



Welcome to Holy Week. Here we are, and here is our God.
Here are our hosannas, broken and earnest, hopeful and hungry.
Here is all that is unbearable, and all that promises to end in light
brighter than we can imagine.

~ Debie Thomas

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 24, 2024

8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Justin Sizemore

**THEY LAID THEIR GARMENTS IN THE ROAD
AND SPREAD HIS PATH WITH PALMS . . .**

Prelude

J. S. Bach

Blessed Jesus, We Are Here

Opening Words †

Amber Burke (8:45)
Mary Alice Birdwhistell (11:15)

Processional Hymn (175) †

ST. THEODULPH

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Children's Anthem

Dennis and Nan Allen (11:15)

Blessed Is He
Chorister Choir

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! "Hosanna in the highest!" that ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heav'n our King. O may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice, and ever in His presence eternally rejoice.

Prayer of Praise †

Amber Burke (8:45)
Walter Harston (11:15)

A Lesson from the Psalms

Lauren Jones Mayfield (8:45)
Bo Bond (11:15)

Psalms 118:1-2, 24-29 (Pew Bible pages 554-555—OT)

Anthem

G. F. Handel

Lift Up Your Heads

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. The Lord of hosts, He is the King of Glory.

**. . . AND VOWS OF LASTING LOVE BESTOWED
WITH ROYAL HYMNS AND PALMS**

Prayer of Confession

Renee Purtlebaugh

Holy One, we entered this space shouting Hosanna, waving our palms, and remembering what it feels like to be filled up with a fierce and stubborn hope. And yet, so very quickly, the memory fades. We find ourselves squarely back in the clutches of reality, wandering and overwhelmed. Forgive us when we forget. Turn us back to trust in You whose loving-kindness is certain and everlasting. When we cry out, "Hosanna!" may we believe you will indeed save us anew. Through Christ we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Exchange of Peace †

Paul Henderson

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

Hymn of Praise †

ST. PETER

A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd

*A cheering, chanting, dizzy crowd had stripped the green trees bare,
and hailing Christ as king aloud, waved branches in the air.*

*They laid their garments in the road and spread his path with palms
and vows of lasting love bestowed with royal hymns and psalms.*

*When day dimmed down to deepening dark the crowd began to fade
till only trampled leaves and bark were left from the parade.*

*Lest we be fooled because our hearts have surged with passing praise,
remind us God as this week starts where Christ has fixed his gaze.*

*Instead of palms, a winding sheet will have to be unrolled,
a carpet much more fit to greet the king a cross will hold.*

**LEST WE BE FOOLED BECAUSE OUR HEARTS HAVE SURGED
WITH PASSING PRAISE . . .**

The Gospel Lesson †

Mark 11:1-11 (Pew Bible page 46—NT)

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Sermon

Were You There?

**. . . REMIND US, GOD, AS THIS WEEK STARTS
WHERE CHRIST HAS FIXED HIS GAZE**

Hymn of Response (484) †

The Love of Jesus Calls Us

ANGEL'S STORY

Offertory Prayer †

Otter Bright (8:45)
Cheryl Priddy (11:15)

Offertory

Prelude in C Minor

Jan Zach

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 (15) †

OLD HUNDREDTH

*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

Prelude in A Minor

J. S. Bach

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 and click on "Sacred Space for Everyone."

Our gratitude to Ayumi Hargrove, who created the original art for our Palm Sunday bulletin.

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

- **Are you looking for a way to connect or re-connect at Highland?** Bible Study classes are a great "next step" to engage with us as the family of God in this place! Classes for all different ages and life journeys meet Sundays from 10:00-11:00 AM. For more info, contact one of our ministers. We would love to help you get connected with a space to get to know others and to be known within our community of faith.
- Between services on Easter morning (at 10:00 AM), 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.. **Check your newsletter to sign up to bring breakfast items to share that morning.** You're also welcome to bring fresh flowers throughout the morning to help decorate our Easter cross, created by Chip Miller, outside in front of the sanctuary.
- **This Easter we will once again adorn our Sanctuary with beautiful Easter lilies.** All members are invited to purchase a lily for \$15 in memory/in honor of a family member, friend, or loved one. **The deadline for orders is tomorrow, March 25.** Please use the link in your newsletter to order and pay online, or call the church office (502-451-3735) to place your order.
- **Holy Week Activities:**
 - ◇ **March 27** Cloud of Witness with Noelle Tennis Gulden, Margaret Pennington, and Abby Sizemore 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
 - ◇ **April 3** JCPS Spring Break—No Wednesday Evening Activities



**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