

We have lived by the assumption
that what was good for us
would be good for the world.
We have been wrong.
We must change our lives,
so that it will be possible to live
by the contrary assumption
that what is good for the world
will be good for us...
We must recover the sense of the majesty
of creation and the ability
to be worshipful in its presence.
For it is only on the condition of humility
and reverence before the world
that our species will be able to remain in it.

~ Wendell Berry

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
FEBRUARY 12, 2023
8:45 and 11:15 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Renee Purtlebaugh

Prelude

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

Basse et Dessus de Trompette

**THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY,
THERE'S A KINDNESS IN GOD'S JUSTICE**

Call to Worship

Rick Finklea (8:45)
Barbara Fairleigh (11:15)

We gather and listen for a word that reveals who you are.

We long for a word that guides and shapes who we are in this very moment.

Today, we claim your invitation to reframe what it means to follow you.

We remember that you call us to love both our neighbors and our enemies.

We remember that to follow you, we are to mend relationships, make commitments with integrity,
and practice loving all.

As we worship, may your vision be our own.

Processional Hymn (158) †

DUKE STREET

Jesus Shall Reign

Prayer of Praise

Rick Finklea (8:45)
Barbara Fairleigh (11:15)

Glory to the Creator †

MEINEKE

Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Spirit, One.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

FOR WE MAKE GOD'S LOVE TOO NARROW BY FALSE LIMITS OF OUR OWN

The Hebrew Lesson

Lauren Jones Mayfield

Deuteronomy 30:15-18 (Pew Bible page 185—OT)

Anthem

Jane Marshall

He Comes to Us

He comes to us as One unknown

without a name, as of old, by the lakeside

He came, He came to those who knew Him not.

He speaks to us, He speaks the same word,

“Follow. Follow. Follow thou me!”

and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfill for our time.

He commands. And to those who are wise or simple,

He will reveal Himself,

in the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings,

which they shall learn in their experience.

O Morning Star.

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

Prayer of Confession

Erin Phelps

Holy God, **we confess to you that our hearts are tempted to turn away.**

When we are complicit in systems of racism, homophobia, transphobia, and ableism,
our hearts have turned away.

When we are caught up in routines that lead us to chase status and worship money,
our hearts have turned away.

When we ignore those in need because it just feels too overwhelming
our hearts have turned away.

**Forgive us, Lord, for the times our hearts have turned away. Keep our hearts turned towards you
and towards your life-giving will in our world. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Exchange of Peace

Hymn of Assurance (273) †

MCKEE

In Christ There is No East or West

AND WE MAGNIFY GOD'S STRICTNESS WITH A ZEAL GOD WILL NOT OWN

The Gospel Lesson †

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Matthew 5:21-26, 33-37, 43-48 (Pew Bible pages 4-5—NT)
Children grades K-2 may be dismissed for Children's Worship (11:15)

Sermon

"You Have Heard it Said . . . But I Say to You"

**IF OUR LOVE WERE BUT MORE SIMPLE AND OUR LIVES
WOULD BE MORE LOVING IN THE LIKENESS OF OUR LORD**

Hymn of Response (41) †

WELLESLEY

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Mission Moment and Offertory Prayer

Larry Hoover

Offertory

J. S. Bach

If Thou Art Near

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.**

News for the Community

Justin Sizemore

**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.**

For the ministries that shape the life of our community, thanks be to God.

Benediction

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Postlude

arr. Hal Hopson

Variations on DUKE STREET

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.

Phrases from today's hymn of response, *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service — praise, confession, proclamation and response.

The flowers on the chancel today are given by Mary and Greg Clark in loving memory of Jim Clark, who passed away February 16, 2022.

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

- **We look forward to welcoming Angela Williams Gorrell to worship next Sunday.** Angela preached at Highland virtually in spring 2021, and many of you connected with her over her book, *The Gravity of Joy: A Story of Being Lost and Found*. You're invited to join us after 11:15 worship next week for a lunch conversation and Q&A with Angela facilitated by Bob Cunningham. The cost of the box lunch is \$10/person and can be paid online or with cash/check made out to Highland. To RSVP, please email Erin Phelps (erin@hbclouisville.org) by Wednesday, February 15.
- **True Colors, Highland's LGBTQ+ focused ministry team, is bringing back LGBTeTea the second Sunday of each month,** right after the 11:15 AM service. **Today we will meet on the stage in the Fellowship Hall.** LGBTeTea Time gives casual space for Highland's LGBTQ+ community (including allies) to connect. Interested? Please stop by our first session today right after service!
- **Join us on Wednesday, February 15 at 6:15 PM to discuss *Resurrection Hope: A Future Where Black Lives Matter*.** Author Kelly Brown Douglas is an African American Episcopal priest, womanist theologian, and the inaugural Dean of the Episcopal Divinity School at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. She is also the Canon Theologian at the Washington National Cathedral. This April, she will be in Louisville to receive the Grawemeyer Award in Religion for this important work, *Resurrection Hope*.
- **Looking Ahead:**
 - Tuesday, February 14: Senior Adult Valentine's Luncheon, 11:30 AM (RSVP to David Wells by tomorrow)
 - Wednesday, February 22: Ash Wednesday Service, 6:15 PM
 - Sunday, February 26: Lenten Hymn Service featuring organist Robert Lee, 5:00 PM



**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.

David Bannister
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR

Jerre and Frank Bassett
CUSTODIANS

Mary Alice Birdwhistell
PASTOR

Fred Bogert
MUSIC DIRECTOR
TO FRIDAY CHURCH

Troy Burden
DEACON CHAIR

Don Burke
PASTOR EMERITUS

Cheryl Davis
OFFICE MANAGER

John Dickson
INTERIM MINISTER OF MUSIC
AND WORSHIP

Megan Fuller
CHILDREN AND FAMILY
MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Kathleen Gordon
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Lauren Jones Mayfield
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR CARE
AND JUSTICE

Walter McWhorter
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Erin Phelps
PASTORAL EDUCATION INTERN

Renee Purtlebaugh
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN
AND THEIR FAMILIES

Sharon Sanders
INTERIM ORGANIST
AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE

Justin Sizemore
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH
AND YOUNG ADULTS