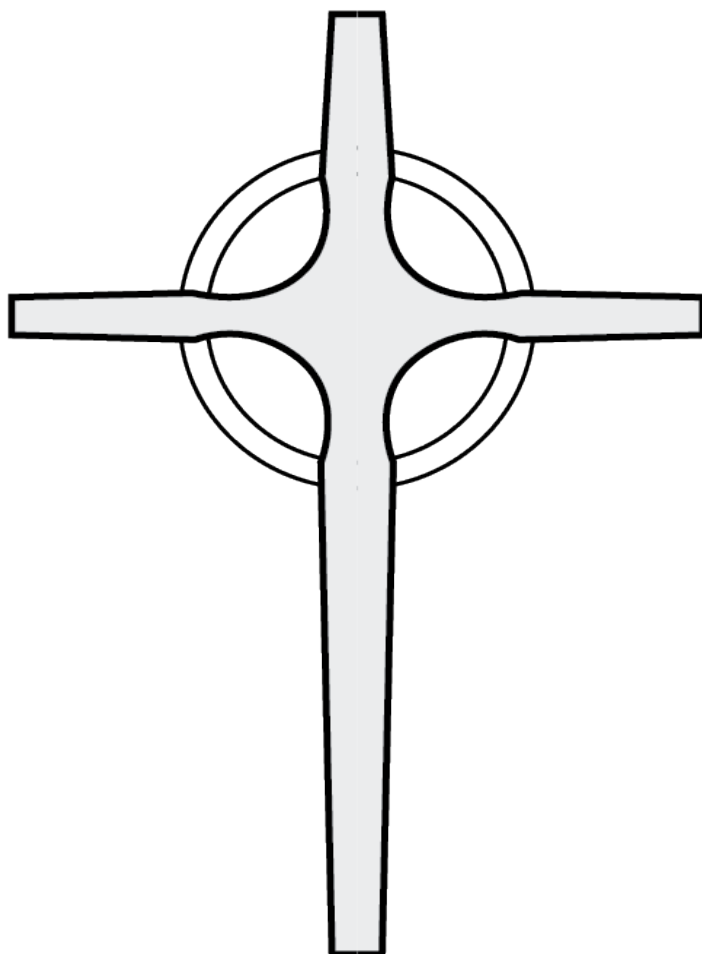
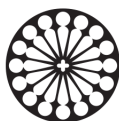


FULLY ALIVE WITH THE PASSION OF CHRIST



September 20, 2026 | 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Seventeenth 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

One of the fundamental claims we will hear in our passage from Genesis 2 this morning is that “it is not good that the man should be alone.” This is not simply a statement about marriage. It is a broader claim about what it means to be human: we were created to live in relationship with one another.

We live in a world fractured by sin, and we feel that brokenness perhaps most acutely in our relationships. But when we gather together as the body of Christ, we are participating in what we were created for: to be with one another in the presence of God. And our fellowship together this morning (imperfect as it is!) is a small foretaste of the life that is to come in the new heavens and the new earth.

We were not made for isolated lives. We need one another. It takes an entire church to be the body of Christ.

So this morning, listen to the voices around you. As you hear your fellow worshipers praying aloud and singing the hymns, rejoice that God has graciously given us one another. And let that gift lead you to worship.

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: "Be Thou My Vision" Paul Manz
Kenny Lewis, Organ

WELCOME Emily Knight

*CALL TO WORSHIP **please stand if able* Psalm 145:3-7

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.

**One generation shall extol your works to another
and shall declare your mighty acts.**

They will recount the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works I will meditate.

**They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds,
and I will declare your greatness.**

They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

*HYMN: #263 (blue)

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" ST. DENIO
Entrance of the Word and Light

*PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

*CALL TO CONFESSION Isaiah 55:6-7

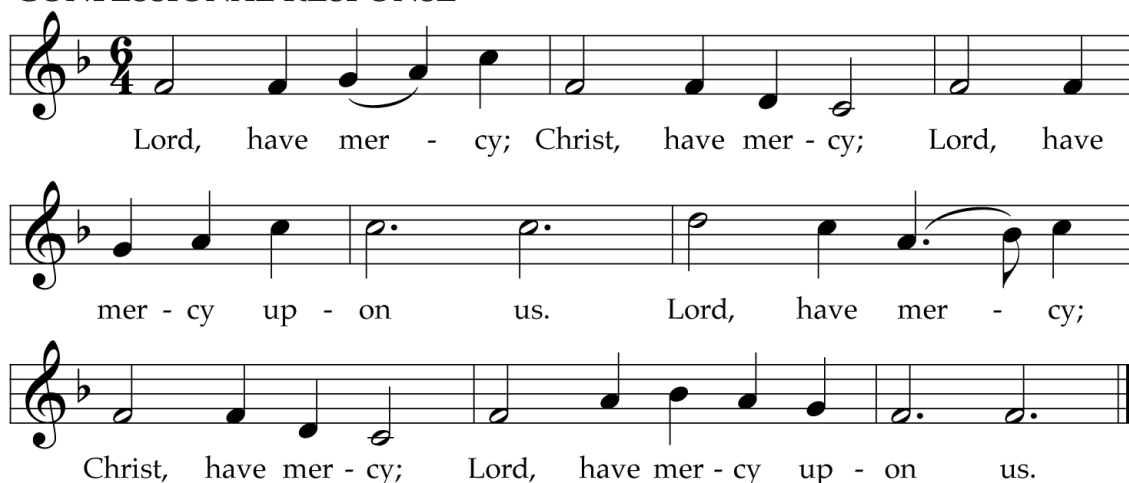
Seek the Lord while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake their way
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done;
and apart from your grace, there is no health in us.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders
Spare all those who confess their faults.
Restore all those who are penitent,
according to your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of your holy Name.

*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 Isaiah 54:10

For the mountains may depart
and the hills be removed,
but my steadfast love shall not depart from you,
and my covenant of peace shall not be removed,
says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

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

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00)

Virginia Claire Grimaldi, daughter of Justin and Molly

Parental Vows

Who is your Lord and Savior? **Jesus Christ.**

Trusting in his gracious mercy, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? **We do.**

Relying on God’s grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith, and to teach that faith to your child, by prayer and example, nurturing her in the ways of God and raising her in the fellowship of Christ’s Church? **We do.**

Congregational Vow

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture this child, by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging her to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of his church? **We do.**

***Affirmation of Faith (11:00)** 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.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE “Jesus Loves Me”

*Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong; they are weak but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

*Following the Baptism 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.*

OFFERING OURSELVES, OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Anthem: "Sing Praise to God" arr. Rachel Aarons
(8:30) Turner Shaw, soloist
(11:00) Chancel Choir

*Sing praise to God, who reigns above, the God of all creation,
the God of pow'r, the God of love, the God of our salvation;
with healing balm my soul he filled, and every faithless murmur stills:
to God all praise and glory.*

*What God's almighty pow'r hath made, his gracious mercy keepeth;
by morning glow or evening shad his watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.
Within the kingdom of his might, lo! all is just and all is right;
to God all praise and glory.*

*Let all who name Christ's holy Name give God all praise and glory;
let all who know his pow'r proclaim it loud the wondrous story!
Cast each false idol from its throne, the Lord is God and he alone:
to God all praise and glory.*

*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 Debbie Perkins (8:30)
Matt Graffeo (11:00)

GOSPEL READING Mark 10:2-9
NT pg. 56

EPISTLE READING Ephesians 5:25-32
NT pg. 238

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 2:18-25
OT pg. 3

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

SERMON

“Created for Another” Rev. Cort Gatliff

RESPONDING IN FAITH

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: #442 (blue)

“The Church’s One Foundation” AURELIA

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (8:30) 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: #155 (blue)

“Rejoice, the Lord is King” DARWALL’S 148TH
Recession of the Word and Light

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: “Trumpet Tune in D Major” David Johnson



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.

Due to an unfortunate oversight, last Sunday's flower memorial announcement was omitted from the bulletin. The lovely arrangement in the Chancel last Sunday was given for the glory of God and in loving memory of Henry and Billie Grace Goodrich by Mike and Gillian Goodrich and Braxton and Mary Goodrich.

The flowers in the Chancel today are given for the glory of God and in loving memory of Stephanie Alexis Gach by her mother, Mary Kate Gach.

Events and Happenings:

- **Sunday Social Today** | SLIC (the Shared Life in Christ ministry team) invites everyone to grab lunch at The Edge on Green Springs Highway in Homewood, where you'll find an outdoor dining area with lots of options for all ages. Join us following the 11:00 service today. See you there!
- **Feed My Sheep** | Next Sunday, we will once again be collecting donated items for our weekly food pantry to our neighbors, Feed My Sheep. When you do your shopping this week, please consider picking up an extra package of toilet tissue, a staple non-food item always in demand. Then look for collection baskets around the church next Sunday. Thank you!
- **All Saints Sunday Nov. 1** | Planning is underway for this year's All Saints Luncheon, when family members of SHPC members who have passed away in the last year gather for a meal and remembrances. We also will invite those who have lost other loved ones in the past year. If you fall into either category, please contact Jeannie Jones at 205-933-0790 or jjones@southhighland.org so we can make sure you are invited.
- **Thinking About Christmas Yet?** | Calling all little voices! This year's Christmas pageant will be presented at Christmas Together on Sunday, December 13. If you want your child (or grandchild) to participate, please sign them up online at tinyurl.com/pageant-26 by Friday, October 9. You'll be committing to at least 5 rehearsals (Wednesdays or Sundays) plus dress rehearsal on Saturday morning, December 12. Get more info from Casey Blighton.
- **CDC Silent Auction** | This year's silent auction for the Child Development Center will go live tomorrow! Be sure to visit the online auction site from the home page at southhighland.org to bid on unique items such as experiences, gift cards, vacation stays, tickets, merchandise, and more. All proceeds benefit the CDC's PTA as they support our amazing teachers.