



“Are you tired? Worn out?  
Burned out on religion?  
Come to me. Get away with me  
and you’ll recover your life.  
Walk with me and work with me—  
watch how I do it.  
Learn the unforced  
rhythms of grace.”

~ Matthew 11:28-30, The Message

**HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH**

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

**MARCH 10, 2024**

**8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.**

Invitation to Worship

Lauren Jones Mayfield

## A TIME FOR CONTRITION

Lenten Call to Worship

RESTORATION

*May the path of Jesus call us in this hard and holy work.  
Rise as one to walk together for we do not go alone.*

Piano Meditation

Joseph Martin

*Amazing Grace*

Prayer of Confession

Justin Sizemore

Loving God, you loved humanity so much that you became like us.  
*You showed us how to live an abundant life by caring for one another.*  
Yet we have become gatekeepers, keeping that gift to ourselves.  
*Forgive us for jealously hoarding your generous gifts, for choosing self-interest over compassion and justice.*  
Lord, we know your grace and your love for us. Help us to share that freely with others.  
*Amen.*

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hymn of Assurance (587) †

NEW BRITAIN

*Amazing Grace! How Sweet The Sound*

The Gospel Lesson †

Paul Henderson

John 3:16-21 (Pew Bible page 92—NT)

Exchange of Peace †

Renee Purtlebaugh

## A TIME FOR PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Hymn of Praise (539) †

SYDNOR

*Lord of Our Growing Years*

Prayer of Praise †

Vance Smith (8:45)  
Abby Sizemore (11:15)

## A TIME FOR PROCLAMATION

The Epistle Lesson

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Ephesians 2:1-10 (Pew Bible pages 188-89—NT)

Anthem

Peter Aston

*Eternal Grace*

Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face; here faith would touch and handle things unseen; Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace, and all my weariness upon thee lean. Here would I feed upon the Bread of God; here drink with thee the royal wine of heaven; here would I lay aside this earthly load; here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven. I have no help than thine; nor do I need another arm save thine to lean upon: It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed, My strength is in thy might, thy might alone. Amen.

Sermon

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

*Life-Saving Practices: Learning the Unforced Rhythms of Grace*  
*Children grades K-2 may be dismissed for Children's Worship (11:15)*

## A TIME FOR RENEWAL AND RESPONSE

Hymn of Response (278) †

BEACH SPRING

*We Are Travelers on a Journey*

Offertory Prayer

Gabe Heeke (8:45)  
Suzanne Busse (11:15)

Offertory

Ludwig van Beethoven

*Sonata Op. 13 Adagio*

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 (15) †

JOYFUL SINGING

***Praise to God, who spoke creation, giving life to time and space.***  
***Praise to Christ, whose living presence showed the world Your human face.***  
***Praise the Spirit, daily witness to Your ever loving way.***  
***Take us now and reawake us, challenge us to use this day.***

Benediction †

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Postlude

† *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.

Pardon our Progress! Highland is in the midst of a renovation process to update our irreparable HVAC System. During this time, you will notice temporary changes in seating, lighting, flooring, and/or machinery in the sanctuary. To learn more about this ongoing work, visit [hbclouisville.org](http://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

- Between services on Easter morning, we will gather on the lawn (weather permitting) and in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast, adorning our Easter cross with fresh flowers, and Easter egg hunting for children. There will be no Bible Study classes for any ages to allow for this shared time of fellowship, connection, and celebration. More information will be available in upcoming newsletters and on posters around the building.
- Thank you for your generous gifts to our Sacred Space campaign! We have received over \$900,000 toward our renovation project, with about \$970,000 in outstanding pledges to be received over the next several years. However, the sooner we receive your pledges, the less debt the church will need to absorb and the lower our interest payments will be. To reach our total goal of \$2,800,000, additional pledges/gifts of \$913,049 are needed. If you can accelerate your pledge payments OR if you have not pledged or given to the Sacred Space campaign, please seriously consider doing so. Every gift makes a difference!
- In a culture centered around productivity, how do we make sense of the rest God takes on the seventh day of creation? In a world where we can't catch our breath between caretaking for young children, caregiving for aging parents and ill spouses, the demands of work, family, home-keeping and activities, how do we approach Sabbath-keeping as a necessary practice we value and prioritize? Join us on Wednesday evenings through March 21 for a refreshing conversation where we wrestle with sabbath-keeping as embodying rhythms of remembering, replenishing, and rising led by Renee Purtlebaugh.
- **Holy Week Activities:**
  - ◇ **March 24** Palm Sunday Services
  - ◇ **March 27** Cloud of Witness at 6:15 PM
  - ◇ **March 28** Maundy Thursday Service at 6:30 PM (please note earlier start time)
  - ◇ **March 29** Tenebrae Service at 7:00 PM
  - ◇ **March 31** Easter Sunday Worship and Church-Wide Gathering and Celebration



**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

**Cheryl Davis**  
OFFICE MANAGER

**Paul Henderson**  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF MUSIC  
AND WORSHIP

**Renee Purtlebaugh**  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN  
AND THEIR FAMILIES

**Mary Alice Birdwhistell**  
PASTOR

**Megan Fuller**  
CHILDREN AND FAMILY  
MINISTRY ASSISTANT

**Lauren Jones Mayfield**  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR CARE  
AND JUSTICE

**Justin Sizemore**  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH  
AND YOUNG ADULTS

**Lauren Blackwell**  
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR

**Kathleen Gordon**  
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

**Walter McWhorter**  
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

**Tyler Swim**  
DEACON CHAIR

**Fred Bogert**  
MUSIC DIRECTOR  
TO FRIDAY CHURCH