

## Today in Worship

Phrases from today's hymn of praise, *Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service — praise, confession, proclamation and response.

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### Notes and News for the Community of Faith

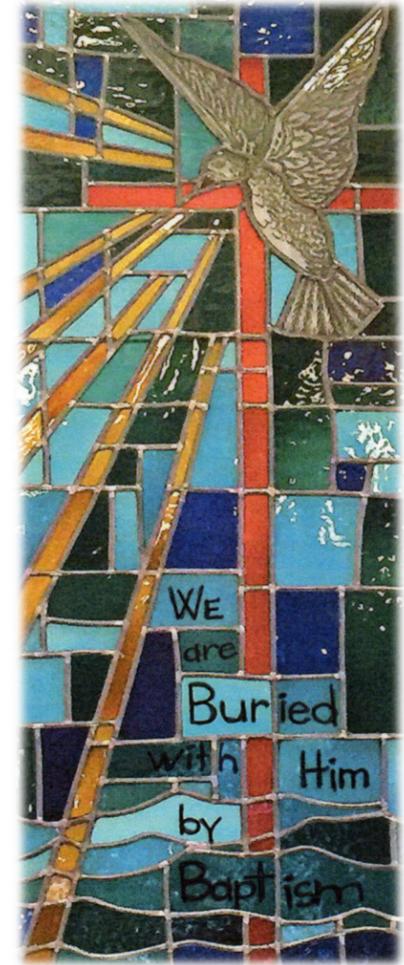
Through the rest of January, **we will continue to meet virtually for worship, and we are asking all other Highland group meetings and gatherings to be virtual as well.** We do not anticipate this being a long-term change and plan to quickly resume in-person gatherings after this COVID spike. Thank you for your flexibility and understanding as we continue to discern the most faithful next steps together.

**This year, we are inviting all of Highland to read *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity* by Robert P. Jones.** This book was chosen for the city-wide book club by Empower West last fall, and our friend, Dr. Lewis Brogdon, interviewed the author at a CBF Kentucky and Baptist Seminary of Kentucky event this fall as well. After consulting with several church leaders and friends of Highland, we believe that Jones' book speaks to this particular moment in Highland's story and will be a helpful tool for our continued conversation. We are currently working on new book group plans in light of Highland's decision to meet virtually this month, and we will be in touch with more information.

In our last QCC, **Highland approved funding for an ad hoc committee to begin working with a consultant to guide us in our upcoming capital campaign** as we prepare for our HVAC renovation and additional building updates and repairs that may accompany this project. After seeking several bids last fall, we have chosen to move forward with Ashley I Rountree and Associates, a local agency that works with nonprofits and churches. We are eager to get started in our work together in this timely and important project! Some of you may be contacted as early as this week asking you to participate in initial interviews with representatives from Ashley I Rountree as part of our feasibility study for the capital campaign. More information will be available in this week's newsletter, too. Thank you for joining with us as we seek to be good stewards of our physical space and to invest in the continued work of Love at Grinstead and Cherokee!

With water freely flowing  
we celebrate new birth,  
in sacred sign expressing  
God's love for all on earth.  
The Well of Living Water  
springs up for us this day;  
engulfed by love's acceptance,  
our fears are washed away.

~ Larry E. Schultz



## HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

*A thinking, feeling, healing community of faith*

*Our Mission...* 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.

**Jerre and Frank Bassett**  
CUSTODIANS

**Kathy Collier**  
MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP

**Megan Fuller**  
INTERIM CHILDREN AND  
FAMILY MINISTRY ASSISTANT

**Walter McWhorter**  
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

**Mary Alice Birdwhistell**  
PASTOR

**Cheryl Davis**  
OFFICE MANAGER

**Lillian Glover**  
PASTORAL INTERN

**Karen Park**  
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR

**Fred Bogert**  
MUSIC DIRECTOR  
TO FRIDAY CHURCH

**Perry Dixon**  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH  
AND THEIR FAMILIES

**Kathleen Gordon**  
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

**Erin Phelps**  
PASTORAL INTERN

**Don Burke**  
PASTOR EMERITUS

**Austin Echols**  
ORGANIST AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE

**Lauren Jones Mayfield**  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUNG  
ADULTS AND MISSIONS

**Renee Purtlebaugh**  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN  
AND THEIR FAMILIES

**Bill Campbell**  
DEACON CHAIR

## HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY

JANUARY 9, 2022

10:00 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Jim England

Anthem

Craig Courtney

*Be Not Afraid*

Prelude

Wilber Head

*CHRISTE SANCTORUM*

**YOU ARE THE TRUTH, OUR HOPE, AND OUR SALVATION**

**PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING BE TO GOD OUR MAKER**

The Gospel Lesson

Jim England

Luke 3:15-22

Call to Worship

Erin Phelps

Sermon

The voice of God resounds upon the water.

**The Spirit of the Lord hovers over the stream.**

The Son of God is named, "Beloved."

**And all who worship shout out, "Glory!"**

Ascribe to the Lord majesty and strength.

**Let us worship God in holy splendor.**

**HERE NOW RENEW YOUR CHURCH**

Hymn of Response

MERLE'S TUNE

*With Water Freely Flowing*

Hymn of Praise

CHRISTE SANCTORUM

Offertory Prayer

Perry Dixon

*Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God*

Prayer of Praise

Erin Phelps

News for the Community

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

**COME, HOLY SPIRIT, COME IN VISITATION**

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.**

The Hebrew Lesson

Perry Dixon

Isaiah 43:1-7

Prayer of Confession

Renee Purtlebaugh

Benediction

Jim England

**Holy One, You have promised to walk alongside us through all hardship and struggle. Yet even**

**with your promises and reminders, fear - far greater than what is within the helpful bounds of**

**our God-given emotions - somehow takes root so deeply within us that our entire beings are**

**consumed. Forgive us. Recenter us. Call to our memory again moments where Your Spirit**

**has enveloped us, called out our names and carried us through. Amen.**

Postlude

Johann Christoph Bach

*Wo Gott zum Haus*

Words of Assurance – A Reading from Acts

Acts 8:14-17

The Exchange of Peace