



HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 26, 2026
8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Paul Henderson

**FEARS AND DOUBTS TOO LONG HAVE BOUND US,
FREE OUR HEARTS TO WORK AND PRAISE**

Prelude

Felix Mendelssohn

Trio

Call to Worship

Bill Campbell (8:45)
Paige Harlow (11:15)

Come into the grace that has called you by name. Come into the love that will not let you go.
When our voices falter, the Spirit sings within us; when our courage wavers, God remains our strength.

We gather in hope, upheld by grace and filled with courage.

No fear, no sorrow, no power of this world can separate us from the love of God.

So let us lay aside all that diminishes life, and open our hearts to the Spirit's renewing breath.

***God of grace and God of glory, awaken us with wisdom, strengthen us with courage,
and lead us in the way of love. Let us worship God.***

Hymn (285) †

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

Prayer of Praise †

Bill Campbell (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.

The Epistle Lesson

Romans 8:26-39 (Pew Bible page 154 – NT)

Paul Henderson

SAVE US FROM WEAK RESIGNATION TO THE EVILS WE DEPLORE

Choral Anthem

arr. Henry Coleman

Jesu, Lover of My Soul

Jesu, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly, while the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high:
hide me, O my savior hide, till the storm of life is past; safe into the haven guide, O receive my soul at last.
Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on thee; leave, ah' leave me not alone, still support
and comfort me. All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring; cover my defenseless head
with the shadow of thy wing. Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin; let the healing streams
abound; make and keep me pure within. Thou of life the fountain art; freely let me take of thee; spring thou up
within my heart, rise to all eternity.

Prayer of Confession

Paul Henderson

***God of hidden treasure and growing seeds, we confess that we often overlook your kingdom
in our midst. We long for what is immediate and impressive, while your Spirit works quietly,
patiently, and persistently among us.***

***Forgive us when fear keeps us from embracing new possibilities, when we cling to what is familiar
instead of what gives life, and when we fail to recognize the sacred gifts you place before us.***

***Open our hearts to your transforming grace. Help us to treasure what truly matters,
to let go of what no longer serves your love, and to live with courage, generosity, and hope.
Amen.***

Words of Assurance

Exchange of Peace †

Paul Henderson

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

What Is the World Like

What is the world like when God's will is done? Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive: roots thread the soil; branches reach for the sun. This is how God moves us each to believe.

What is the world like when God's will is done? No more is neighbor just ally or friend; peace thrives in places where once there was none. This is how God works when rivalries end.

These are the stories that Jesus imparts, filled with the Spirit who joins us as one. Born through our voices, our hands, and our hearts, this is a new world where God's will is done.

CROWN THINE ANCIENT CHURCH'S STORY, BRING HER BUD TO GLORIOUS FLOWER

The Gospel Lesson †

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (Pew Bible pages 14-15 – NT)

Renee Purtlebaugh

Sermon

Making Sense of God's Generosity

LET THE SEARCH FOR THY SALVATION BE OUR GLORY EVERMORE

Hymn of Response (262) †

ST. THOMAS

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

Deacon Testimony and Offertory Prayer

 Bruce Carroll (8:45)
 Larry Davis (11:15)

Offertory

I Will Arise and Go to Jesus
 Cathy Ryan, piano

arr. Mark Hayes

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 †

Renee Purtlebaugh

Postlude

Christopher Tambling

Toccatinetto

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 opening hymn, *God of Grace and God of Glory*, 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 in loving memory of Ben Bonnett-Bunten's 21st birthday by Greg Bunten.

Our gratitude to Cathy Ryan and Sharon Sanders for their musical leadership in today's service.

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 find our online giving page.

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Notes and News for the Community of Faith

- **Join us in celebrating Gather 'Round as we worship together and kick-off the fall semester on Sunday, August 9!** During worship, we will officially welcome our new Kindergarteners and recognize our 6th graders who have recently joined the youth group. After the 11:15 worship service, we will enjoy picnic lunches on the lawn. Meals are \$7.00 each with a family maximum of \$21.00. You may pay online or at the event. Sign up using the QR code. Of course, you are also welcome to bring your lunch!
- **Wednesday night activities resume soon — it's that wonderful time of year!** Wednesday night activities resume on August 12. If you'd like to make a dinner reservation for one night or standing reservations for the year, please send an email to Leslie Morris at leslie@hbclouisville.org to let her know. Also consider if you might volunteer for dessert making, food preparation and setup, or dish drying. Contact Kathy Belcher at klbelcher53@gmail.com



- **Looking Ahead:**

Tuesday, August 4:	Caring for Aging Parents Group, 5:00 PM, Commons
Sunday, August 9:	Gather 'Round Sunday
Wednesday, August 12:	Wednesday night activities resume beginning with dinner at 5:15
Saturday, August 15:	Highland Veterans Group, 10:00 AM in the Commons
Fri/Sat, August 28-29:	Deacon Retreat, General Butler State Park
Sunday, August 30:	Deacon Ordination Service, 4:00 PM, Sanctuary
	Beer and Hymns, 6:00-7:30 PM, Trellis Brewing



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

Megan Fuller
MINISTRY ASSISTANT AND
INTERIM CARE COORDINATOR

Paige Harlow
DEACON CHAIR

Carol Harston
SENIOR PASTOR

Paul Henderson
ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF MUSIC
AND WORSHIP

Robert Kahne
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR

John Kubar
INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR
TO YOUTH

Walter McWhorter
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Leslie Morris
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Joseph Parr
ORGANIST AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE

Renee Purtlebaugh
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN
AND THEIR FAMILIES