

The flowers in the sanctuary are given by the Harston and Collier families in joyful celebration of the installation of the Rev. Dr. Carol Harston as the 18th Senior Pastor of Highland Baptist Church.

Our gratitude to the following musicians in today's service: Trumpets–Neil Barton, Dr. Earl Gaar; Horn–Nolan Turner; Trombone–Larry Hoover, Charlie Baker; Handbells–Bruce Maples, Sharon Sanders, Scott Gunter, Kim Henderson, and John Hanson.



Highland Baptist Church gives thanks for all of today's participants, guests, and visitors for sharing in this special time for our pastor and our church:

...for the *former pastors of this congregation* who set aside this day to be present or to send greetings across the miles, highlighting the thread God weaves through space and time binding this community together: Paul Duke, Phil Christopher, Joe Phelps, and Mary Alice Birdwhistell.

...for the *members of the Pastor Search Committee*, whose diligent work identified and brought forth Carol Harston to the congregation to be our next senior pastor: Kathey Golightly Sanders (Chair), Jess Smith (Vice Chair), Diane Brewer, Larry Gray, Robert Kahne, Amy Pacyga, Erin Phelps, Ron Smith, and Abbi Wolfe.

...for the *members of the Installation Committee*, whose preparation and care have made today's service of worship and celebratory reception possible: Vaughn Bell, Bill Campbell, Terri Connolly, Tanya Cornely, Kathy Collier, Cheryl Davis, Megan Fuller, Paul Henderson, David King, Amy Pacyga, Renee Purtlebaugh, Kathey Golightly Sanders, and Marilyn Whisler.

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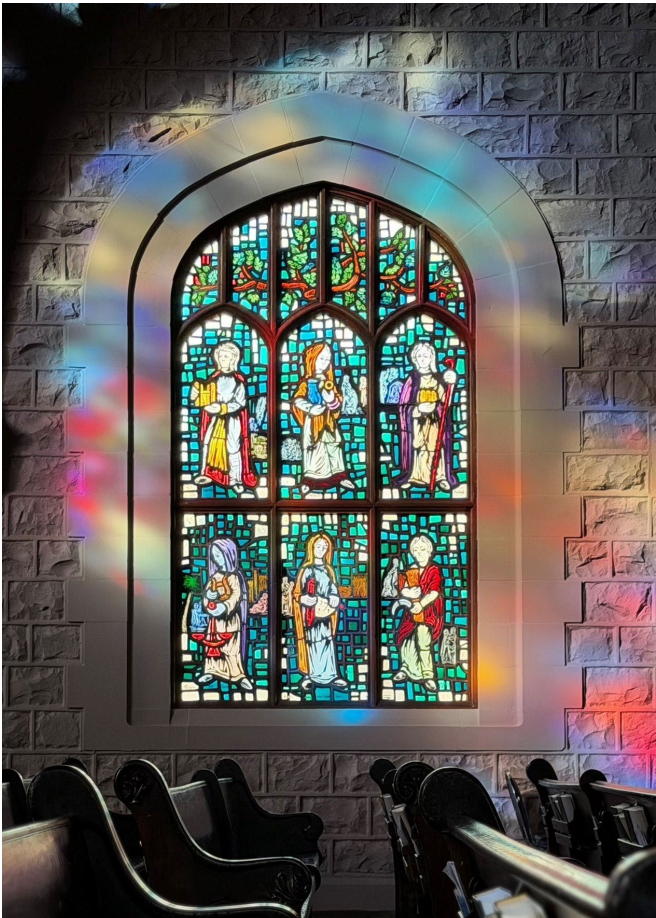


Our Mission... God's Love compels us to cultivate a safe, welcoming community of faith where all are challenged to discover, grow, and serve, as together we boldly live out the worship that is our very lives.

Jerre and Frank Bassett CUSTODIANS	Roy Fuller DEACON CHAIR	Robert Kahne MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR	Leslie Morris FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Cheryl Davis OFFICE MANAGER	Carol Harston SENIOR PASTOR	John Kubar INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH	Joseph Parr ORGANIST AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE
Megan Fuller MINISTRY ASSISTANT AND INTERIM CARE COORDINATOR	Paul Henderson ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP	Walter McWhorter CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR	Renee Purtlebaugh ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

**A SERVICE OF WORSHIP
AND COMMITMENT
FOR PASTOR AND PEOPLE**

**CELEBRATING THE INSTALLATION OF
REV. DR. CAROL HARSTON
AS THE EIGHTEENTH SENIOR PASTOR
OF HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH**



**SEPTEMBER 13, 2026
4:00 P.M.**

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

Dan Locklair

Rubrics
IV. The Peace May Be Exchanged

Welcome and Recognition of Pastor Search Committee

Renee Purtlebaugh

Call to Worship – from Psalm 27

Kathey Golightly Sanders

The Lord is our light and our salvation, whom shall we fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of our lives, of whom shall we be afraid?
Our hearts say, “Come, seek God’s face.” And so we seek.
We say, “Teach us your ways and lead us on level paths.” And so we follow.
We believe we will see the Lord’s goodness in the land of the living.
We endeavor to be strong and to let our hearts take courage. We wait for the Lord.

Hymn of Praise †

ST. ANNE, arr. Jeremy Bankson

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

All: O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

Tenor/Bass: Under the shadow of Your throne Your saints have dwelt secure; sufficient is Your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Choir: Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame, from everlasting You are God, to endless years the same.

All: A thousand ages in Your sight are like an evening gone, short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Soprano/Alto: Time, like an ever-rolling stream, soon bears us all away; we fly forgotten as a dream dies at the opening day.

All: O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home!

Invocation †

John Kupar

Greetings and Affirmations

Bob Fox, CBF Kentucky

David Cassady, BSK Theological Seminary

Cathe Dykstra, Family Scholar House

Corrie Shull, Burnett Avenue Baptist Church

Hymn (71) †

SLANE

Be Thou My Vision

The Pastor and People in Covenant

Diane Brewer

Pastor: Today, I reaffirm my response to God’s call to pastoral ministry and to the invitation to live out that vocation within this thinking, feeling, healing community of faith.

People: We are ready to join you in this holy venture, trusting you have been brought here by God through the voice of this congregation to be our pastor. We embrace you and your family with joy and thanksgiving. We promise to pay you fairly and provide for your welfare as you work among us, standing by you in times of trouble and sharing in your joys.

Pastor: I will establish my ministry among you upon the promises and the providence of God, fully revealed in the life and work of Jesus Christ and made known in faith through Holy Scripture and God’s Divine Spirit. I will practice repentance and repair, receiving your benevolent teaching with humility and courage.

People: We, likewise, renew our commitment to God as revealed in Christ, the Author and Perfecter of our faith. We will faithfully seek to follow, live, and work in the way of Jesus. We will practice honesty and accountability, so that this Body of Christ lives in health, able to do the work we are called to do.

Pastor: I will honor this church’s past, its pastors, and its peoples who did their part as best they could in their time and place, and I will lead in this season of our church’s life together with energy, imagination, intelligence, and love.

People: We will open ourselves to be loved and challenged through your leadership as you envision our next steps into the future. We encourage you to freely seek God’s dream for this church and our world, so that God’s love might reverberate far beyond this sacred space as you lead us to stand for what is right.

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

Pastor: I commit myself to the discipline of Bible study, prayer, and personal devotion, giving priority to the clear proclamation of the Gospel of Christ as revealed in scripture, challenging us to deeper levels of commitment and discipleship.

People: We, likewise, promise to be doers of the Word and not hearers only, taking seriously the Word proclaimed, living it out in this community with integrity and enthusiasm through all the ages and stages of our lives.

Pastor: I promise to give of myself to the pastoral care of all who are in need. I will seek to minister responsibly to the needs of all, regarding all persons with Christ’s impartial and unconditional love. As a wounded healer, I will seek to be present with you in life’s teachable moments and to be faithful in helping you interpret life theologically.

People: We, too, pledge to be ministers of Christian care, working with you to bring the compassion of God’s people to those within our community of faith and in the world beyond.

Pastor: I will shepherd the ministries of this church with faithful diligence and high regard for the stewardship of both resources and opportunities, keeping in balance Christ’s command to be servants both wise and bold.

People: We promise also to uphold this church with the best we have of material and personal resources, giving faithfully and joyfully of our time, our talents, and our money to honor Christ’s call for us to be about his work in our world.

Pastor: I pledge to exercise my spiritual gifts as God leads me, equipping each of you for your ministry under Christ, that we may fully practice the biblical ideal of the priesthood of all believers.

People: We will respond to your leadership as you seek to build us up into a healthy, effective expression of the body of Christ, and to offer space for spiritual and professional renewal, that you might be filled with God’s presence for your task.

All: So now we, as pastor and people gathered by God as a believing community on the corner of Grinstead and Cherokee, do covenant together to live as Easter people in this our Good Friday reality. We have holy work to do, accountable to one another and ultimately to Jesus Christ, until One Day we are at peace, forgiven, healed, and united as one. For this hope on which we stand, we offer all praise to our Creator, Christ, and Spirit. Amen.

The Lessons

The Hebrew Lesson – Isaiah 58:6-12

The Epistle Lesson – Hebrews 10:23-25, 12:1-2, 12

The Gospel Lesson – John 15:1-17 †

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

A Challenge for Pastor and People

Joe Phelps

Prayer of Installation

Paul Duke

Presentation of Gifts

A Pastor's Response

Carol Harston

Hymn of Affirmation (630) †

Look, You Saints, the Cloud of Witness

EVANGELINE

Benediction †

Carol Harston

Postlude

Toccata from Symphony V

C. M. Vidor

Following the postlude, all are invited to join us for a reception in Fellowship Hall.