

You are still speaking,  
O God of Abraham,  
calling the faithful  
to embody  
your dream  
for your world!  
Speak, Lord,  
and give us  
ears to hear!

*~ from Psalm 105*

**HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**JULY 26, 2020**  
**10:00 A.M.**

Invitation to Worship

Jim England

Handbell Introit

DIX  
arr. Austin Echols

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

**COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING,  
TUNE MY HEART O SING THY GRACE**

Call to Worship – from Psalm 105

Renee Purtlebaugh

O give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name,  
make known God's deeds among the peoples.

**Sing to God, sing praises to God;  
tell of all God's wonderful works.**

Remember the wonderful works God has done,  
**God's miracles, and the judgments God uttered,  
O offspring of God's servant Abraham.**

You are still speaking, O God of Abraham,  
**calling the faithful to embody your dream for your world!  
Speak, Lord, and give us ears to hear!**

Hymn of Praise (295)

NETTLETON

*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

**Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise:  
teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I'm come;  
and I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home:  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.**

**O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee:  
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.**

Prayer of Praise

Sally Evans

**STREAMS OF MERCY, NEVER CEASING,  
CALL FOR SONGS OF LOUDEST PRAISE**

Anthem

John Rutter

*All Things Bright and Beautiful*

The Hebrew Lesson

Lauren Jones Mayfield

1 Kings 3:5-15

Prayer of Confession

Carol Harston

You invite us to ask for what we want, but we are not as wise as Solomon. Solomon asked for an understanding mind, but we want so much more. We hoped you might fix our problems, defeat our enemies, promise our success. Forgive us our self-centered thinking. Shape our desires so that we might want something more than the easy, quick, and praised ways of the world. As you forgive, shape our hearts to desire an understanding mind so that our prayers might be satisfied in the searching, our hearts healed in the seeking, and our souls saved by your grace. In the name of Christ who invites us into mystery we pray, Amen.

Words of Assurance

Romans 8:26-28

The Exchange of Peace

Recognition of Jim England

Kathy Collier

Hymn

NETTLETON

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, my Father,  
there is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;  
as Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

*REFRAIN:*

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed,  
Thy hand hath provided; great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *REFRAIN*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mind, with ten thousand beside! *REFRAIN*

TEACH ME SOME MELODIOUS SONNET

The Gospel Lesson

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Jim England

Sermon

*A Peasant's Gospel*

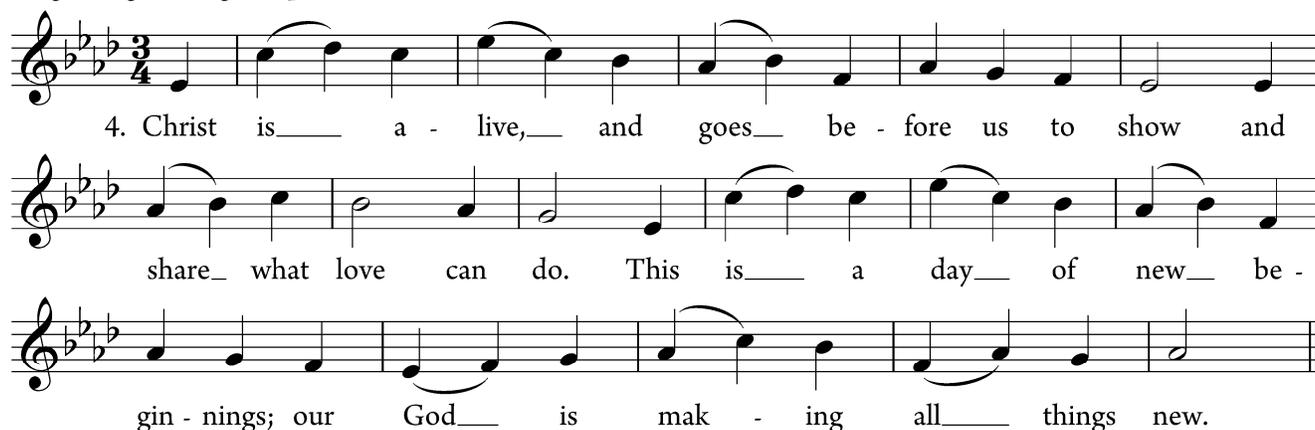
# PRAISE THE MOUNT! I'M FIXED UPON IT, MOUNT OF THY REDEEMING LOVE

Hymn of Response

ST. CLEMENT  
Text, Brian Wren  
Music, David Schwoebel

## *This Is a Day of New Beginnings*

This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember, and move on; time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone. For by the life and death of Jesus, love's mighty Spirit, now as then, can make for us a world of difference as faith and hope are born again. Then let us with the Spirit's daring, step from the past, and leave behind our disappointment, guilt and grieving, seeking new paths and sure to find.



4. Christ is\_\_\_ a - live,\_\_\_ and goes\_\_\_ be - fore us to show and  
share\_ what love can do. This is\_\_\_ a day\_\_\_ of new\_\_\_ be -  
gin - nings; our God\_\_\_ is mak - ing all\_\_\_ things new.

Offertory Prayer

Paige Harlow

News for the Community

Carol Harston

Celebration and Recognition for the Interim Ministry of Rev. Jim England

Roy Fuller, Chair of the Interim Committee

Ministerial Staff

We recognize today the gift of your ministry, Jim, as interim proclaimer here at Highland Baptist Church. Your time with us in this capacity has been rich with blessing, joy, and hard work. We take this moment to celebrate in worship our thanksgiving for you, a child and pastor of God.

Our mission statement says, "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." Jim, you have modeled this well for us.

You have served us faithfully with strength and perseverance. You have laughed and cried with us, challenged and comforted us, preached to us, and served alongside us. You have encouraged us and reminded us that all are precious in God's sight. For this, we humbly give you thanks.

At the start of your interim, we promised to support you in your ministry. We hope you have sensed this support. We agreed to share in the tasks of preaching and teaching, sharing communion and baptism, and fulfilling pastoral duties. We give thanks for the paths and growth we have walked together.

We seek to be a church that gathers in the name of Jesus in our work for justice and in our hopes for liberation and redemption. You have pushed us forward in this way, encouraging us to use the gifts God has given us for grace and welcome here at the corner of Cherokee and Grinstead, and beyond.

As you transition into your next endeavor, may you go with this blessing and assurance that surely you have pointed us toward the worship that is our very lives. For all of this abundance, we say, "Hallelujah, and thank you, Jim."

Benediction

Jim England

Postlude

LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
arr. Alfred V. Fedak

*Let All Things Their Creator Bless*

---

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

We are grateful to Paige Harlow and Sally Evans for their prayers in today's service. They joined Highland in 2013 and are members of the Catch-All Bible Study Class. Sally serves as a deacon and works as a professional voice over artist in the Louisville area. Paige is a graphic designer and together they are the proud parents of Wally and Findley.

We appreciate the music from the Handbell Ensemble for today's service—Mac Brown, Troy Burden, Larry Davis, Rick Finklea, Bill Ockerman, and Sharon Sanders.

Permission to print and stream music obtained from One License #A-726201. All rights reserved.