



PRIDE SUNDAY

Hope will never be silent.

~ Harvey Milk

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 16, 2024

8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

GOD WILL DELIGHT WHEN WE ARE CREATORS OF JUSTICE AND JOY!

Prelude

Aria Con Variazioni (8:45)
Prayer of the Children (11:15)

Giovanni B. Martini
arr. Andrea S. Klouse

Opening Words

Carol Hawkins (8:45)
Cameron Fontes (11:15)

We gather with shouts of praise!

We are ready to sing, clap, and praise you Lord, for all you have done.

We gather with prayers for peace.

We offer them with humbled hearts.

We gather knowing that you, O Lord, take pride in ALL your creation

We are all God's beloved, the one's in whom God delights.

Hymn of Praise †

HOLY MANNA

Praise the Source of All Creation

***Praise the Source of all creation, giving life throughout the Earth,
blessing every love relation, filling all with sacred worth.***

***Celebrate all forms and colors, varied beauty everywhere,
streams of goodness overflowing, wondrous gifts for all to share.***

***Many genders, many races, all reflect Divinity;
many gifts and many graces help us be all we can be.
Partners on this path of freedom, taking down each stifling wall,
we will open doors of welcome, bringing hope and joy to all.***

***Equal marriage, healing, freeing, nurtures body, mind, and soul,
reaffirming every being, all created good and whole.***

***Come, rejoice and sing together, celebrating life and love;
praise the great Creative Spirit, living in us and above.***

Prayer of Praise †

Fran White (8:45)
Lauren Blackwell (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.

A CHANCE TO REFORM, REPENT AND REBUILD

Prayer of Confession

Justin Sizemore

In your blessed creation, O God, humankind is a rainbow people.

***We are splendid in color and culture, sexuality and gender, ability and language. Together we shine
beneath the arching colors of Divine love.***

We wonder then, Holy God, why is there so much hate, bigotry, and violence?

***Forgive us when we dampen your radical welcome, abundant pride, and holistic justice. Forgive us when we
lose sight of your glory in ourselves and in our siblings.***

God, your love is not fragile. Your love does not cower to homophobia or transphobia. Your love
transcends binaries, boxes, and rigid categorizations.

***Help us celebrate your equality and the fullness of our identity spectrum. We believe that each of us is fear-
fully and wonderfully made. Forgive us when we forget the rainbow promise in our storm-tossed world that
you are with us always. Amen.***

Words of Assurance

Select phrases from the prayer of confession come from a litany by Ann Day which is published in *Before the Amen*.

Anthem

Craig Hella Johnson

Meet Me Here from "Considering Matthew Shepard"

Andrew Schaftlein, baritone

Meet me here, won't you meet me here where the old fence ends and the horizon begins? There's a balm in the silence like an understanding air where the old fence ends and the horizon begins. We've been walking in the darkness on the long, hard climb, carried ancestral sorrow for too long a time. Will you lay down your burden, lay it down, come with me? It will never be forgotten, held in love so tenderly. Then we'll come to the mountain, we'll go bounding to see that great circle of dancing, and we'll dance endlessly. And we'll dance with all the children who've been lost along the way. We will welcome each other, coming home this glorious day. We are home in the mountain, and we'll gently understand that we've been friends forever, that we've never been alone. We'll sing on through any darkness and our song will be our sight. We can learn to offer praise again coming home to the light.

Exchange of Peace †

Elliott Estes (8:45)
Scott Schaftlein (11:15)

Hymn †

For Everyone Born (see insert)

Erena/Mann

A COVENANT SHARED, A WELCOMING SPACE

A Reading from Acts

Acts 8: 26-40 (Pew Bible page 124 – NT)

Sally Evans

Anthem

Make Them Hear You

Jeff Funk

Sermon

Beyond Inclusion

Jordan Conley

FOR EVERYONE BORN, THE RIGHT TO BE FREE

Hymn of Response †

For All the Children (see insert)

David Lohman

Offertory Prayer

Joey Partin (8:45)
Tory Parker (11:15)

Offertory

Holy Manna
Somewhere Over the Rainbow

arr. Joseph Martin (8:45)
arr. Russ Robinson (11:15)

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 †

OLD ONE 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

Toccata in Seven

John Rutter

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

Today in Worship

Phrases from today's hymn, *For Everyone Born*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service — praise, confession, proclamation and response.

We are delighted to welcome Rev. Jordan Conley to Highland this morning. Jordan is Co-Pastor at Crescent Hill Baptist Church and is a graduate from BSK Theological Seminary. Jordan and his husband Patrick live in the Highlands with their dog Kenzie.

Our gratitude to VOICES of Kentuckiana for joining us in worship today. VOICES is the oldest LGBTQ arts organization in Kentucky, changing hearts and minds through song. You can hear more of their beautiful music at their GAYLA concert July 7, 6:30 p.m. at First Unitarian Church.

Many thanks to Sharon Sanders for her musical leadership in today's service.

A reminder that due to our ongoing Sacred Space project, we have limited 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.

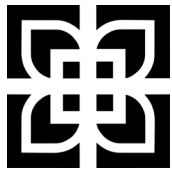
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Nearly 65% of people at Highland use online giving to make financial gifts to the church. We invite you to be one of them! Scan the QR code to be directed to our online giving page.



Notes and News for the Community of Faith

- **Quarterly Church Conference** —Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 23 at 4:00 PM for our next QCC via Zoom. The agenda will include reports from Finance and Personnel, an update on our Sacred Space renovation, as well as voting on a new Vice Chair of Deacons and member of our Church Trustees.
- **Highland family, we cannot thank you enough for the many ways you have shown up this Pride month!** From making baked goods to sell at Drag Revival (where we raised \$240!), showing up for the Racing Louisville Pride Night game, walking in the parade and volunteering at the festival, to being present TODAY for Pride Sunday. Also, a HUGE thank you to our True Colors Ministry Group and everyone who has worked behind the scenes to make it all happen! You're the best!
- **HCM Summer Food Drive**—Highlands Community Ministries is seeking donations of the following items to help families get through the summer while school is out: pasta/sauce, canned ravioli, shells and cheese (no milk needed), beef stew, hearty soups, chili, and canned tuna, chicken, and beef. Please bring your food drive donations to the brown bins located outside the choir room. We will collect them until June 23. Thank you!
- **College/Grad School Recognition** - We want to recognize our college/grad school/other graduates on Sunday, June 23! If you would like to participate, please reach out to Justin by June 20 so we can include you in this special moment in worship.



**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

Bob Cunningham
INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Kathleen Gordon
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Renee Purtlebaugh—on sabbatical
Sally Evans—interim
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN
AND THEIR FAMILIES

Mary Alice Birdwhistell
PASTOR

Cheryl Davis
OFFICE MANAGER

Paul Henderson
ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF MUSIC
AND WORSHIP

Justin Sizemore
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH
AND YOUNG ADULTS

Lauren Blackwell
INTERIM MINISTRY COORDINATOR
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR

Megan Fuller
CHILDREN AND FAMILY
MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Walter McWhorter
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Tyler Swim
DEACON CHAIR

Fred Bogert
MUSIC DIRECTOR
TO FRIDAY CHURCH