



I will have nothing to do
with a God who cares
only occasionally.
I need a God
who is with us always,
everywhere,
in the deepest depths
as well as the highest heights.
It is when things go wrong,
when the good things
do not happen,
when our prayers
seem to have been lost,
that God is most present.
We do not need
the sheltering wings
when things go smoothly.
We are closest to God
in the darkness,
stumbling along blindly.

~ Madeline L'Engle

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 27, 2022

8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Jim England

Meditation

Mendelssohn

Andante from Symphony No. 5
Highland Strings

CONTRITION AND GRATITUDE

The Gospel Lesson †

Renee Purtlebaugh

Luke 13:31-35 (Pew Bible page 75 – NT)

Prayer of Confession

Mary Ida Gray

Gather us, O God, as a mother hen gathers her chicks.
You are our hiding place, O God.

Anthem

arr. David Cherwein

If You But Trust in God to Guide You
Stephanie Hall, Flute; Roman Wood, Cello

† *Please join the choir on the final stanza:*

**Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving; offer your service faithfully,
and trust God's word, though undeserving,
there find the truth to set you free;
God will not fail to guide and bless those who embrace God's faithfulness.**

Words of Assurance – from Psalm 32

Lauren Jones Mayfield

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble.
I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

The Exchange of Peace

Lenten Refrain

LINDNER
text, Brian Wren

Holy Is the Dark

Ho - ly is the dark, ho - ly, hid - den God, roll - ing cloud of
night be - yond all nam - ing: maj - es - ty in dark - ness,
en - er - gy of love, Word - in - flesh, the mys - ter - y pro - claim - ing.

A Prayer from the Shadows

Jim England

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Hymn (186) †

HAMBURG
arr. Fred Mallory

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Please sing all stanzas in unison.

Prayer of Praise

Marc Dowell

PROCLAMATION AND REFLECTION

The Hebrew Lesson

Genesis 32:22-32 (Pew Bible page 29 – OT)

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Sermon

Wrestling with God in the Dark

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

RENEWAL AND RESPONSE

Hymn of Response (516) †

AR HYD Y NOS

Day Is Done, but Love Unfailing

Offertory Prayer

Libby Cunningham

Choral Offertory

arr. Eric Nelson

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

News for the Community

Renee Purtlebaugh

In response to your decision, **we welcome you! We covenant to be the family of God for you in this place. We hope to learn from you, give to you, and receive from you, as we journey in faith together.**

Doxology †

WONDROUS LOVE

**To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing!
To God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I AM," while millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing!**

Benediction

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Postlude

J. S. Bach

*Wer nur den lieben Gott läßt walten
BWV 642*

† *For those who are able, we invite you to stand.*

Today in Worship

Highland's deacons (wearing identification name tags) are available at various locations for prayer, questions or information. Deacons are lay ministers of the church who have been called to a ministry of service.

Tamara Scantland Adams, Highland member and local artist, created the original art for our Lenten bulletins and publications. Please express your gratitude to Tamara for sharing her gifts to enrich our Lenten journey. We appreciate the gifts of leadership in today's services: to Mary Ida Gray, member of the Worship Ministry Group for the Prayer of Confession; to Stephanie Hall and Roman Wood for their gifts of music; and to Highland's String Ensemble, Bruce Maples, Director.

Listening Assist Devices are available. Please see our sound technician or an usher for assistance.

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Notes and News for the Community of Faith

- **Palm Sunday on the Lawn—April 10 from 3:00-5:00 PM:** We hope to enjoy a beautiful spring day together on Highland's lawn. **There will be activities for all ages**, including an Easter egg hunt for children, trivia for the adults, cross-necklace making (for all ages) with wooden crosses from Chip Miller, giant Jenga, cornhole, a bounce house, gaga ball, and more! Bring a lawn chair to listen to the sounds of the Friday Church musicians. **We hope you will join us for a fun day to re-connect with the Highland family as we begin Holy Week together.**
- ***Learning to Walk in the Dark*—A Wednesday Night Book Club on March 30 and April 13**
As we continue our Lenten journey, join us in reading this book by Barbara Brown Taylor and our Wednesday evening discussions at 6:15 PM. March 30 in Fellowship Hall and April 13 in the sanctuary.
- **Church-Wide Theology on Tap for Lent**—Need a new TV show to watch? You could check out Netflix's horror drama *Midnight Mass*! **On April 7, the Young Adults Ministry Group will be hosting a Theology on Tap that is open to all adults!** In the spirit of Lent, Mary Alice and Erin will be leading a discussion about *Midnight Mass* and its themes of darkness, religion, and more. We will gather starting at 6 PM with discussion beginning around 6:30. (Location TBA). Hope you can join us for some spiritual reflections on popular culture!
- **You are invited to purchase Easter lilies** for \$15 in memory/in honor/in appreciation of a family member, friend, or loved one. You may submit payment and information through Highland's website at <https://hbclouisville.org/2022/03/08/easter-lilies/> or contact Cheryl in the church office at 502-451-3735 or cheryl@hbclouisville.org.
- **Holy Week Services—On April 14, we will gather for our Maundy Thursday service at 7 PM.** We will meet in the Fellowship Hall for a simple, moving service of communion, hymns, scripture, and hand washing, and Sally Evans will offer a Lenten reflection. **On April 15, we will meet for the Tenebrae service at 7 PM** in the sanctuary. This Service of Darkness commemorates Christ's suffering and crucifixion through music and Scripture. **Join us for both of these beloved Highland traditions as we continue to journey together through the dark.**



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

Mary Alice Birdwhistell
PASTOR

Fred Bogert
MUSIC DIRECTOR
TO FRIDAY CHURCH

Molly Braun
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR

Don Burke
PASTOR EMERITUS

Bill Campbell
DEACON CHAIR

Kathy Collier
MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP

Cheryl Davis
OFFICE MANAGER

Austin Echols
ORGANIST AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE

Jim England
INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Sally Evans
INTERIM MINISTER TO YOUTH

Megan Fuller
CHILDREN AND FAMILY
MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Lillian Glover
PASTORAL INTERN

Kathleen Gordon
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Lauren Jones Mayfield
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUNG
ADULTS AND MISSIONS

Walter McWhorter
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Erin Phelps
PASTORAL INTERN

Renee Purtlebaugh
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN
AND THEIR FAMILIES