

Today in Worship

Phrases from today’s hymn, *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service — praise, confession, proclamation, and response.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given by the Harston and Collier families in joyful celebration of the installation of the Rev. Dr. Carol Harston as the 18th pastor of Highland Baptist Church.

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 first 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

- **Installation Service today at 4:00 PM.** We will gather as the beloved community to celebrate and install Carol Harston as our eighteenth Senior Pastor. Several living past Senior Pastors of Highland will be in attendance for this joyful occasion: Paul Duke, Joe Phelps, and Mary Alice Birdwhistell. A reception will follow in Fellowship Hall.
- **Faithful Giving Season:** Your 2027 Faithful Giving brochure is in the mail! This brochure shares information about our commitment season, in which we ask for pledges to help guide the church’s financial planning for the coming year. All are invited to bring their 2027 pledge card to worship on September 20 to offer it. We hope you will begin to prayerfully consider what you can contribute.
- **Ministry Council Nominations Open Now:** Each year, our congregation nominates members to serve on the Ministry Council. Ministry Council attends to the business of the church and supports the work of its ministry groups. Ministry Council Representatives serve a three-year term. **The deadline for nominations this year is September 20.** How nominations work: You nominate up to six people using the yellow paper forms that are available during worship services. The Congregational Engagement Ministry Group reviews all nominations and then brings a proposed list to the full congregation for approval. You may also call the church office (502-451-3735) to place your nominations.
- **Looking Ahead:**

This Afternoon:	Installation Service for Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Carol Harston, 4:00 PM
Wednesday, September 16:	Seeing with Bill Campbell, 6:00 PM
Saturday, September 19:	Veterans Group Gathering, 10:00 AM, Gary and Margaret Pennington's Home
Sunday, September 20:	Pledge Sunday
Saturday, September 26:	Trivia Night Fundraiser for Sacred Space, 7:00 PM, Fellowship Hall
Sunday, September 27:	Choral Evensong and Benediction, Episcopal Church of the Advent, 5:00 PM



HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 13, 2026
11:15 A.M.



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	Roy Fuller DEACON CHAIR	Robert Kahne MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR	Leslie Morris FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Cheryl Davis OFFICE MANAGER	Carol Harston SENIOR PASTOR	John Kubar 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

Invitation to Worship

Carol Harston

Hymn (295) †

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

STREAMS OF MERCY NEVER CEASING
CALL FOR SONGS OF LOUDEST PRAISE

Prelude

arr. S. Wilkinson

All Creatures of Our God and King
Kathy Collier and Sharon Sanders, piano

Call to Worship

Tracy Holladay

Come, let us worship the God who is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

We come with all creation—with earth and sky, sun and moon, with every creature that sings, breathes, and lives.

As far as the heavens are above the earth, so great is God’s steadfast love toward us.

Let every creature praise the Holy One! Let every heart join the song!

Come, then, with grateful hearts. Let us worship the God whose love surrounds us, whose mercy restores us, and whose goodness calls all creation to sing.

Hymn of Praise (307) †

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

All Creatures of Our God and King
Stanzas 1 and 5 - All
Stanza 2 - Choir
Stanza 3 - Tenor/Bass
Stanza 4 - Soprano/Alto

Prayer of Praise †

Joe Phelps

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.

COME THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING,
TUNE MY HEART TO SING THY PRAISE

A Reading from the Psalms

Psalms 103:8-13 (Pew Bible page 543 – OT)

Carol Harston

Choral Confession

David Ashley White

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

"Forgive our sins as we forgive" you taught us, Lord, to pray; but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say. How can you pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart that broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart? In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew, what trivial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you. Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls and bid resentment cease. Then bound to all in bonds of love, our love will spread your peace.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Exchange of Peace †

Paul Henderson

The Epistle Lesson

Ephesians 3:14-21 (Pew Bible pages 189-190 – NT)

Paul Duke

Sermon

Beyond All We Can Imagine

HERE'S MY HEART, LORD, TAKE AND SEAL IT, FOR THY COURTS ABOVE

Hymn of Response (352) †

SINE NOMINE

All Praise to Thee

Faithful Giving Story and Offertory Prayer

Scott Schaftlein

Offertory

Fugue on BACH
No. 1, Langsam

Robert Schumann

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 †

Carol Harston

Postlude

Toccata on "All Creatures of Our God and King"

Kristina Rizzotto

† *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.