



With Jesus as our model—  
we are called to step over the lines  
we have drawn for ourselves,  
not because we have to,  
and not because we ought to,  
or even because we want to,  
but because we know that it's God  
who waits for us on the other side.

*~ Barbara Brown Taylor*

**HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**AUGUST 16, 2020**  
**10:00 A.M.**

*Lord, Revive Us*

**O PRAISE THE GRACIOUS POWER THAT TUMBLES WALLS OF FEAR**

Call to Worship – based on Psalm 133 from *Psalms for Praying*

Kathy Collier

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters live together in unity!

**It is like vistas seen from atop a mountain one has climbed,**  
or like the stillness of a sunset after a long day's work.

It is like a shimmering rainbow breaking through a summer rain.

**Love's brilliance allows us all to radiate like the sun.**

**We worship you, Gatherer of Creation, whose inclusive love  
shines brightest when our voices unite in praise.**

Hymn (357)

MARION, text by Thomas Troeger

*O Praise the Gracious Power*

1. O praise the gra-cious power that tum- bles walls of fear  
 2. O praise per- sis- tent truth that o- pens fist- ed minds  
 3. O praise in- clu- sive love en- cir- cling ev- ery race,  
 4. O praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,  
 5. O praise the tide of grace that laps at ev- ery shore  
 6. O praise the power, the truth, the love, the word, the tide.

and gath-ers in one house of faith all stran-gers far and near:  
 and eas-es from their anx- ious clutch the prej- u- dice that binds:  
 ob- liv- i- ous to gen- der, wealth, to so- cial rank or place:  
 a liv- ing tem- ple built on Christ, our rock and cor- ner stone:  
 with vi- sions of a world at peace, no long- er bled by war:  
 Yet more than these, O praise their source, praise Christ the cru- ci- fied:

We praise you Christ! Your cross has made us one!  
 We praise you Christ!

## O PRAISE INCLUSIVE LOVE ENCIRCLING EVERY RACE

Choral Call to Prayer

arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

### *I Will Arise*

I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms, in the arms of my dear Savior, Oh! there are ten thousand charms. Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above, praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, Mount of Thy redeeming love. Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace, streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.

The Hebrew Lesson

Perry Dixon

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Prayer of Confession

Carol Harston

**Holy God, Gatherer of the Outcasts,  
we confess that we fear your love for the stranger.**

We prefer the easy way of categorizing people  
based on societal norms and shallow judgments.

**In the name of safety and certainty,  
we have consumed propaganda and falsehood.**

The outcasts are crying out for justice in the streets.

Do we dare listen and allow our stories to change?

**Gather the outcast parts within us, which we hid  
because we did not trust the world to love our whole selves.**

As you make us whole through forgiveness,  
unify us into one people whose song is love.

**Call us past today's boundaries to find tomorrow's healing on the other side.**

**In the name of Christ, the great boundary-transformer, we pray, Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Anthem

Howard Helvey

### *Hymn of Assurance*

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed His blood. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long; this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long. Perfect submission, perfect delight, vision of rapture now burst on my sight; angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long; this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long. Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with His goodness lost in His love. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long; this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

The Exchange of Peace

Renee Purtlebaugh

## O PRAISE THE WORD OF FAITH THAT CLAIMS US AS GOD'S OWN

The Gospel Lesson

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Matthew 15: 21-28

Sermon

*Woman, Great Is Your Faith!*

## O PRAISE THE POWER, THE TRUTH, THE LOVE

Hymn		Jonathan Crutchfield
	<i>Amazing Grace</i>	
	Nick Claussen, Tenor and Austin Echols, Bass	
Mission Moment and Offertory Prayer		Robert Davis
News for the Community		Renee Purtlebaugh
Benediction		Mary Alice Birdwhistell
Postlude		Johann Pachelbel
	<i>Chorale Prelude on OLD HUNDREDTH</i>	

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We are grateful to Bob Cunningham for today's prayer of praise but most of all for leading Highland's Pastor Search Committee for the past 2.5 years. On the first Sunday of Mary Alice Birdwhistell's leadership as pastor of Highland Baptist Church, we give thanks for those who served with Bob—Alecia Fuller, Kathy Belcher, Noah Cooksey, Michael DeWhatley, Billy Flood, Carolyn King, Earl Shelp, and Tyler Swim.

We appreciate the musical gifts of Nick Claussen in today's service. Nick is one of the Choral Scholars of Highland's Music Ministry. A Louisville native, Nick sings in the Cardinal Singers and will be a junior music education major.

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