

In these days, fear is deep and broad in the land in the church. The church need not live out of fear as though the gospel were not true. It is destined to live toward freedom, toward the pain of the world, toward the hurt of the world, toward the joy of the world – the pain and hurt that the world does not understand and the joy that the world does not anticipate.



As Jesus left he reminded the church that we are able to risk much because we are safe. ~*The Shalom Church, Walter Brueggemann*

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

ASCENSION SUNDAY

MAY 24, 2020

10:00 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Perry Dixon

Prelude

Wilbur Held

Chorale Prelude on DUKE STREET

HAIL THE DAY THAT SEES HIM RISE, ALLELUIA!

Call to Worship – based on Psalm 47

Kathy Collier

Clap your hands, all you peoples!

We bow before the Lord—the Most High, who holds together all creation.

Shout to God with songs of joy!

We worship the Christ—the Exalted One, who outshines every ruler and authority.

Sing praises to God, sing praises!

We bless the Spirit—the Hand of God, who gathers us close to the heart of God.

Hymn of Praise

Michael Morgan, text
NETTLETON

Clap Your Hands, O Faithful People!

Clap your hands, O faithful people! Shout to God a song of praise!

The Most High our land has ransomed, and will reign as Lord always!

Great the majesty around us, sure the paths our feet have trod;

we are claimed as sons and daughters, children of a gracious God.

With a shout and blast of trumpet, God ascends to reign above,

clothed in robes of righteous judgment, crowned with all-redeeming love!

Fill the world with glad rejoicing; heaven sing, and earth reply!

Let the nations rise in wonder all God's works to glorify!

Prayer of Praise

Leslie Townsend

CHRIST, THE LAMB FOR SINNERS GIVEN

A Reading from Acts

Carol Harston

Acts 1:6-14

Prayer of Confession

Carol Harston

We confess that our imagination lacks your vibrant colors and bold hope.

Your unexpected ways conflict with our preference for routines and traditions.

With our world so dramatically changed, we find ourselves stuck.

Like the disciples, we stand looking up toward heaven, unable to imagine how we go on.

Forgive us for neglecting all the power you have bestowed upon us in our baptism.

Open wide our minds to receive your revelation. Amaze us yet again

with your forgiveness. In the name of the Ascended Lord, we pray, Amen.

Words of Assurance – from Ephesians 1

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory,
may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know God.

so that, with the eyes of our heart enlightened,

we may know what is the hope to which God has called us,

what are the riches of God's glorious inheritance among the saints.

And God has put all things under Christ's feet

and has made Christ the head over all things for the church,

which is Christ's body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

HARK! HIS GRACIOUS LIPS BESTOW

The Gospel Lesson

Luke 24:44-53 (Pew Bible page 89 – NT)

Perry Dixon

Sermon

We Are Waiting

STILL HE CALLS THE WORLD HIS OWN

Hymn of Response (158)

DUKE STREET

Jesus Shall Reign

1. Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun
2. Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue
3. Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring

does its suc - ces - sive jour - neys run;
dwell on His love with sweet - est song,
hon - or and glo - ry to our King;

His king - dom spread from shore to shore,
and in - fant voic - es shall pro - claim
an - gels de - scend with songs a - gain,

till moons shall wax and wane no more.
their ear - ly bless - ings on His name.
and earth re - peat the loud "A - men"!

Offertory Prayer	Loren Townsend
Recognition of Graduates	Perry Dixon
News for the Community	Carol Harston
Benediction	Perry Dixon
<p>May God set you free with hearts enlightened, hope restored, and a life overflowing in God's immeasurable greatness.</p>	
Postlude	HANOVER arr. David Cherwien
<i>O Worship the King!</i>	

Leslie and Loren Townsend joined Highland in April 2009. Leslie is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and Spiritual Director in private practice. She is also a published author and poet. Leslie sings in Highland's Sanctuary Choir and serves on Worship Ministry Group. Loren is the Henry Morris Edmonds Professor of Pastoral Ministry, Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling, and Director of the Marriage and Family Therapy Program at the Louisville Presbyterian Seminary. Loren sings in Highland's Sanctuary Choir and serves as Chair of Ministry Council. They are proud parents of four children and six grandchildren and members of the Prodigals Bible Study Class.

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