



Fear will assault us,  
but we will not be afraid,  
“for Thou art with me.”

~ Rabbi Harold S. Kushner,  
*The Lord Is My Shepherd*

**HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**SEPTEMBER 28, 2025**  
**8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.**

Invitation to Worship

John Kupar

## PRAISE TO THE LIVING GOD! ALL PRAISE TO HIS NAME

Prelude

Joseph Parr

*Improvisation on ST. CLEMENT*

Call to Worship

Perry Ledford (8:45)

Diane Brewer (11:15)

Our world is hurting in every way:  
***injustice in the shadows, injustice in broad daylight,***  
worship of wealth, worship of doctrine,  
***people living without houses,***  
hungry children in our schools,  
***stolen pensions, destabilized nations,***  
politicians wine and dine, judges wooed and won,  
***exploding grenades, cherished grudges.***  
Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there any physician?  
***Help us, our strength and stay! Help us!***

Processional Hymn (45) †

LEONI

*The God of Abraham Praise*  
Original Text: He/His—Alternate Text: You/Your

Prayer of Praise †

Perry Ledford (8:45)

Diane Brewer (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

Allen Pote

*A Jubilant Song*

Sing to the Lord a jubilant song. Rejoice and sing and let the earth be glad, let the heavens be filled with joy, and a jubilant song. Sing alleluia to the Lord, alleluia. Tell of God's salvation from day to day. Shout God's marvelous works among the people. For great is the Lord, great is the Lord and worthy to be praised. Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another. Before the mountains were made, or the land and the sea were born. From age to age you are God, and we pray for the coming of your Kingdom. We shall rejoice, we shall be glad all the days of our lives.

## ESTABLISHED IS HIS LAW, AND CHANGELESS IT SHALL STAND

A Lesson from the Psalms

John Kupar

Psalm 79:4-9 (Pew Bible page 529– OT)

Prayer of Confession

Paul Henderson

Assurance of Forgiveness

***The God of our salvation, the God who weeps with us and for our world, is the same God whose compassion comes speedily to meet us, and to forgive us. Thanks be to God.***

Exchange of Peace †

Paul Henderson

Hymn (74) †

BALM IN GILEAD

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*

## IN PROPHET'S WORD HE SPOKE OF OLD, HIS VOICE SPEAKS STILL

The Old Testament Lesson

Chris Caldwell

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 (Pew Bible page 696– OT)

Sermon

*You Can't Go Over It, You Can't Go Under It...*

## HIS LOVE SHALL BE OUR STRENGTH AND STAY WHILE AGES ROLL

Hymn of Response (543) †

EVENTIDE

*Abide with Me*

Offertory Prayer †

Gene Streible (8:45)  
Susan Pierce (11:15)

Offertory

Joseph Parr

*Improvisation on EVENTIDE*

News for the Community

Paul Henderson

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 †

Chris Caldwell

Postlude

Jean-Adam Guilain

*Plein Jeu*

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

In worship at Highland, we aim to sing music with a theology that reflects an expansive and inclusive God. Occasionally, our printed music may use language that limits God. When we are unable to re-print a more inclusive text, we encourage you to use language that better fits your image of God. Our ministers and choir will often replace “He/Him” with “God” or “Love” (one syllable) and “Father” with “Parent,” “Holy,” or “Divine” (two syllables). We would love to hear what creative language for God you might use in worship, too.

## Today in Worship

Phrases from today's hymn, *The God of Abraham Praise*, 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 the family of Rice Nutting, who passed away on September 9.

Our gratitude to our brass players for their musical leadership today. Trumpets: Earl Gaar, Matt Porter, Eric Watson; Trombone: Larry Davis; Euphonium: Charles Baker.

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.

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.

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

---

## Notes and News for the Community of Faith

- **Pledging Continues!** If you haven't yet made your pledge for Highland's mission and ministries in 2026, please consider doing so. Make your pledge online using the QR code or pick up a copy of the pledge card in the Commons. Please turn in your pledge by Sunday, October 5!
- **No Wednesday Evening Activities on October 1 . . .** with the exception of Sanctuary Choir rehearsal at 6:15 PM.
- **Ministry Council Nominations Needed**—In this busy season in the life of our church, we need to identify folks who will provide leadership as part of our ministry council. Ballots, including information about this process, are available today. Please place your completed ballot in the offering plate today.
- **Considering Matthew Shepard**—Members of Highland's Sanctuary Choir along with members of Voices of Kentuckiana will join forces to present *Considering Matthew Shepard* at Actors Theatre on Friday, October 10 at 7:30 PM and Sunday, October 12 at 3:00 PM. The entire three-part oratorio is a powerful and compassionate response to the brutal murder of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student from Wyoming in the fall of 1998. Recommended for teens and above. You may use the QR code above to purchase tickets.
- **Looking Ahead:**
  - September 30: Cream of the Crop lunch at the Brown Barrel, Midway, 12:00 Noon
  - October 1: No Wednesday evening activities (with the exception of Sanctuary Choir rehearsal at 6:15 PM)
  - October 10-12: Fall Women's Retreat



### 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

**Chris Caldwell**  
INTERIM PASTOR

**Cheryl Davis**  
OFFICE MANAGER

**Jim England**  
INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR

**Megan Fuller**  
MINISTRY ASSISTANT AND  
INTERIM CARE COORDINATOR

**Kathleen Gordon**  
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

**Paige Harlow**  
DEACON CHAIR

**Paul Henderson**  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF MUSIC  
AND WORSHIP

**John Kuper**  
INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR  
TO YOUTH

**Walter McWhorter**  
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

**Joseph Parr**  
ORGANIST AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE

**Margaret Pennington**  
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR

**Renee Purtlebaugh**  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN  
AND THEIR FAMILIES