



Joy is seeing softly.
Opening our capacity
to envision the edges,
the possibilities just beyond
our normal field of vision.
And then we bear witness
to what we've seen.

~ Diana Butler Bass

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

ASCENSION SUNDAY

MAY 21, 2023

8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

HAIL THE DAY THAT SEES HIM RISE, ALLELUIA!

Prelude *God of Heaven and Earth (from Op. 65)* Sigfrid Karg-Elert (8:45)
Thy Great Name We Praise Douglas E. Wagoner (11:15)
Children's Handbells
Rick Finklea, director

Opening Words Fran White (8:45)
Ainsley Braun (11:15)

Shout to God with songs of great joy!
Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!
God is making us whole.
God calls us to a ministry of hope and love.
Come, let us celebrate the love of God!
Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully. AMEN.

Processional Hymn (219) † LLANFAIR
Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

Prayer of Praise † Fran White (8:45)
Ainsley Braun (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.

Anthem James Biery
Sing Praises to God
Neil Barton, trumpet

YET HE LOVES THE EARTH HE LEAVES, ALLELUIA!

The Epistle Lesson Renee Purtlebaugh
Acts 1:1-11 (Pew Bible page 115—NT)

Prayer of Confession Erin Phelps
God, we are beings with limitations. And we confess that we use our limitations as excuses for inaction.
We make assumptions that create narrow narratives about your will.
We turn to the skies looking for you, forgetting that the Spirit is among us.
We wonder where you are and ignore the ways you have given us power to act as members of your beloved family.
Forgive us, O God, for our narrow understanding of your presence. ***Amen***

Words of Assurance

Exchange of Peace †

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

HE HAS CONQUERED DEATH AND SIN, ALLELUIA!

Hymn of Assurance †

BRYN CALFARIA

God You Rule with Royal Bearing



God, you rule with roy - al bear - ing, clothed in glo - ry, love, and light:
In its ev - er last - ing sta - tion earth is fixed to quake no more;
God, the words your lips are tell - ing are the per - fect and the true.

you have robbed your - self ma - jes - tic, robbed your - self with power and might.
you have laid your throne's foun - da - tion; you your - self are ev - er - more.
In you high e - ter - nal dwell - ing, ho - li - ness shall live with you.

Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

God who rules in depth and height! God who rules in depth and height.
God, you are for - ev - er more! God, you are for - ev - er more.
God, your word is ev - er true! God, your word is ev - er true.

The Gospel Lesson †

Luke 24:44-53 (Pew Bible page 89—NT)

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Sermon

Bearing Witness

Children grades K-2 may be dismissed for Children's Worship (11:15)

Hymn of Response (473) †

KELVINGROVE

Will You Come and Follow Me

TAKE THE KING OF GLORY IN, ALLELUIA

Offertory Prayer †

Christy Chesnut (8:45)
Luke Riley (11:15)

Offertory

Trumpet Concerto, No. VII -Andante

Joseph Haydn

Doxology †

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below,
O praise God, Alleluia!*

*Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One,
O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

News for the Community and Recognition of High School Graduates

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 †

Justin Sizemore

Postlude

R.S. Groves

Postlude on "LLANFAIR"

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 processional hymn, *Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service — praise, confession, proclamation and response.

We thank Dr. John Dickson for his musical leadership today and Neil Barton for sharing his musical gifts with us.

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

- **Please join us this evening at 6:00 for a service of music provided by Highland's youngest musicians, walking toddlers through the fifth grade.** Four choirs gather weekly on Wednesday evenings and will share music, scripture, and movement activities. This service will be also be live-streamed. Everyone is invited to enjoy popsicles on the playground following the program!
- **Global Mission Offering**—Throughout May, we are hearing about CBF field personnel whose presence is making an impact around the world and raising funds for the Global Mission Offering, which supports more than 50 field personnel in 18 countries. **Please prayerfully consider your contribution to this work of Love.** You may give online on the HBC website or by check, noting Missions Offering on the memo line.
- **Orchestra Spring Concert is coming up this week!** The HBC Orchestra will have their first spring concert in three years on Wednesday, May 24, and you're invited! Join us in the sanctuary at 6:15 PM for music both serious and fun.
- **Order your HBC Pride shirt today!** \$15-Youth, \$20-Adult. Signup through the link sent out in this week's newsletter, on Facebook, OR there is a signup form in the commons. **Deadline is tonight at midnight.** Profits will go to supporting the True Colors ministry, and t-shirts will arrive by early June before the Kentuckiana Pride Festival.
- This is the last week of Wednesday night dinner for the semester. **We would like to extend a special thank you to Kathy Belcher, Troy Burden, Becky Dickson, Erin Phelps, and Marilyn Whisler for their planning and support as we finished the year without a caterer.**
- **Looking Ahead:**
 - Thursday, June 8: Mary Alice and Evan's Church-Wide Wedding Reception, 6:00-9:00 PM at The Pointe
 - Thursday, June 15: Drag Revival: A Pride Family-Friendly Spiritual Night of Music and Joy at Highland Community Ministries, 7:00-9:00 PM
 - Saturday, June 17: Kentuckiana Pride Parade and Festival
 - Sunday, June 18: Pride Sunday



**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

Troy Burden
DEACON CHAIR

Kathleen Gordon
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Erin Phelps
INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Jerre and Frank Bassett
CUSTODIANS

Don Burke
PASTOR EMERITUS

Paul Henderson
MINISTER OF MUSIC
AND WORSHIP

Renee Purtlebaugh
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN
AND THEIR FAMILIES

Mary Alice Birdwhistell
PASTOR

Cheryl Davis
OFFICE MANAGER

Lauren Jones Mayfield
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR CARE
AND JUSTICE

Sharon Sanders
INTERIM ORGANIST
AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE

Fred Bogert
MUSIC DIRECTOR
TO FRIDAY CHURCH

Megan Fuller
CHILDREN AND FAMILY
MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Walter McWhorter
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Justin Sizemore
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH
AND YOUNG ADULTS