



Always be
on the lookout
for the presence
of wonder.

~ E.B. White

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
JANUARY 28, 2024
8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Paul Henderson

Prelude

Johann Gottfried Walther

Blessed Jesus, We Are Here

Opening Words from Psalm 111

Ayumi Hargrove and Eliza Purtlebaugh (8:45)
Grady Cornely and Carrie Porter (11:15)

Praise the Beloved, O my soul!

*I will give thanks to you with my whole heart,
to all who will listen, I will tell of your goodness.*

Full of honor and wonder are your teachings;
those who follow them will find new life.

You bring new life to the World;

Yes! Life in abundance is your gift to us.

Holy and glorious is your Name! - from *Psalms for Praying* by Nan Merrill

HANDS OF BLESSING, CRADLE GENTLY, NURTURE CHILDREN INTO FAITH

Processional Hymn (19) †

FOREST GREEN

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Prayer of Praise †

Walter Hargrove (8:45)
Kathy Belcher (11:15)

Call to Wondering

Renee Purtlebaugh and Highland's Children

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.

HANDS OF BLESSING GIVE GOD'S WELCOME, SHOW FOR US THE SIGNS OF GRACE

Prayer of Confession

Lauren Jones Mayfield

God of delight, we confess that we have grown numb to the beauty of this world...

We have forgotten how to marvel at the mundane with the same gravity as we would

behold the mountain or valley. We have not looked up to witness the miracle

of our architecture. And in our self-hatred, we have failed to delight in and honor

the faces we pass each day, including our own. Forgive us our inattention and in your mercy

*remind us that we are so much more than our pain. Guide our gaze toward the beautiful. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Exchange of Peace †

Justin Sizemore

Hymn (341) †

DIX

For the Beauty of the Earth

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

* Written by Cole Arthur Riley in her book "Black Liturgies: Prayers, Poems, and Meditations for Staying Human."

FOR THE WONDER AND THE COMFORT
AND THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH

The Gospel Lesson †

Mark 1:21-28 (Pew Bible page 34—NT)

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Sermon

Leaning into Wonder
Children grades K-2 may be dismissed for Children's Worship (11:15)

MAY WE LIVE IN GLAD COMMITMENT TO THE ONE WHO IS OUR WAY

Hymn of Response (532) †

Hands of Blessing

ELLES DIE

Offertory Prayer

Bill Campbell (8:45)
Phil Collier (11:15)

Choral Offertory

It Is Well with My Soul

arr. René Clausen

When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll, whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul. Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control, that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for my soul. My sin - oh the bliss of this glorious thought: my sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! And Lord haste the day when the faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend; even so it is well with my soul.

News for the Community

Lauren Jones Mayfield

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

Matthew Camidge

Gavotte

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 hymn of response, *Hands of Blessing*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service—praise, confession, proclamation and response.

We welcome Laura Lee Duckworth as she leads us in worship on the organ today.

The choral anthem and the flowers on the chancel today are given by David Hartley to glorify the Creator and in loving memory of his husband, Jerry Burske.

Pardon our Progress! Highland is in the midst of a renovation process to update our irreparable HVAC System with a more sustainable energy model in addition to some other needed repairs and updates in our sanctuary. During this time, our pews have been removed from the sanctuary, and you will notice temporary changes in lighting, flooring, and/or machinery in the sanctuary. Please take a green hymnal as you enter and return it to one of the carts before you leave. Additionally, under the first chair on either side of the center aisle, you will find a friendship registry and a folder with information for newcomers. To learn more about the significance of this ongoing work and how you can support us in these efforts, visit hbclouisville.org and click on "Sacred Space for Everyone."

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

- **Highlights Class Today**— If you're visiting Highland and want to learn more about us, or a new member with lots of questions, we invite you to join the ministers, a few deacons, and the new members ministry group for lunch and our Highlights class from 12:30-3:00 PM.
- **Wednesday Night Series: Loving Our Own Bones**—If you'd like to continue learning and growing to love yourself as God created you to be, join our next Wednesday night class on the book *Loving Our Own Bones: Disability Wisdom and the Spiritual Subversiveness of Knowing Ourselves Whole*. The conversation around our tables will be richer because of everyone who participates: January 31 and February 7 at 6:15 PM in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Hard & Holy Work Book Release**—Highland's ministers and the Personnel Ministry Group invite you to join us in celebrating the release of *Hard and Holy Work: A Lenten Journey through the Book of Exodus* by Mary Alice Birdwhistell and Tyler Mayfield. Join us on Sunday, February 11 at 12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall for a brief reception and book signing with Tyler and Mary Alice. Copies of the book will be available for purchase that morning at the reduced rate of \$10 each, and you can also reserve a copy in advance through your Bible study teacher, or by emailing Mary Alice by tomorrow, Monday, January 29. Several of our Sunday morning Bible Studies will be using the book throughout the season of Lent, so If you're not currently in a Sunday morning class, Lent would be a great time to consider joining!
- **Up Ahead:**
 - ◇ February 2: MLK's "I Have a Dream" speech by Duane Nathaniel at Friday Church, 7:00 PM
 - ◇ February 4: Quarterly Church Conference at 4:00 PM via Zoom (note date change)
 - ◇ February 11: Church-Wide Celebration of Hard and Holy Work book release at 12:30 PM
 - ◇ February 13: Cream of the Crop Potluck "Agape" Fellowship Meal at 12:00 PM
 - ◇ February 14: Ash Wednesday - The Season of Lent Begins
 - ◇ March 8-10: Women's Retreat at Loretto—contact Ginger Miller for more information—(502) 599-6569



**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.