

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST **8:30 a.m.**

Invitation to Worship Joe Phelps

Meditation Sharon Sanders

Call to Worship Nina Maples

When we realize the many sacred gifts of life—
How can we keep from singing?
As leaf and light and cloud and wind introduce a new season of life—
How can we keep from singing?
Gathered to name the Mystery,
to be formed by Love, to be transformed—
How can we keep from singing this—our hymn of grateful praise?

Hymn of Praise (341) *For the Beauty of the Earth*
Stanzas One—Four

Prayer of Praise Renee Purtlebaugh

The Exchange of Peace

The Hebrew Lesson Carol Harston
Amos 5:18-24 (Pew Bible page 839 – OT)

Compassionate Neighbors and Offertory Prayer Becky Smith

Bringing Our Financial Commitments to God
*During the offertory, Highland’s ushers will invite worshipers
pew by pew to place pledge cards on the Communion table.
Deacons standing to the side will receive offerings.*

Offertory *For the Beauty of the Hour*

The Gospel Lesson Joe Phelps
Matthew 25:1-13 (Pew Bible pages 27-28 – NT)

Sermon *Jesus and Justice*

Song of Renewal (341) *For the Beauty of the Earth*
Stanzas Five and Six

News for the Community Renee Purtlebaugh

Benediction Joe Phelps

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST **9:30 & 11:00 a.m.**

Invitation to Worship Joe Phelps

Choral Introit Paul Halley
How Can I Keep from Singing?
Women’s Chorus

**LORD OF ALL, TO THEE WE RAISE
THIS OUR HYMN OF GRATEFUL PRAISE**

Call to Worship
When we realize the many sacred gifts of life—
How can we keep from singing?
As leaf and light and cloud and wind introduce a new season of life—
How can we keep from singing?
Gathered to name the Mystery,
to be formed by Love, to be transformed—
How can we keep from singing this—our hymn of grateful praise?

Hymn of Praise (341) † *For the Beauty of the Earth* DIX

Prayer of Praise

Gloria Patri MEINEKE
**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was
in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**FOR THE CHURCH THAT EVERMORE
LIFTETH HOLY HANDS ABOVE**

The Hebrew Lesson Carol Harston
Amos 5:18-24 (Pew Bible page 839 – OT)

Singing the Psalm RESTORATION
We Will Tell Each Generation
**We will tell each generation all that you, our God, have done;
how you called and led your people, chose us out to be your own.**

The Psalm Nina Maples
Psalm 78 (Pew Bible page 526 – OT)
Read from *Psalms for Praying* by Nan C. Merrill

Prayer of Confession Lauren Jones Mayfield (9:30)
Perry Dixon (11:00)

God of grace and glory, in times of deep need or great joy,
we encounter you in tangible ways.
**Forgive us when we fail to recognize you at work
in our everyday lives.**
You never abandon us in our need,
**yet we are distracted by all that glitters,
always grasping for more.**
Rather than trust in your care and live as people of your justice,
**we chase after our own happiness,
and resist your justice for all.**
Forgive us, Lord, and turn us back to you.
**Overwhelm us with your mercy, and beckon us
ever closer to you, the source of life and all that is good.** *Silence*

Singing the Psalm RESTORATION

We Will Tell Each Generation
**Tell the time of our rebelling – how we wandered from your way,
how your law our love compelling taught us humbly to obey.**

Words of Assurance – The Epistle Lesson
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (Pew Bible page 201 – NT)

The Exchange of Peace

Hymn † RESTORATION
We Will Tell Each Generation
**Tell the grace that falls from heaven, angels’ food as faith’s reward;
tell how sins may be forgiven through the mercy of the Lord.**
**We will tell each generation all that you, our God, have done.
As a shepherd you have led us; by your hand still lead your own.**

**FOR THE JOY OF EAR AND EYE,
FOR THE HEART AND MIND’S DELIGHT**

The Gospel Lesson † Joe Phelps
Matthew 25:1-13 (Pew Bible pages 27-28 – NT)

Children grades K-2 may be dismissed for Children’s Worship in the 11:00 service.

Sermon *Jesus and Justice*

**FOR THAT GREAT, GREAT LOVE OF THINE,
PEACE ON EARTH, AND JOY IN HEAVEN**

Hymn of Response (15) † JOYFUL SINGING
God of Dawn, Each Day’s Renewal
Stanzas One – Three

Compassionate Neighbors and Offertory Prayer Becky Smith

Bringing Our Financial Commitments to God
*During the offertory, Highland’s ushers will invite worshipers
pew by pew to place pledge cards on the Communion table.
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Offertory *For the Beauty of the Hour* Fedak

A Prayer of Dedication Joe Phelps

News for the Community Renee Purtlebaugh

Doxology † JOYFUL SINGING
**Praise to God, who spoke creation, giving life to time and space.
Praise to Christ, whose living presence showed the world Your human face.
Praise the Spirit, daily witness to Your ever-loving way.
Take us now and reawake us, challenge us to use this day.**

Benediction Joe Phelps

Postlude RESTORATION
Restoration Gilbert Martin

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

Today in Worship

We are grateful for the lay leadership in today's services by Evelyn Evans (9:30) and Cheryl Davis (11:00). We ask worshipers to read the lines in **bold** in today's litanies and printed scriptures.

Highland's deacons (wearing identification name tags) are available at various locations for prayer, questions or information. Deacons are lay ministers of the church who have been called to a ministry of service.

Listening Assist Devices are available. Please see our sound technician or an usher for assistance.

Phrases from our hymn of praise, *For the Beauty of the Earth*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service – praise, confession, proclamation and response. Please express your gratitude to Sharon Sanders for her musical leadership in today's services.

Prayers of the People

New Concerns

Kathy Breunig Maize, knee surgery on 11/25
Tammy Walsh, hip replacement on 11/17
Pat Wells, knee surgery recovery

Ongoing Concerns

Cleve Iler, home
Dottie Adams Frank, Treyton Oaks, rehab
Reece Little, kidney cancer

Ongoing Concerns (*continued*)

Bill Luster, home
Richard Schnelle, Nazareth, shoulder surgery recovery
Gerald Swim, BH, bypass surgery recovery
Lily Williams, ACL surgery recovery

Christian Sympathy

Bob Connolly, death of his mother

Notes and News for the Community of Faith

Welcome to Highland! If you are visiting with us, we are honored that you are here. Please find a minister or deacon for more information about the work of Love at Highland Baptist Church.

We **celebrate our financial commitments to God** through Highland **today, Commitment Sunday**. Commitment cards are available at the end of each pew. Thank you for your support of the mission and ministries of Highland!

If you are a new or prospective member, you will want to attend the **Highlights Class today, 3:00-6:00 p.m.**, in Fellowship Hall. This class is part of the process for becoming a member at Highland. Joe Phelps and Nina Maples will lead this class. Light dinner will be served.

Join us **this Wednesday, November 15**, 6:15 p.m., in Fellowship Hall, for a **conversation guided by Carol Harston** for Wednesday night participants to share how Wednesday nights have been a powerful agent of faith formation and how we might consider its content, structure, and leadership moving forward. All are encouraged to attend.

The Anti-Racism team asks you to join us for a community-wide dialogue about **Redlining this Thursday, November 16**, at 5:30 p.m., in Fellowship Hall. Jeana Dunlap, director of the Office of Redevelopment Strategies for Louisville Metro Government, will present using an interactive story map that explores how redlining in the past continues to impact Louisville neighborhoods today. Read more about the event, RSVP, and invite others at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1914427272213992/>.

Join us in the Commons at 12:15 p.m. **next Sunday, November 19**, if you have questions, ideas, or consideration for the proposed **restructuring of Highland's mission work**. We will give thanks for our past and current missional endeavors, the leadership who has shaped the way for our congregation to think beyond its walls, and hopefully give thanks for the opportunities of growth and evolution as our work continues.

The True Colors Ministry Group will be hosting **Transgender Day of Remembrance**, an annual, worldwide event honoring the murder victims of anti-transgender hate crimes in the past year, **next Sunday, November 19**, at 6:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary. Please come to show solidarity with our local and international transgender community.

There will be a **Called Business Meeting on Wednesday, November 29**, at 6:00 p.m., for a discussion on the proposed budget for 2018. There will be another business meeting on **December 6**, at 6:00 p.m., to vote on nominations for the Interim Search Committee. Please come share in these conversations as we plan for the future of our church.

As is our custom, our Sanctuary will once again be adorned with red poinsettias this Advent and Christmas. All are invited to **purchase a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one**. The cost is \$15; forms can be found on the table outside the Sanctuary and are also printed in the weekly newsletter. Payment and information should be turned in to the church office by November 26.

Mark Your Calendars

November 17-19: Youth Fall Retreat
November 22: No Evening Activities/Supper
November 23: Thanksgiving Service and Breakfast
November 23-24: Church Offices Closed
November 29: Called Business Meeting
November 30: Cream of the Crop Trip
December 2: Memorial Service for Bill Dinwiddie
December 3: Vote on 2018 Budget; Hanging of the Green Service and Reception
December 4: Sorting Soiree
December 6: Called Business Meeting
December 7: Theology on Tap
December 9: MensWork Breakfast; Cream of the Crop Trip
December 10: Crosses on the Lawn; Children's Choir Advent Program
December 13: No Evening Activities/Supper
December 16: The Christmas Shop; Delivery of HCM Christmas Baskets; YA Christmas Party
December 17: No 8:30 a.m. Service; Annual Christmas Banquet



For within your heart Love speaks:
not with words of deceit,
but of spiritual truths to guide you
upon the paths of peace.
Do not hide this from your children;
teach of the inward Voice,
and help all generations to listen in the Silence,
that they may know the Beloved
and be free to follow the precepts of Love.

~ Psalm 78 Psalms for Praying

This Week at Highland

Sunday, November 12

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:00 a.m. Community Gathering
9:30 a.m. Worship
Bible Study 1
10:30 a.m. Community Gathering
11:00 a.m. Worship
Bible Study 2
12:30 p.m. Families with Children Ministry Group (201)
2:00 p.m. Adult Handbells rehearsal (200)
3:00 p.m. Highlights Class (Fellowship Hall)
4:00 p.m. Middle School Mentor Group (Off-site)

Monday, November 13

6:00 p.m. Finance Ministry Group (103)
Anti-Racism Team (Commons)
6:30 p.m. Jean Janes Women's Group (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, November 14

5:30 p.m. Hope for a Brighter Day (Fellowship Hall)
10:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, November 15

5:20 p.m. Fellowship Supper (Fellowship Hall)
6:00 p.m. Children's Activities (2nd Floor)
Youth Group (Youth Suite)
6:15 p.m. A Conversation about Wednesday Nights (Fellowship Hall)
7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday, November 16

5:30 p.m. Redlining Conversation (Fellowship Hall)
7:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous (Sanctuary)

Friday, November 17

7:00 a.m. Men's Small Group (122)
8:00 a.m. Highland Men Gathering (Fireside)
4:30 p.m. Wedding rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7:00 p.m. Friday Church (Sanctuary)
8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, November 18

5:00 p.m. Wedding (Sanctuary)



*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.

Our Vision... We dream of being an engaging, vibrant Christian church, where transformed people are joining the work of God, creating a world where justice and Love are abundant.

Joe Phelps
PASTOR

Nina Maples
SENIOR ASSOCIATE PASTOR
FOR PASTORAL CARE AND
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Carol Harston
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR
FAITH FORMATION AND
CONGREGATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Renee Purtlebaugh
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN
AND THEIR FAMILIES

Lauren Jones Mayfield
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO
YOUNG ADULTS AND MISSIONS

Perry Dixon
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH
AND THEIR FAMILIES

Kathy Collier
MINISTER OF MUSIC
AND WORSHIP

Austin Echols
ORGANIST AND
MUSIC ASSOCIATE

Fred Bogert
MUSIC DIRECTOR
TO FRIDAY CHURCH

Don Burke
PASTOR EMERITUS

Vicki Runnion
DEACON CHAIR

Ryan Davis
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR