

Every time you listen
with great attentiveness
to the voice
that calls you the Beloved,
you will discover within yourself
a desire to hear that voice longer
and more deeply.
It is like discovering
a well in the desert.
Once you have touched wet ground,
you want to dig deeper.

~ Henri Nouwen



HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY
JANUARY 14, 2024
8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Paul Henderson

Prelude

J. S. Bach

All Praise to Jesus' Hallowed Name

Opening Words

Buddy Lee (8:45)
Sam Potter (11:15)

God of the still, small voice
you have called us beloved; you have called us your people.
May we listen anew for your voice today.
Open our hearts and our minds to hear you, O Lord.

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING BE TO GOD OUR SAVIOR

Processional Hymn (453) †

CHRISTE SANCTORUM

Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God

Prayer of Praise †

Buddy Lee (8:45)
Sam Potter (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.

STRENGTHEN US, O SAVIOR WITH GRACE AND FAVOR

Prayer of Confession

Justin Sizemore

Holy One, you call out to us,
but we confess it is often difficult to hear you.
Our lives are filled with constant clatter.
From 24-hour news cycles to doom scrolling on our phones,
it is easy to lose your voice in the sea of noise around us.
Help us to hear you once again, Holy One.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Exchange of Peace †

Paul Henderson

Hymn (478) †

W ZLOBIE LEZY

God Is Calling Through the Whisper

BAPTIZED AND MADE YOUR OWN, NOW WE COME BEFORE YOU

Creative Scripture Reading

Mary Alice Birdwhistell, Gabe Heeke, and Andrew Schafflein (8:45)
Gabe Heeke, Paul Henderson, and Abby Sizemore (11:15)
Genesis 1; Psalm 29; Mark 1:4-11

Choral Anthem

David Mennicke

Down in the River to Pray

As I went down in the river to pray, studyin' about that good ol' way and who should wear the robe and crown;
Good Lord, show me the way! O sisters (brothers, fathers, mothers, sinners, children) let's go down, let's go down,
come on down. O sisters (brothers, fathers, mothers, sinners, children) let's go down. Down in the river to pray.

Sermon

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Trusting the Voice That Calls You Beloved
Children grades K-2 may be dismissed for Children's Worship (11:15)

GIVE, O DOVE DESCENDING, LIFE NEVERENDING

Hymn of Response (54) †

UNENDING PRAISE, alt.

Like a Mother with Her Children

Call to Justice

Nancy Goodhue (8:45)
Missy Smith (11:15)

Offertory Prayer

Walter McWhorter (8:45)
Charlie Suer (11:15)

Offertory

Johannes Brahms

My Heart Is Ever Yearning

News for the Community

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

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

Jean Langlais

We Praise You, O God

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

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.

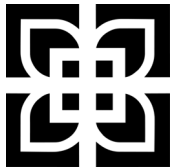
Phrases from today's processional hymn, *Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service—praise, confession, proclamation and response.

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

- **Six-Year Anniversary of Cloud of Witness Series**—On January 17, 2018, Highland had our very first session of the "Cloud of Witness" series, inviting three different members of the Highland family to share parts of their faith stories with the congregation. We hope you will join us on January 17th, 2024 at 6:15 PM as Carol Harston interviews Bob Cunningham on this shared experience over the past six years and as we look forward to all the new stories that will be shared in years to come.
- **Sacred Space Project Update** —This week the pews will be removed from the sanctuary so that the new chandeliers can be installed, and the sanctuary can be re-painted. **This Thursday, January 18, we need a large crew of volunteers to help move the chairs** we'll use as temporary seating in the sanctuary for the next few weeks. If you're physically capable of wheeling a dolly full of chairs or lugging small stacks of chairs, you can help! Please come to the sanctuary at 3:00 PM and we'll put your arms and backs to good use. Even if you work during the day, come by right after work, as we anticipate working until 6:00 or 6:30 PM. Call Walter at 502-553-1993 if you have questions about volunteering.
- **In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Friday Church will be hosting Duane Nathaniel.** He will deliver Mr. King's "I Have A Dream" speech on Friday, January 19 at the 7:00 PM service. We hope you'll make plans to join us!
- **Up Ahead:**
 - ◇ **January 17:** Cloud of Witness 6-Year Anniversary Evening at 6:15 PM
 - ◇ **January 19 :** MLK's "I Have a Dream" speech by Duane Nathaniel at Friday Church, 7:00 PM
 - ◇ **January 28 :** Highlights Class for Newcomers after 11:15 AM Worship
 - ◇ **February 11:** Church-Wide Celebration of Hard and Holy Work book release - More Info Coming Soon!
 - ◇ **February 14:** Ash Wednesday - The Season of Lent Begins



**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.

Jerre and Frank Bassett
CUSTODIANS

Don Burke
PASTOR EMERITUS

Paul Henderson
ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF MUSIC
AND WORSHIP

Renee Purtlebaugh
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN
AND THEIR FAMILIES

Mary Alice Birdwhistell
PASTOR

Cheryl Davis
OFFICE MANAGER

Robert Lee
ORGANIST AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE

Justin Sizemore
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH
AND YOUNG ADULTS

Lauren Blackwell
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR

Megan Fuller
CHILDREN AND FAMILY
MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Lauren Jones Mayfield
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR CARE
AND JUSTICE

Tyler Swim
DEACON CHAIR

Fred Bogert
MUSIC DIRECTOR
TO FRIDAY CHURCH

Kathleen Gordon
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Walter McWhorter
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR