



HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
ASCENSION SUNDAY
MAY 17, 2026
8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

John Kupar

ALLELUIA! SING TO JESUS, HIS THE SCEPTRE, HIS THE THRONE

Prelude

Arnold Sherman

Song of Triumph
Highland Handbells
Sharon Sanders, piano

Call to Worship

Becca Jagers (8:45)
Karen Park (11:15)

Like the disciples, we ask when all creation will be restored to wholeness.

Jesus reminds us, as he reminded them—the Holy Spirit will come upon you, and you will be my witnesses.

And so we sing praises to the One whose voice is trustworthy and whose strength is steadfast.

May the Spirit renew this body of Christ as we worship God together.

Processional Hymn (158) †

DUKE STREET

Jesus Shall Reign

Prayer of Praise †

Becca Jagers (8:45)
Karen Park (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 Walt Harston †

Carol Harston

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.*

**INTERCESSOR, FRIEND OF SINNERS,
EARTH'S REDEEMER, PLEAD FOR ME**

The Epistle Lesson

Paul Henderson

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11 (Pew Bible page 230 – NT)

Prayer of Confession

Renee Purtlebaugh

*Restoring God, you are steadfast and true, always ready to receive our anxieties and cares. And yet,
the challenges we face individually and collectively threaten to consume our every thought, feeling,
and our conversation. We lose our footing, unable to find our way forward. Forgive us, and steady us.
Walk alongside us, and remind us that your glorious spirit rests within us. Amen.*

Words of Assurance

Exchange of Peace †

Renee Purtlebaugh

Hymn †

HYFRYDOL

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus, His the sceptre, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph, his the victory alone.
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood,
"Jesus, out of every nation, has redeemed us by His blood."*

*Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! Christ is near us, faith believes, nor questions how;
though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er.
shall our hearts forget His promise, "I am with you evermore?"*

*Alleluia! Bread of Heaven, Christ on earth our food and stay;
Alleluia! here the sinful rest in You from day to day;
Intercessor, Friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.*

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

THOUGH THE CLOUD FROM SIGHT RECEIVED HIM WHEN THE FORTY DAYS WERE O'ER

Choral Anthem

Gerald Finzi

God Is Gone Up

God is gone up with a triumphant shout: The Lord with sounding trumpets' melodies: Sing praise, sing praises out, unto our King sing praise seraphic-wise! Lift up your heads, ye lasting doors, they sing, and let the king of glory enter in. Me-thinks I see heaven's sparkling courtiers fly, in flakes of glory down him to attend. And hear heart cramping notes of melody surround his chariot as it did ascend; mixing their music, making every string more to enravish as they this tune sing.

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

A Reading from Acts

Acts 1:6-14 (Pew Bible pages 115 – NT)

Carol Harston

Sermon

A Still Life Disrupted

Carol Harston

SHALL OUR HEARTS FORGET HIS PROMISE, "I AM WITH YOU EVERMORE?"

Hymn of Response †

RATISBON

Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies

Christ whose glo - ry fills the skies; Christ, the true, the on - ly light; Sun of Righ - teous - ness, a - rise;
Dark and cheer - less is the morn un - ac - com - pa - nied by thee; joy - less is the day's re - turn
7 Vis - it then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief; fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine;
tri - umph o'er, the shades of night; Day - spring from on high, be near; Day - star, in my heart ap - pear.
till thy mer - cy's beams I see; till they in - ward light im - part; cheer my eyes and warm my heart.
scat - ter all my un - be - lief more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

Offertory Prayer †

Bruce Maples

Offertory

South African/arr. Robert Ward

Siyahamba Highland Handbells

News for the Community

John Kupar

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 †

Carol Harston

Postlude

Joseph Parr

Improvisation ON DUKE STREET

Today in Worship

Phrases from today's hymn, *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service — praise, confession, proclamation, and response.

Today's cover artwork is *Supper at Emmaus* by Caravaggio, located in the National Gallery in London.

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 11:15 service.

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

- **Orchestra Concert Tonight:** You are invited to Highland Orchestra's spring concert at 6:00 PM. The theme of the program is "A Classical Feast." We'll be presenting classics from a variety of times and places, including some of your favorites! So invite your friends and family and join us for a wonderful evening!
- **Racing Louisville FC Pride Night:** Don't miss Highland's night at Racing Louisville FC—the **ticket deadline is today!** It is coming up on Friday, May 29 at 8:00 PM at Lynn Family Stadium. This is one of the best nights of the season, and it's even better when we show up together. Check your newsletter for ticket information.
- **Calling All Graduates:** Highland would like to recognize those in our church family who are graduating from high school, college, graduate school, certificate programs, or any other meaningful program of study. Please send the graduate's name, school or program, degree or area of study (if applicable) to cheryl@hbclouisville.org.
- **Senior Adult sponsored trip to Hubers:** Join us on Thursday, June 11 for lunch at Huber's Restaurant at 12:00 noon. The church bus will leave at 11:00 AM. Call or email Paul Henderson (paul@hbclouisville.org) to reserve your spot.
- **Looking Ahead:**



Tonight:	Highland Orchestra Spring Concert—"A Classical Feast" at 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary
Friday, May 29:	Racing Louisville FC Pride Night, Lynn Family Stadium, 8:00 PM
Thursday, June 11:	Senior Adult trip to Huber's Family Farm and Restaurant, 12:00 PM
Sunday, June 14:	Pride Sunday at Highland
Wednesday, August 12:	Wednesday night activities resume



**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

Paige Harlow
DEACON CHAIR

Robert Kahne
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR

Leslie Morris
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Cheryl Davis
OFFICE MANAGER

Carol Harston
SENIOR PASTOR

John Kupar
INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR
TO YOUTH

Joseph Parr
ORGANIST AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE

Megan Fuller
MINISTRY ASSISTANT AND
INTERIM CARE COORDINATOR

Paul Henderson
ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF MUSIC
AND WORSHIP

Walter McWhorter
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Renee Purtlebaugh
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN
AND THEIR FAMILIES