

Faith endures by holding on,
keeping memory's roots alive
so that hope may bear its fruit;
Promise fed, our souls will thrive,
Not though merit we possess
But by God's great faithfulness.

~ *"Faith Begins By Letting Go"*
by Carl P. Daw Jr.

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 29, 2024
8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Renee Purtlebaugh

SONGS OF PRAISES I WILL EVER GIVE TO THEE

Prelude

Felix Mendelssohn

Sonata No. 1 in F Minor, II. Adagio

Call to Worship

Randy Biery (8:45)
Greg Bunten (11:15)

Blessed be the Lord, the creator of heaven and earth!
Praise be to God, the Giver of many gifts!
Our help is in God's name, the One who calls us here.
We come with songs of praise, with prayers too deep for words.
Blessed be the Lord, the creator of heaven and earth!
Blessed be the Lord!

Hymn of Praise (33) †

CWM RHONDDA

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Prayer of Praise †

Randy Biery (8:45)
Greg Bunten (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.

Baptism of Danny "Dano" Pyle † (11:15)

Call to the Water
Statement of Faith
Baptism in the name of **the Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

Baptism Response †

BUNESSAN

Baptized in Water

***Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, dead in the tomb with Christ, our King:
One with His rising, freed and forgiven, thankfully now God's praise we sing.***

STRONG DELIVERER, BE THOU STILL MY STRENGTH AND SHIELD

The Epistle Lesson

Paul Henderson

James 5:13-16 (Pew Bible page 227 – NT)

Choral Anthem

Felix Mendelssohn

Lift Thine Eyes from "Elijah"

Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help. Thy help cometh from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. God hath said, thy foot shall not be moved. Thy Keeper will never slumber.

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

Prayer of Confession—based on a prayer by Cole Arthur Riley

Bob Cunningham (8:45)
Renee Purtlebaugh (11:15)

Mother God, we are terrified. So many different fears have been watered and grown in us that there are days when it feels like we are more afraid than human.

We confess that we have let fear grow louder than our own voice. We have let fear grow louder than the voices of those that love us.

We have escalated fear in some in order to control them, and dismissed the fears of others in order to feel superior to them.

Steady us and have mercy on us, that we would know courage. Amen.

Words of Assurance—from *Black Liturgies* by Cole Arthur Riley, p. 105

Exchange of Peace †

Paul Henderson

BREAD OF HEAVEN, FEED ME TILL I WANT NO MORE

Hymn (26) †

SLANE

God of Creation, All-Powerful

A Reading from the Psalms

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Psalm 124 (Pew Bible pages 560-561 – OT)

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

Sermon

Hold You Me!

LET THE FIRE AND CLOUDY PILLAR LEAD ME ALL MY JOURNEY THROUGH

Hymn of Response (57) †

FINLANDIA

Be Still, My Soul

Offertory Prayer

Walter McWhorter (8:45)
Bob Cunningham (11:15)

Offertory

Felix Mendelssohn

Sonata No. 2 in Cm, II. Allegro Maestoso

News for the Community

Renee Purtlebaugh

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

Fanny Mendelssohn

Postludium in G Major

Today in Worship

Phrases from today's opening hymn, *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service — praise, confession, proclamation and response.

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.

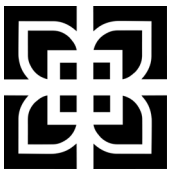
Permission to print and stream music obtained from One License #A-726201. All rights reserved.

Worship care is available for infants, toddlers and preschoolers during worship. Our greeters are available to help you navigate our building. A Worship Cart with activities to engage children in the pew is located in the Commons. Children's Worship meets most Sundays during the school year for children in grades Kindergarten-2nd during the second half of the 11:15 am worship service, as we explore what it means to worship God together.

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 in the section below to be directed to our online giving page.

Notes and News for the Community of Faith

- **Wednesday Night Programming and Meals continue:** Reservations need to be made each Monday by 12:00 PM for that week's meal by contacting Kathleen Gordon (kathleen@hbclouisville.org) or using the QR code to the right. **Note that we will not meet this Wednesday, October 2 during JCPS Fall break.**
- **Young Adult Fall Retreat on Oct. 10-11.** This is a free retreat for our Young Adults. If you are interested and want more details, please email Justin@hbclouisville.org.
- **On Sunday, October 13, we will begin our pledge season for the 2025 ministry budget and continued pledging toward our Sacred Space campaign.** Your giving will make a crucial difference as we begin the budgeting process and prepare for needing \$120,000-\$150,000 in additional funds for debt payment on our renovation loans. We are presently paying \$350 a day in interest on these loans, and every financial gift we receive now helps to decrease that expense. We hope you will prayerfully consider how you will participate with us in the upcoming pledge season so that Highland can continue in the work of Love in our community and world.
- **Up Ahead:**
 - October 2 No Wednesday Evening Activities with the exception of Sanctuary choir rehearsal at 6:15 PM
 - October 4-6 "Unstructured" Women's Retreat - contact Ginger Miller if interested.
 - October 9 Cloud of Witness with John Gulden, Emmanuel Maize, and Jess Smith, 6:15 PM
 - October 13 Empty Bowls 2024, Highlands Community Ministries, 4:30-7:00 PM
 - October 16 Wednesday Night Series Begins: Christian Nationalism
 - October 20 Center for Congregational Health Sessions: 10:00-11:15 AM and 2:30-3:30 PM
 - October 27 Fall Festival on the Front Lawn, 3:00-5:00 PM
 - October 29 Cream of the Crop visit to Tribe Animal Sanctuary, 10:00 AM (more info soon)



**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

Joseph Parr
ORGANIST AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE

Mary Alice Birdwhistell
PASTOR

Cheryl Davis
OFFICE MANAGER

Paul Henderson
ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF MUSIC
AND WORSHIP

Renee Purtlebaugh
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN
AND THEIR FAMILIES

Lauren Blackwell
INTERIM MINISTRY COORDINATOR
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR

Megan Fuller
CHILDREN AND FAMILY
MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Robin Ramsay Lee
DEACON CHAIR

Justin Sizemore
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH
AND YOUNG ADULTS

Walter McWhorter
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR