



Perhaps hanging on to
each other when some of
us run out of fuel shines a
brighter kind of light than
anything that comes from
a lamp.

-Barbara Brown Taylor,
The Wise and Foolish Church

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 12, 2023
8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Justin Sizemore

COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING

Prelude

George Händel

Andante

Opening Words

Doris Hornbuckle (8:45)
Paige Harlow (11:15)

Come, good people! Come and rejoice!

Come, Holy God! Meet us in worship.

We are here to rejoice and sing. We are here to give thanks and praise.

We gather to hear the word proclaimed. We gather to give and receive blessing.

Processional Hymn (295) †

NETTLETON

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Prayer of Praise †

Doris Hornbuckle (8:45)
Paige Harlow (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.

WANDERING FROM THE FOLD OF GOD

The Hebrew Lesson

Paul Henderson

Amos 5:18-24 (Pew Bible page 839—OT)

Prayer of Confession

Lauren Jones Mayfield

We sing for your fount of blessing, O God.

Yet, we struggle to tune into your Presence. Forgive our religious customs that serve our egos more than your Love.

Your prophets beg for justice. Your prophets want justice to roll down like water. They want righteousness to be an eternal stream.

Still, we idle away in our religious traditions that corrupt your call to bear light. Forgive us our arrogance. Redeem our worship. Restore our sense of beauty. Bless our offerings. Let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Exchange of Peace †

Paul Henderson

Hymn †

ST. THOMAS

Let Justice Flow Like Streams

***Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water, pure,
Enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure.***

***Let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed,
An everflowing stream of faith translated into deed.***

***So may God's plumb line, straight, define our measure true,
And justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole life through.***

HERE I RAISE MY EBENEZER; HITHER BY THY HELP I'M COME

Choral Anthem

arr. Andre Thomas

Keep Your Lamps!

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.
Children don't get weary 'til your work is done.
Christian journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.

The Gospel Lesson †

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Matthew 25:1-13 (Pew Bible pages 27-28—NT)
Children grades K-2 may be dismissed for Children's Worship. (11:15)

Sermon

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Keep One Another's Lamps Trimmed and Burning

Hymn of Response (670) †

MADILL

Take My Gifts and Let Me Love You

HERE'S MY HEART, LORD TAKE AND SEAL IT, SEAL IT FOR THY COURTS ABOVE

Offertory Prayer

David Swim (8:45)
Cheryl Priddy (11:15)

Offertory

Edward Elgar

Nimrod

To make a donation from your phone, text "give2hbc" to 502-747-1212 and open the link.

News for the Community

Justin Sizemore

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 †

OLD 100TH

***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 †

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Postlude

Paul Manz

Now Thank We All Our God
(the congregation is invited to remain seated during the organ postlude)

† *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.

The flowers on the chancel today are given by Vaughn and John Bell in memory of Alison Stabler who passed away unexpectedly this week. Our prayers are with Alison's family and loved ones in this time of grief.

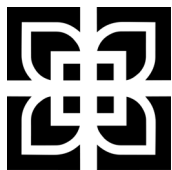
Phrases from today's processional hymn, *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service—praise, confession, proclamation and response.

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

- **Thanksgiving Sunday at Highland** —We will offer 2 Thanksgiving worship services next Sunday, November 19 at 8:45 and 11:15 AM. Between services, all ages are invited to join us for a finger-food breakfast in the Fellowship Hall, including a time of reflecting on our gratitude together. The Common Goods Holiday Market will be open from 11 AM – 1 PM to shop and support local refugee artists. We will also receive our offering for Habitat for Humanity in both worship services. Feel free to come to church dressed casually for a day of shared gratitude and generosity!
 - **Special Called Business Meeting** —There will be a business meeting to discuss the updated 2024 budget proposal this Wednesday, November 15 at 6:15 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We will also live-stream this meeting for those needing to participate from home. Please see the newsletter for more information about the proposed updates to the budget.
 - **Recognizing Sharon Sanders** —Sharon Sanders will be completing her role as our Interim Organist and Music Associate this week as Robert Lee comes on staff beginning November 15. We are planning a special recognition after worship on Sunday, November 26 to celebrate Sharon's faithful service over the past year and a half. Please join us in expressing your gratitude for the incredible labor of love she has shared with us!
 - **Commitment Season** —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. Join us as we work to create a world where Love and justice are abundant through generous giving of our financial resources! Pledge cards may be turned in via the offering plate, mailed to the church office, and/or e-mailed to Kathleen Gordon at kathleen@hbclouisville.org.
 - Please read the newsletter for important information as we prepare for the **upcoming Advent season**, including ordering poinsettias, participating in our Pathways to Generosity, special music presentations, and an Advent small group opportunity. Subscribe to our newsletter at hbclouisville.org, or check out previous issues under the "Resources" tab.
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**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

Don Burke
PASTOR EMERITUS

Cheryl Davis
OFFICE MANAGER

Megan Fuller
CHILDREN AND FAMILY
MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Kathleen Gordon
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Paul Henderson
ASSOCIATE PASTOR 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

Tyler Swim
DEACON CHAIR