



Doubt is the mechanism by which faith evolves.
It helps us cast off false fundamentals
so that we can recover what has been lost
and embrace what is new.

~ Rachel Held Evans

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 7, 2024

8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Lauren Jones Mayfield

Prelude

G. F. Handel

Andante

CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS

Opening Words

Kim Clark-Endicott (8:45)
Susan Coleman Layman (11:15)

Awake my soul, and sing! Every glorious blossom and greening tree is calling us to delight in you.
In the midst of doubt, we embrace what is new. We crown you who defeated death, and with our head and heart fully engaged, we rise to bless you still.

Processional Hymn (223) †

DIADEMATA

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Prayer of Praise †

Kim Clark-Endicott (8:45)
Susan Coleman Layman (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.***

Anthem

K. Lee Scott

Christ Rising Again

The congregation is invited to sing the refrain upon direction.

Christ rising again dies no more, death has no strength, no power over him; for in that he lives, he lives to God. (Refrain)

Now death with all its dread o'er us no longer reigns, for Jesus rising from the tomb has burst its iron chains. Destruction is destroyed by Christ, our Lord and king, whose rising forth with life restored removes death's dreadful sting. Victorious Lord of Life, who sets our hearts aflame, through deadly pain and fearful strife, we triumph in his name. Now lift your heart and voice in praise of him who died. In Christ let all the earth rejoice, our Lord, once crucified. Alleluia, Alleluia!

CROWN HIM THE LORD OF PEACE

A Lesson from the Psalms

John Dickson

Psalm 133 (Pew Bible page 563 – OT)

Prayer of Confession

Sally Evans

God of Harmony, it can indeed be hard to get along.

Forgive us for resenting others instead of rejoicing with them and holding silent assumptions instead of asking hard questions. Forgive us for holding on to familiar but false fundamentals, and closing ourselves off from how you might show up.

Help us take the next step toward compassionate engagement in a world that so needs healing.

Give us strength to believe in the hope of resurrection for ourselves and our beloved community.

Words of Assurance

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

Hymn †

O WALY WALY

These Things Did Thomas Count as Real

*These things did Thomas count as real: the warmth of blood, the chill of steel,
the grain of wood, the heft of stone, the last frail twitch of blood and bone.*

*The vision of his skeptic mind was keen enough to make him blind
to any unexpected act too large for his small world of fact.*

*His reasoned certainties denied that one could live when one had died,
until his fingers read like Braille the markings of the spear and nail.*

*May we, O God, by grace believe and thus the risen Christ receive,
whose raw imprinted hands reached out and beckoned Thomas from his doubt.*

CROWN HIM THE LORD OF LOVE

The Gospel Lesson †

John 20:19-31 (Pew Bible page 113 – NT)

Justin Sizemore

Sermon

Belief Outside the Box

CROWN HIM THE LORD OF LIFE

Hymn of Response (634) †

We Walk by Faith

FAITH'S JOURNEY

The Celebration of Holy Communion

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Invitation to the Table

Exchange of Peace †

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Reception of the Bread and Cup †

Everyone is invited forward to receive bread and cup. All bread served is gluten friendly.

Deacons will receive tithes and offerings in the offering plates as you return to your pew.

Offertory Prayer

Allison Todd (8:45)

Jeff Layman (11:15)

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 †

TALLIS' CANON

*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 †

Justin Sizemore

Postlude

Robert Lau

Alleluias

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, *Crown Him with Many Crowns*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service — praise, confession, proclamation and response.

The flowers on the chancel today are given by Troy D. Burden in memory of Mae C. Burden on the anniversary of her passing .

Our gratitude to John Dickson and Sharon Sanders for their musical leadership in today's service.

Cover artwork acknowledgement: LeCompte, Rowan and Irene LeCompte. Christ shows himself to Thomas, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54879> [retrieved April 3, 2024].

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.

Permission to print and stream music obtained from One License #A-726201. All rights reserved.

Notes and News for the Community of Faith

- **Cream of the Crop Salad and Dessert Potluck Luncheon on Tuesday, April 9 from 12:00-1:30 PM.** Bring your best salad or dessert item to share with our group! Drinks will be provided. Please RSVP to JoAnne Taheri at jnntaheri@gmail.com or 502-387-4785 by tomorrow, April 8.
- **Deacon Nomination Process Begins**—Each year, our church nominates members to serve as Deacons at Highland. **Our Deacons are not an “administrative board,” but rather servant leaders who invest themselves in the life of the church and care for our community.** The deacon body is a blend of new and long-time Highland Baptist Church members, young, seasoned, and diverse. You are invited to nominate up to 9 people to serve as Deacons in the coming year. More information will be available in this week's newsletter. **The deadline for nominations is Sunday, April 28.**
- **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. 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!
- **Nearly 65% of people at Highland use online giving to make financial gifts to the church.** We invite you to be one of them! Scan the QR code to be directed to our online giving page.



**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—on sabbatical
Sally Evans—interim
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