



Founded 1890

HIGHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Love God, Love Our Neighbors, Share God's Hope

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Rev. Raymond R. Meute, Jr., Pastor
Rev. Dr. William J. Netting, Pastor Emeritus

February 8, 2026

10:00 AM

Order of Worship

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 8, 2026

***The Family of Believers Comes Together
Responding to Christ's Call***

A Word of Encouragement

"You are the light of the world."

-Jesus

Prelude

Ringling of Church Bell

Life in the Church

The Church in Action

Lighting of the Christ Candle – *based on Matthew 5:15*

"People do not light a lamp and put it under a bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house."

The Christ candle burns to give light to the whole church. And Jesus said that you and I are the light of the world.

Call to Worship (Responsively) – *based on Psalm 112*

People of God, praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Happy are those who fear the Lord, those who greatly delight in his commandments.

Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

We who gather are broken yet holy; sinners at heart yet fully redeemed. We are God's very own, called together here this day.

Let us sing. Let us pray. Let us join in worship. Praise the Lord!

* **Hymn** “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” Hymnal #65

***Call to Confession**

The more we know God's holiness, the more we can sense our distance from our creator. The more we seek justice and faithful living, the more we understand our complicity in systems that oppress. With humble hearts, let us confess our brokenness, our selfishness and our sin.

***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

Gracious God, we confess that it is harder to do than we expected, this life of faith. You call us to be salt of the earth and to live lives of justice and righteousness and love. But our lives become busy. Following what others do is just easier. And sometimes the cost of doing what is right seems too high. One day, perhaps, we will commit more fully, but the status quo works better for us right now.

Forgive us, we pray. Startle our senses and disrupt our routines. Renew in us the passion for doing what is right in your eyes, and inspire us to be sources of your light in the world. May we, like the prophets and the saints, act by faith no matter how high the cost.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness (Responsively) – *from Isaiah 58: 6-9

“Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?”

“Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin?”

“Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

“Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

We are blessed to know that very light which breaks forth. We know God's love and grace through Jesus Christ.

**Through Christ, our sins are forgiven, and we know new life.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

***Congregational Response** “Gloria Patri”

Hymnal #581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without
end. **Amen, Amen.**

Anthem “I Want Your Light to Shine” M. Lawrence/D. Clydesdale

Chancel Choir

Time with Young Followers of Jesus and Noisy Offering

*** Hymn** “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me” Hymnal #700

Epistle Reading

I Corinthians 2: 1-12

P. 166

Gospel Reading

Matthew 5: 13-20

P. 4

This is the gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

Message “You are Repairer, Restorer, Salt, and Light”

Affirmation of Faith (Unison) – *from The Confession of 1967*

**We believe: The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of
Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church’s mission. His
human life involves the church in the common life of all people.**

His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong.

The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So, to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

All that we know, and all that we have, comes from God. In gratitude for all that God has given us, let us give back to God what was God's to begin with in the form of our gifts and offerings.

Offertory

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Accept these, our gifts, almighty God, as a statement of our faith. May our offering bring goodness and light wherever it is needed. May our communities of faith be bearers of your light. And may we be sources of that same light to the world in all we say and do. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn "Today We Are Called to Be Disciples" Hymnal #757

Parting Greeting

--Today, February 8, is our **Annual Congregational Meeting** immediately following worship in Netting Hall. A luncheon will be enjoyed together prior to the meeting. Please find a copy of the Annual Report in the foyer outside the sanctuary to read in preparation for the meeting. The report is also on the opening page of the church website when you scroll to the bottom:

www.highlandpresbyterianchurch.org.

--Tuesday, 6:30 PM **Deacons** meeting in the library.

--Wednesday, 10:00 AM **Mason-Dixon Ministerium** meeting at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church; 7:30 PM **Chancel Choir** rehearsal in the sanctuary.

--Next Sunday, 11:15 AM – Noon, **Confirmation Class** begins meeting.

--"**Har-Go Rides**" is a community initiative sponsored by Presbyterian Home of Maryland with the goal of providing low-cost rides to Medical Appointments for seniors in the Harford County area. We are looking for drivers and clients to get our program started. For more information, email us at rides@hargorides.org, call us at 667-469-8244, or visit our website at www.hargorides.org.

Benediction

Choral Benediction “Dona Nobis Pacem”

Postlude

Thank you – to Paul Forrest Cowl and Jenny Lijoi for serving as our Worship assistants this morning. Also, thank you to Nancy Jones, Organist; Ian Fallon, Pianist; and Stacey Scarff, Director of Music, for the wonderful music today – all of our Worship is to the Glory of God!

Highland Happenings

Upcoming Events

- Saturday, February 14, 9a-11a Threads of Hope Shopping Day
- Saturday, March 14th Spaghetti Dinner

Mason Dixon Food Bank

Mason Dixon Community Services is requesting Manwich, tomato sauce, and tomato paste. Please help us to help our neighbors in this time of need. Please place your donations in the basket in the narthex.

Pastoral Study Hours

Monday through Wednesday, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm, with exceptions. It is always best to make an appointment.

Volunteers Needed

Greeters/Coffee Hour – please sign up at the table near the coffee area if you would like to be a greeter before church or if you would like to provide snacks and coffee after church.

Sanctuary Flowers – please sign up on the board outside the sanctuary if you would like to provide flowers.

****National Suicide Prevention Hotline –
1-800-273-8255** or Dial 988**

Please reach out if you or someone you know needs help.

Prayer List

+Denotes New Addition

THANKSGIVING FOR:

Highland Presbyterian Church

INTERCESSIONS FOR:

+Family of Valerie Wilson Keck (Mary Beverly Gallagher)

+Donald Jones (Dave Derickson)

+Scott Hammond (Craig DeRan)

+Family of Ted Weeks (Claudia Scarborough)

the Linda Caldwell Family (Koren Buehler)

the Alex Pretti Family (Craig DeRan)

the John Kramer Family (Nancy Jones)

Family of Renee Nicole Good (Craig DeRan)

Marc Manzo (Susan Summerfield)

Healthcare workers (Stacey Scarff)

Judy Taylor (Steve Taylor)

Wilson Tharpe (Claudia Scarborough)

Art Noble (Donna Noble)

Carole DeRan (Craig DeRan)

LONG-TERM PRAYERS NEEDED:

Helene Mackey (Pastor Ray)

Bill Netting (Dave Thompson)

Jeanie Rainey (Donna Noble)

Jenny Smith (Kim Goode)

Jean Bullen (Pastor Ray)

Debbie and Family (Kathy Watson)

Jim Lawrence (Debbie Mezzatesta)

Valerie Keck (Mary Beverly Gallagher)

Grace Christman

Tommy Amrein (Eley Welkner)

Mike Mills (Wilson)

Molly & Sisters (Rose)

Margaret (Elaine & Sandy)

Michael Yarrington (Amos family)

Paul (Ian Fallon)

Gail Hartman (Lucy Hollens)

Frank Thayer (Dolly)

Sam Jones (Sarah DeBaugh)

Heidi and Stu Richardson

Ruth Noble (mother-in-law of Donna Noble)

Dorothy Shahan (Julie-Anna Flaherty)

Tom Bulleit (Eley Welkner)

Joy Merryman (Nancy Jones)

MINISTRIES AND MISSIONS:

Baltimore-Dakota Partnership Mission

All people & their loved ones suffering from addictions and outcomes

Presbytery of Baltimore

Susquehanna Parish – Christ Our King PC

All Leadership, HPC Legacy Bldg. Team

Local Mission—Day Shelter – New Hope

Community Church

OUR MILITARY:

Peter Barndt, USN

Cathy Durand Cantu, USCG

Ryan Richardson, USNR

COMMUNITY, NATION & WORLD:

Children, elderly, and disabled people without S.N.A.P. support

Justice and the rule of law

Families suffering from loss of federal and medical assistance

Safety in Minneapolis & thanks for their demonstration of neighbor love

Economic uncertainty

Truth to guide all world, national & local events

Peace & restraint in Middle East conflicts

Peaceful & just end to Russian invasion of Ukraine

Immigrants and US citizens being deported and families being separated

Comfort to those living in fear

World Council of Church Prayer Cycle: Andorra, Italy, Malta, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Vatican City