

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 15, 2020 ■ 10:00 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Carol Harston

Prelude

John Ireland

Miniature Suite for Organ
1. Intrada

COME SING, O CHURCH, IN JOY!

Call to Worship

Carol Harston

We come from our ordinary lives into this community of faith to worship God.

Come let us share who we are!

We come with the stories of our lives, the stories of our faith,
the stories of how God has worked in our lives.

Come let us give thanks!

We come with abundance, giving thanks to God, ready to share what we have.

Come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Hymn of Praise

DARWALL

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide,
as we in mission magnify the Crucified!

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Come sing, O church in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long!

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Prayer of Praise

Cathy Ryan

CHRIST THE LORD HAS LED US THROUGH THE AGES LONG

Choral Call to Prayer

BLESSED QUIETNESS

Blessed Quietness
Tenor and Bass Ensemble

Joys are flowing like a river, since the Comforter has come;

He abides with us forever, makes the trusting heart His home.

Blessed quietness, holy quietness, what assurance in my soul!

On the stormy sea He speaks peace to me, how the billows cease to roll!

The Morning Psalm

Kathy Collier

Psalm 123 from *Psalms for Praying*

Prayer of Confession

Perry Dixon

Loving God, we confess that we have long ignored our own wholeness, chasing instead the paths of least resistance and false assurances. We have been afraid, and so we have been stuck between complacency and panic. Forgive us for not loving ourselves as You love us. Help us to see what is true through all the ages: that You are with us, and nothing can take us from You. Amen.

Words of Assurance

1 Thessalonians 5:5-11

The Exchange of Peace

Karen Park

Anthem

HOUSTON
arr. Tom Trenney

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
Tenor and Bass Ensemble

LET COURAGE BE OUR FRIEND, LET WISDOM BE OUR GUIDE

Words of Frederick Buechner

Richard Ryan

You've Been a Good Steward of Your Pain

The Gospel Lesson

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Matthew 25:14-30

Words of Frederick Buechner

Richard Ryan

Life Is Hard as Well as Marvelous

Sermon

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

The Stewardship of Pain

COME CELEBRATE THE JOURNEY NOW AND PRAISE THE LORD

Anthem

Elaine Hagenburg

You Do Not Walk Alone

May you see God's light on the path ahead when the road you walk is dark.
May you always hear, even in your hour of sorrow, the gentle singing of the lark.
When times are hard may hardness never turn your heart to stone.
May you always remember when the shadows fall – you do not walk alone.

Offertory Prayer

Renee Purtlebaugh

News for the Community

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

G.F. Handel

Fugue in C

Today in Worship

Phrases from our hymn of praise, *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service—praise, confession, proclamation and response. Today's music offerings are from three of Highland's Choral Scholars—Nick Claussen and Ben Horman, tenors; Cameron Carnes, baritone.

We appreciate Highland members leading us in worship today: Cathy and Richard Ryan joined Highland in 2018 and are members of the Messengers Bible Study Class. Cathy rings in the handbell choir and Richard sings in Sanctuary Choir. Cathy recently retired after serving as a public school administrator in Southern Indiana for over 30 years. Richard's life career was in church music and serves as a corporate sales trainer.

Karen Park joined Highland in 1999 and serves Highland on Ministry Council and a G.R.O.W. Outreach Team. Karen is retired from Jefferson County Public Schools.

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