

God works as Spirit, presence vibrant and wise, whispering loveliness in the ear.

And to such a wise presence, may we always and ever open our hearts and softly pray "Come."

~ Susan Palo Cherwien

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

PENTECOST SUNDAY

May 19, 2024

8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

Invitation to Worship Sally Evans

HELP OUR FEEBLE LIPS TO PRAISE YOU, GLORIFY YOUR HOLY NAME

Prelude Gilbert Martin

Dove of Peace

Opening Words

Justin Boldt (8:45)

Zeke Braun (11:15)

A wind from God blew over the face of the waters,

And the voice of God spoke from a burning bush.

Jesus breathed peace on the disciples,

And the Spirit of God, like little flames, rested on all who gathered.

God's Spirit still moves among us this day, bringing fresh vision, renewed hope, and resurrected life. *Alleluia!*

Opening Hymn (225) †

Prayer of Praise †

Glory to the Creator †

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.

Recognition of High School Graduates

Justin Sizemore (11:15)

O Lord, you have instilled in these graduates an insatiable curiosity about your world, your people, and your earth.

This curiosity, this thirst for truth, has led them here to this place, and we are so grateful for the privilege to hold them close as they grew, struggled, discovered, and flourished.

Griffen, Meredith, Hayzel, Livia, Eli, and Lula Mae,

as you move into your next chapter, know that we hold you in our hearts, and that you carry this community with you.

We commission you to go forth from this place as the light of the world and the salt of the earth.

You have formed us and we are a better community because of your presence.

As God sent the Holy Spirit to the disciples at Pentecost, God sends the Spirit with you to empower you, to strengthen your faith, and to comfort you in all that will come. Amen.

Hymn (238) † Lois

Spirit, Now Live in Me

FOR TOMORROW'S UNKNOWN PATHWAY, HEAR, OUR LORD, OUR HUMBLE PRAYERS

Prayer of Confession

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Holy Spirit, we're not sure we're ready for your power to break loose in our lives.

We've grown too comfortable with our familiar habits and routines. We're afraid to give up our waking slumber and face the truth that we do not truly live.

When we cling to our old ways and the safety of familiar paths, wake us up and breathe your life into us! Walk with us, Holy One, and give us the audacity and courage to follow the way that is lit by the fire of your Spirit, wherever you may lead us. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Exchange of Peace † Justin Sizemore

Anthem David Poole

Canticle of the Spirit

Stephanie Hall, flute; Eli Raines, string bass; Bruce Maples, bodhran

Darkness in the beginning brooded over earth and heaven, I too was silent waiting, hovering, listening over the water. Then from the mouth of God rumbled the Word like rolling thunder; I, in a blaze of sunrise, bounded dancing into creation. Mountains and deserts I traveled, speaking God's word though signs and prophets: Moses, Saul and the elders, Gideon, Joshua, Samuel, David. Came I a whirlwind rushing sweeping Elijah up to heaven; Set I the bones to rattling, rising, marching on in the Spirit. When to Jordan I journeyed, Jesus was rising from the river, John to the sky was pointing, followed by eyes of thousands gathered. I from the clouds descended, spiraling down a dove from heaven, echoed the voice of thunder: "This is my son, to whom you must listen." On Pentecost were gathered in one house the twelve disciples; Parthians Medes, and Elamites also, people of every tribe and nation. Heard they the rafters groaning, creaking as in a mighty earthquake; Bursting the doors, a rushing wind swept in and wrapped them 'round; Leaped I as tongues of fire over their heads and all around them; Breathed I my flame within them, sending my spirit on in creation.

GIVE THE CHURCH A STRONGER VISION, HELP US FACE EACH CRUCIAL HOUR

A Reading from Acts

Greg Aguillon, Spanish; Sally Evans, English; Paul Henderson, German; Karen Park, Spanish; Yoko Suzuki and Yoshi Zoeller, Japanese Acts 2:1-6, 12-18 (Pew Bible page 116 – NT)

Sermon

Lynn Brinkley

Poured, Filled, Delivered Children grades K-2 may be dismissed for Children's Worship (11:15)

STILL THE CHURCH IS CALLED TO MISSION THAT GOD'S LOVE SHALL BE MADE KNOWN

Hymn of Response †

EBENEZER

Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us

Come, O Spirit, dwell among us; come with Pentecostal power; give the church a stronger vision; help us face each crucial hour. Built upon a firm foundation, Jesus Christ, the Cornerstone, still the church is called to mission that God's love shall be made known.

We would raise our alleluias for the grace of yesteryears; for tomorrow's unknown pathway, hear, O Lord, our humble prayers. In the church's pilgrim journey you have led us all the way; still in presence move before us, fire by night and cloud by day.

Come, O Spirit, dwell among us; give us words of fire and flame. Help our feeble lips to praise you, glorify your holy name. Sovereign, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One: what mystery! We would sing our loud hosannas now and through eternity.

Offertory Prayer

Scott Gunter (8:45) Libby Cunningham (11:15)

Offertory

Samuel Wesley

Air

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 HUNDREDTH

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

J. S. Bach

Little Prelude in D Minor

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

Today in Worship

Phrases from today's hymn, *Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us,* will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service — praise, confession, proclamation and response.

We are delighted to welcome Rev. Dr. C. Lynn Brinkley to the pulpit today. Dr. Brinkley serves with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship as the Pan African Koinonia Ministry Coordinator.

Many thanks to Sharon Sanders for her musical leadership today. Thanks also to Madeline Cox for flying our Pentecost dove.

A reminder that due to our ongoing Sacred Space project, we have no heat or air conditioning in the Sanctuary or Fellowship Hall. Our ministers and Sanctuary choir will not be robing on Sundays during this transitional season.

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.

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.

Notes and News for the Community of Faith

- Join us for the Children's Choir Spring Concert tonight at 6:00 PM, followed by popsicles on the playground.
- **Global Mission Offering: Highland's goal this year is \$10,000.** Please prayerfully consider your contribution to this work of Love. You may give online on the HBC website or by check, noting Missions Offering on the memo line.
- Mary Miller Boat Cruise for Senior Adults on June 20: We need your confirmation and payment of \$37 by May 20. Please RSVP to either JoAnne Taheri, 502-387-4785 or David Wells, 502-931-2510 by tomorrow.
- Celebrating Lauren Jones Mayfield: We look forward to celebrating Lauren Jones Mayfield's 8 years of ministry at Highland on Sunday, June 2. There will be a church-wide reception after the 11:15 worship service, and you are invited to bring a note, a Carmichael's gift card, and/or a monetary donation for Lauren to attend a spiritual retreat in the coming year. Donations can be given online or in the offering and designated as a "Gift for Lauren." You're also invited to wear your favorite social justice t-shirt in celebration of Lauren's ministry!
- Upcoming Calendar:

May 22 Spring Orchestra Concert (6:00 PM)

June 2 Lauren Jones Mayfield's Last Sunday in Worship and Celebration of 8 Years of Ministry at Highland

June 6 Drag Revival: A Family-Friendly Spiritual Night of Music and Joy (Highlands Community Ministries)

June 7 Racing Louisville Game (Lynn Family Stadium, 8:00 PM)

June 15 Kentuckiana PRIDE Parade and Festival (NULU and Waterfront Park), Parade begins at 12:00 PM



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

Mary Alice Birdwhistell
PASTOR

Lauren Blackwell Ministry Council Chair

Fred Bogert
Music Director
To Friday Church

Cheryl Davis
Office Manager

Megan Fuller Children and Family Ministry Assistant

Kathleen Gordon Financial Secretary Paul Henderson Associate Pastor of Music and Worship

Lauren Jones Mayfield Associate Pastor for Care and Justice

Walter McWhorter Church Administrator Renee Purtlebaugh—on sabbatical Sally Evans—interim

Associate Pastor to Children and Their Families

Justin Sizemore
Associate Pastor to Youth
AND YOUNG ADULTS

Tyler Swim
DEACON CHAIR