



Grief gives the full measure of love,
and it is somehow reassuring to learn,
even by suffering,
how large and powerful love is.

~ *Wendell Berry*

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 9, 2025

8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Renee Purtlebaugh

**CHRISTIANS WE HAVE MET TO WORSHIP
AND ADORE THE LORD OUR GOD**

Prelude

George Walker

Prayer

Call to Worship—inspired by Revelation 1:4-8

Doris Hornbuckle (8:45)
Paige Harlow (11:15)

Grace and peace to you from the One who is, who always was,
and who is still to come—the Alpha and Omega—the beginning and the end.

***This is our God—the One who loves us, and who gave us Jesus;
who gathers us together in this place, and bids us offer our praise and devotion.
Christians, let us worship!***

Christians, We Have Met to Worship

*Christians, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God;
will you pray with all your power, while we try to preach the Word?
All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down;
Christians, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.*

*Siblings, will you join and help us? Moses' sister aided him;
will you help the trembling mourners who are struggling hard with sin?
Tell them all about the Savior, tell them that He will be found;
siblings, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.*

*Let us love our God supremely, let us love each other, too;
let us love and pray for sinners, till our God makes all things new.
When God calls us home to heaven, at the table we'll sit down;
Christ will gird himself, and serve us with sweet manna all around*

Prayer of Praise †

Doris Hornbuckle (8:45)
Paige Harlow (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.*

Choral Anthem

James and Marilyn Biery

Joined Together As One Body

Joined together as one body, knit together, we are one. We the Church, God's chosen body, live our faith in Christ, the Son. We are called to be disciples, we are called to love in love! Bring your hearts and minds, disciples, dedicate your lives to love. Joined together by the Spirit, every person brings a gift. Every life is full of merit; hearts of gratitude we lift. We are called to be the faithful we are called to live in love! Such an honor to be faithful, full of life and full of love. Joined together, all embracing, yet our separate selves we bring. On our hearts our God is tracing words of love that make us sing. We are called to be God's servants, we are called to live in love! Such an hour to be servants, ever faithful in God's love. Join together, sons and daughters, lift your voices loud and strong! Come with singing, come with laughter, lift glad praises with a song! With great joy, shout hallelujah, Christ is with us, we are one! Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah we are one! Joined together as one body, knit together we are one. Still each person in Christ's body will remain a separate one. We are called to be God's people, we are called to live in love! Always longing, as God's people, for God's gracious healing Love.

**LET US LOVE AND PRAY FOR SINNERS,
TILL OUR GOD MAKES ALL THINGS NEW**

The Epistle Lesson

Revelation 1:4-8 (Pew Bible page 241 – NT)

Justin Sizemore

Prayer of Confession

Paul Henderson

Words of Assurance

Whether we believe it, or not, Jesus Christ never leaves us nor forsakes us. Let us open our hearts to receive the grace which Christ brings to us in faithfulness. We are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

Exchange of Peace †

Paul Henderson

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

Vocal Offering

Maya Angelou, text
Tom Trenney, music

Maya's Prayer for Peace
Dominique Cooper, Mezzo-Soprano

Father, Mother, God, thank you for your presence during the hard and mean days; for then we have you to lean upon. Father, Mother, God, thank you for your presence during the bright and sunny days, for then we can share that which we have with those who have less. Father, Mother, God, thank you for your presence during the Holy Days, for then we are able to celebrate you and our families and our friends. For those who have no voice, we ask you to speak. For those who feel unworthy, we ask you to pour your love out in waterfalls of tenderness. For those who live in pain, we ask you to bathe them in the river of your healing. For those who are lonely, we ask you to keep them company. For those who are depressed, we ask you to shower upon them the light of hope. Father, Mother, God, You, the borderless sea of substance, we ask you to give all the world that which we need most – peace.

Hymn (486) †

RESTORATION

Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult

**WILL YOU PRAY WITH ALL YOUR POWER,
WHILE WE TRY TO PREACH THE WORD**

The Gospel Lesson †

Luke 24:13-21, 30-31 (Pew Bible page 88 – NT)

Bob Cunningham

Sermon

We Had Hoped . . . What's Next?
Children grades K-2 may be dismissed for Children's Worship (11:15)

**LET US LOVE OUR GOD SUPREME,
LET US LOVE EACH OTHER TOO**

Hymn †

FOR EVERYONE BORN

A Place at the Table

Justice Moment and Offertory Prayer

Christy Chesnut (8:45)
Roz Heinz (11:15)

Offertory

Elevation

George Walker

News for the Community

Justin Sizemore

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 †

Bob Cunningham

Postlude

George Walker

Invocation

Today in Worship

Phrases from today's hymn of response, *Christians, We Have Met to Worship*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service — praise, confession, proclamation, and response.

Highland Baptist welcomes Bob Cunningham as Guest Proclaimer today! Bob is a retired chaplain who now serves Highland as Interim Associate Pastor. He and his family have attended Highland Baptist for 29 years. We are grateful for Bob's leadership, wisdom, and humor!

One way Highland is celebrating Black History Month is by hearing the voices of black musicians in our worship. Today we highlight George Walker (1922-2018). Walker is a composer of diverse styles ranging from 12-tone serialism to styles found in pop music. The organ pieces today reflect his lyrical style that feature rhythmic complexity and innovative chromaticism. Maya Angelou was an well-known American memoirist, poet, and civil rights activist from the 20th century. Today, our own Domonique Copper sings one of her texts set to music by Tom Trenney.

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.

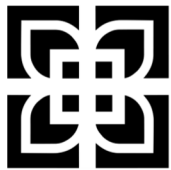
Worship care is available for infants, toddlers and preschoolers during worship. Our greeters are available to help you navigate our building. A Worship Cart with activities to engage children in the pew is located in the Commons. Children's Worship is available for K-2nd graders during the sermon.

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.

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Notes and News for the Community of Faith

- **Worship in February and March** — Our upcoming proclaimers are: Justin Sizemore (Feb. 16), Sally Evans (Feb. 23), and Jim England (Mar. 2)
- **Wednesday Nights: Frank Woggon's book *The Empathic God: A Clinical Theology of At-onement*** (Fortress Press, 2024) constructs a reinterpretation of the Christian narrative of salvation from the clinical perspective of a spiritual care practitioner, utilizing case studies and interdisciplinary dialogue to suggest a faithful Christian practice of participating in God's ongoing work of salvation. Join Frank as he discusses his book in three sessions, February 12, 19, and 26. We meet just after 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - February: Teacher Appreciation Month
 - February 18: Senior Adult Potluck Luncheon/Board Games, 12:00 Noon
 - February 21-23: Youth Winter Retreat
 - March 5: Ash Wednesday
 - March 7-9: Women's Retreat—contact Ginger Miller for more information
 - March 15: Jean Janes Yard Sale



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

Tracy Holladay
INTERIM STAFF COORDINATOR

Margaret Pennington
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR

Lauren Blackwell
INTERIM MINISTRY COORDINATOR

Megan Fuller
CHILDREN AND FAMILY
MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Robin Ramsay Lee
DEACON CHAIR

Renee Purtlebaugh
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN
AND THEIR FAMILIES

Bob Cunningham
INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Kathleen Gordon
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Walter McWhorter
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Justin Sizemore
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH
AND YOUNG ADULTS

Paul Henderson
ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF MUSIC
AND WORSHIP

Joseph Parr
ORGANIST AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE