

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 8, 2020 ■ 10:00 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Lauren Jones Mayfield

Prelude

Johann Christoph Bach

Wo Gott zum Haus

**WE WILL TELL EACH GENERATION THAT YOU,
OUR GOD, HAVE DONE**

Call to Worship – Based on Psalm 78:1-8

Listen, God's people to our message;
incline your ears to the words from generations long past.
**Our ancestors speak of wonders—they have endured great difficulty
and have told us of the glorious deeds to the Lord.**
Open your ears to God's word and let us tell the next generation that God
can spread a table in the wilderness—we see it with our very eyes.
**Let our children's children set their hope on God as they speak
of our faithfulness during troubling times.**

Hymn of Praise

RESTORATION

We Will Tell Each Generation

Diane Brewer, Soprano, and Libby Cunningham, Soprano

**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.**

**Tell the time of our rebelling—how we wandered from your way,
how your law our love compelling taught us humbly to obey.**

**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.**

Prayer of Praise

Margie Brown

**OUR SINS MAY BE FORGIVEN
THROUGH THE MERCY OF THE GOD**

The Gospel Lesson

Matthew 25:1-13

Perry Dixon

Prayer of Confession

Carol Harston

We confess that we come from a long lineage of Baptists who have used scripture to manipulate, frighten, and terrorize people into faith.
Our solemn assemblies, burnt offerings, and songs have corrupted Jesus' message and broken apart the Body of Christ.
We know the damage Baptist churches have committed because we carry the wounds upon our bodies, minds, and hearts.
Keep us awake with flasks of oil at our side so that we might hold onto hope for your coming
when we will witness justice rolling down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.
May you give us the strength to wait as those who know that love wins in the end.
In the name of Love made flesh, we pray, Amen.

Words of Assurance – The Epistle Lesson

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

The Exchange of Peace

Tyler Swim

Anthem

poetry, Maya Angelou
Music, Tom Trenney

Maya's Prayer for Peace

Father, Mother, God, thank you for your presence during the hard and mean days. For then, for then we have you to lean upon. Thank you. Father, Mother, God, thank you for your presence during the bright and sunny days, for then we can share that which we have with those who have less. Father, Mother, God, thank you for your presence during the holy days, for then we are able to celebrate you, and our families and our friends.

Pastoral Prayer

Renee Purtlebaugh

AS A SHEPHERD YOU HAVE LED US

The Hebrew Lesson

Amos 5:18-24

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Sermon

This Little Light of Mine

BY YOUR HAND STILL LEAD YOUR OWN

Hymn

KINGSFOLD

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

Diane Brewer, Soprano, and Libby Cunningham, Soprano

Today we all are called to be disciples of the Lord,
to help to set the captive free, make plowshare out of sword,
to feed the hungry, quench their thirst, make love and peace our fast,
to serve the poor and homeless first, our ease and comfort last.

Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town to clean us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease,
a world that was created for a harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God act out the living word,
and walk the road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we give thanks to one accord
to God who calls us all to be disciples of the Lord.

Offertory Prayer

Steve Brown

News for the Community

Perry Dixon

Mission Moment

Beverly Breyette

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

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Postlude

Gilbert M. Martin

Cantus

Today in Worship

Phrases from our hymn of praise, *We Will Tell Each Generation*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service—praise, confession, proclamation and response.

We appreciate the musical gifts of Libby Cunningham and Diane Brewer in today's service. Both are sopranos in Highland's Sanctuary Choir. Libby joined Highland in 1996. She has served as a deacon, lead the Young Adult Women's Group, and a member of the Prodigals Bible Study Class. Diane joined Highland in 1997. She is currently serving as a deacon and is a member of the Prodigals Bible Study Class. Diane served on the Pastoral Interim Committee, 2018-2020.

We appreciate the leadership from our lay leaders for today's worship: Steve and Margie Brown joined Highland in 1984. They are in the Challengers Bible Study Class, where Steve serves as the teacher. They are both active in our Wednesday evening dinners. Margie serves as an usher and leads the Jean Janes Women's Group. Steve is the Congregational Representative for Ministry Council and rings in the Adult Handbell Choir.

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