WITH THE PASSION OF CHRIST



August 30, 2026 | 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost



**South Highland
Presbyterian Church**

ALL ARE WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST!

2035 Highland Avenue South • Birmingham, Alabama 35205
www.southhighland.org • (205) 933-0790

Preparing for Worship

This morning we'll consider what theologians call the "cultural mandate," the biblical command to use our work to cultivate the earth. As you prepare for worship, reflect on these words from author Andy Crouch:

If you're a Christian, you don't have "a calling." You have three.

Your first fundamental calling is shared with every other human being: to bear the image of God. We are here to reflect the Creator into the creation, and to reflect the creation's praise and lament back to the Creator. To bear the image is to exercise dominion, caring for and cultivating the good world and making it very good through our creative attention.

Your second fundamental calling is shared with every other member of the family of God: to restore the image of God. Our distinctive calling as Christians is not just to till and keep the world as image bearers, but to actively seek out the places where that image has been lost, to place ourselves at particular risk on behalf of the victims of idolatry and injustice. In every place where the gospel isn't known, Christians should be finding ways to proclaim Jesus as the world's true Lord and "the image of the invisible God."

Your third calling is your contingent calling: to make the most of today, while it is called today. You are in some particular place today—maybe at school, maybe on a bus, maybe in a workplace, maybe at home. And you are there with certain resources—memory, energy, reason, attention, skill. What Scripture is interested in is God, God's mission in the world, God's commissioning of a people, and God's gracious invitation to me to stop being so interested in me and start being absolutely fascinated by his mission.

CELEBRATION FOR THE LORD'S DAY

*To all who are weary and need rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who fail and desire strength; to all who sin and need a Savior—
this church opens wide her doors with a welcome from Jesus Christ, the friend of sinners.*

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE: "Romanze" from *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* W.A. Mozart
Kenny Lewis, Organ

WELCOME David Yancey (8:30)
Rev. Abby Gatliff (11:00)

***CALL TO WORSHIP** **please stand if able* Jeremiah 29:11-14

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD,
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future.
Then you will call on me and come and pray to me,
and I will listen to you.
You will seek me and find me
when you seek me with all your heart.
I will be found by you," declares the LORD,
"and I will bring you back from captivity."

***HYMN:** #483 (blue)

"Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above" MIT FREUDEN ZART
Entrance of the Word and Light

***PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION**

***CALL TO CONFESSION** Jeremiah 2:13

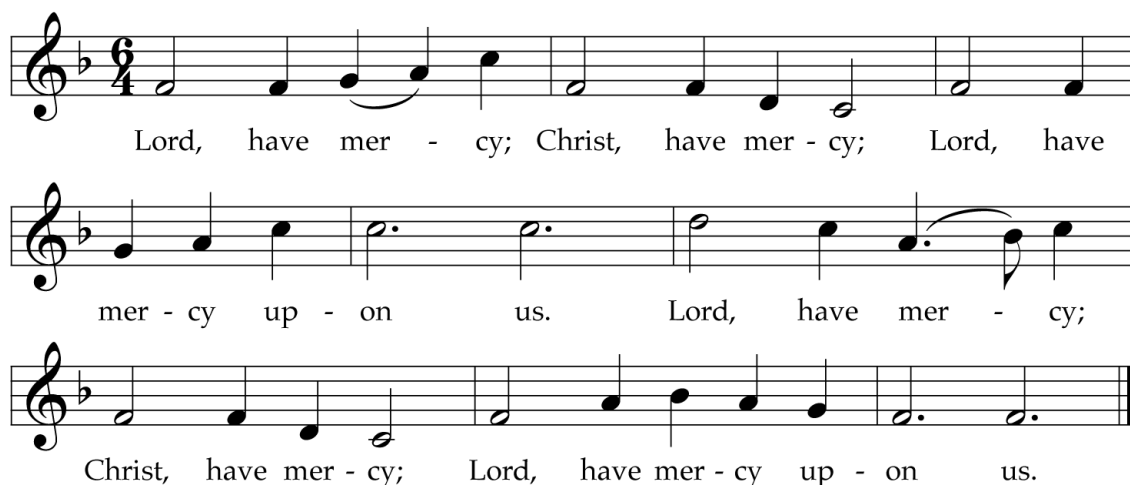
My people have committed two sins:
They have forsaken me,
the spring of living water,
and have dug their own cisterns,
broken cisterns that cannot hold water.

*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty Father,
You have called us to fruitfulness and wholeness,
but we have filled ourselves with empty things.
You have invited us to good works for your glory,
but we have distracted ourselves with empty tasks.
You have formed us for loving relationships,
but we have soothed ourselves with empty promises.
Forgive us, Lord Jesus.
Fill up our emptiness with your righteousness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit,
complete the good work in us which you have begun.

*INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

*CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE



Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have
mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy;
Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

*DECLARATION OF GRACE & FORGIVENESS Jeremiah 17:7-8

“But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord,
whose confidence is in him.
They will be like a tree planted by the water
that sends out its roots by the stream.
It does not fear when heat comes;
its leaves are always green.
It has no worries in a year of drought
and never fails to bear fruit.”

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
O Lord, open our lips,
and our mouths shall show forth your praise.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE “Gloria Patri”

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

*PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you! And also with you!

MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Following the Morning Announcements at 11:00, first graders and younger are invited to attend Enrichment.
Parents, please walk your children to the Children’s Hall. Second grade and older return to their parents;
please have a Children’s Worship Bag for this time.*

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

OFFERING OURSELVES, OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Anthem: “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation” Dale Wood

(8:30) Turner Shaw, soloist

(11:00) Chancel Choir

*Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone.
Chosen of the Lord, and precious,
Binding all the church in one.
Holy Zion’s help forever,
And her confidence alone.*

*To this temple, where we call Thee,
Come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
With accustomed lovingkindness,
Hear Thy servants as they pray;
And Thy fullest benediction
Shed within its walls alway.*

*Laud and honor to the Father,
Laud and honor to the Son.
Laud and honor to the Spirit,
Every Three and ever One.
One in might, and One in glory,
While Unending ages run.*

*

DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen*

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

RECEIVING HIS WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Don Miley (8:30)
Paige Elliott (11:00)

FIRST OLD TESTAMENT READING Jeremiah 29:4-7
NT pg. 894

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 1:26-28; 2:15
OT pg. 2

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Good Work” Rev. Cort Gatliff

RESPONDING IN FAITH

***HYMN OF RESPONSE: #391 (blue)**

“Take My Life” HENDON

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Apostles’ Creed

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

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. Give 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.

***HYMN: "Forth in Thy Name, O Lord"**

Recession of the Word and Light

Forth in Thy Name, O Lord

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in 3/2 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is primarily in the Soprano part, with the Bass part providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each corresponding to a line of the hymn. The first system includes a four-part setting of the first line. The second and third systems continue the melody and harmony. The fourth system concludes the hymn with a final cadence. The lyrics are as follows:

1. Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go, my dai - ly
2. The task thy wis - dom hath as - signed, O let me
3. Thee may I set at my right hand, whose eyes mine
4. For thee de - light - ful - ly em - ploy what e'er thy

la - bor to pur - sue; thee, on - ly thee, re -
cheer - ful - ly ful - fill; in all my works thy
in - most sub - stance see, and la - bor on at
boun - teous grace hath given; and run my course with

solved to know in all I think or speak or do.
pre - sence find, and prove thy good and per - fect will.
thy com - mand, and of - fer all my works to thee.
e - ven joy, and close - ly walk with thee to heaven.

LM

DUKE STREET

Text: Charles Wesley, 1749

Tune: John Hatton, 1793

www.hymnary.org/text/forth_in_thy_name_o_lord_i_go

This hymn is in the public domain. You may freely use this score for personal and congregational worship. If you reproduce the score, please credit Hymnary.org as the source.

***BENEDICTION**

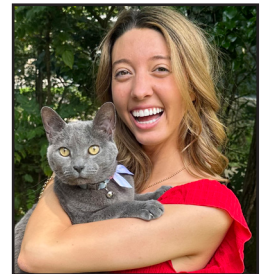
POSTLUDE: (8:30) Improvisation on "Forth in Thy Name, O Lord"

Welcome New Members



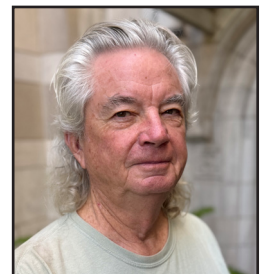
Fletcher Allen grew up in Hoover and was baptized at Episcopal Church of the Holy Apostles at age five. After a period of exploration, he has arrived at South Highland alongside Rachel Ross-Davis. Fletcher works in sales development for tech company Fleetio here in Birmingham. He enjoys cooking and hanging with his Shepherd mix, Honey Bear.

Gigi Casadaban (Gabrielle) recently moved to Birmingham and began a new job near South Highland. She was engaged to her boyfriend on August 1 and plans to marry in November. Gigi was raised in the Christian faith and was baptized in middle school. She enjoys reading, baking, and hosting her friends. She also loves her old cat, Earl Grey.



Jordan and Sam Foster met at the University of Alabama. She grew up in Homewood; he grew up in Tuscaloosa. They have been married for nine years and welcomed their new son, Lee, in December. They enjoy traveling and SCUBA diving in new places around the world. They also have two fur babies: Boston Terriers Holly and Gilly.

Ken Laney is a familiar face around South Highland, as he is married to The Rev. Susan Laney, who served for several years as the church's minister for older adults. Most recently, he has been the project superintendent for our Building for the Future projects. Ken retired in 2018 from mechanical contracting company Comfort Systems USA Midsouth. He is talented in many areas, not including golf, which he enjoys anyway.



Savannah Newsome and Sam Snell are engaged to be married. She is “a Georgia girl born and raised,” and attended the University of Georgia. Savannah is a contracts administrator for an architecture firm. Sam grew up in Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church and has a doctorate in mechanical engineering from Auburn University. When not helping Savannah plan their wedding, Sam hangs out with their dogs, Annie and Oliver, and cat, Penelope.

Catherine Rodenhauser was born in Huntsville and attended the University of Mississippi, where she became a Presbyterian at College Hill Presbyterian Church. She worked as an interior designer for 25 years in Huntsville and later became a teacher, moving around Alabama and Mississippi. She has a son, Luther, who is an attorney. She is a serial adopter of rescue cats; her current fur baby is Gus.



Campbell Smith moved just two months ago to Birmingham from the great state of Texas as a transfer freshman at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Her current area of study is marketing. Campbell also works as a nanny. She has expressed interest in getting involved with local and world missions and with ministries of congregational care.

Chris Smith returns to South Highland to reunite with his mom, Kay Smith, and countless friends. He previously served here as both deacon and elder. Chris is a lifelong Presbyterian. He works at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama as a proposal manager; he earned a degree in industrial engineering at Auburn and an MBA from UAB. His two grown daughters, Kasey and Allison, both were baptized at SHPC.



WELCOME

Getting Connected at SHPC | To find out more about who we are and how you can become part of our church community, contact Assistant Minister Emily Knight at eknight@southhighland.org.

Be sure to pick up a copy of this week's "Made for Work" devotional to aid in your study and prayer time in the coming week. The guide tracks with the week's sermon passage in Genesis as we work our way through the book this year. You'll find copies around the church, or look in your Friday email blast for a digital edition.

Events and Happenings:

- **Quiche Pickup** | If you ordered a Bacon and Havarti Quiche to support the South Highland Adult Care Center, those are ready for pickup this morning in the library reception area. So start planning dinner now!
- **SHPC Midweek This Fall** | Join us Wednesday nights between now and November 11 for midweek fellowship, teaching and worship on the theme "Being Human: Made in the Image of God." **This Wednesday, September 2**, we'll gather for family supper at 5:00 in Davis Family Hall, followed by evening vespers at 6:00 in the Chapel. Be sure to RSVP for supper on the church calendar in the SHPC mobile app or on southhighland.org.
- **Youth Highland Happenings** | We're planning the next Youth Highland Saturday Send for **September 19**, when we'll gather at the Morris home for a football watch party. Join us starting at 6:00 p.m. for food, football, and fun. Get more info from Pastoral Resident David Yancey (dyancey@southhighland.org).
- **"Earwitness" Social Justice Event** | In conjunction with Greater Birmingham Ministries, SHPC will host a special event **tomorrow evening, August 31** in Davis Family Hall. *Toforest Johnson: An Innocent Man on Death Row* is the subject of an eight-part "Earwitness" podcast hosted by Birmingham-based documentarian Beth Shelburne, who also co-produced the Oscar-nominated documentary *The Alabama Solution* about our state's prisons. Ms. Shelburne will appear along with Johnson's daughter, Akeriya Terry. The event begins at 6:30 p.m.

The Session has called a congregational meeting for today immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service for the purpose of electing elders and deacons to the Class of 2029, electing one elder to finish an uncompleted term, and other business. See the full meeting notice at southhighland.org.

SERMON NOTES:

CHURCH STAFF

MINISTERIAL STAFF

Rev. Cort Gatliff
Senior Pastor

Rev. Abby Gatliff
Associate Pastor

Emily Knight
Asst. Minister for Discipleship

Ann Roth
Director of Children's Ministry

Kenny Lewis
*Director of Music Ministries,
Organist*

David Yancey
Pastoral Resident

ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT

Dina Glass
Executive Director of Administration & Finance

Alison Walker
Director, South Highland Center

Jeannie Jones
Administrative Assistant to the Congregation

Allison Williams
Director, Child Development Center

John Heiser
Communication Coordinator

Eric Carey
Food Service Director

Emerick Lester and Edward Colbert
Sextons