



Founded 1890

HIGHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sharing Christ's Love and Growing Disciples

701 Highland Road, Street, Maryland 21154

(410) 452-9394



email: followchrist@highlandpresbyterianchurch.org
<http://www.highlandpresbyterianchurch.org>



Rev. Raymond R. Meute, Jr., Pastor

March 23, 2025

10:00 AM

THE LORD'S DAY

Order of Worship

Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

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

A Word of Encouragement

*“Breathing in and enjoy it. Breathing out and enjoy it. And be one with your in-breath,
be one with your out-breath, become fully alive, fully present in the here and the now.
That is nothing less than a miracle, that you can produce at any time in your daily life” –
Thich Nhat Han, Anonymous Contributor*

Prelude

Ring of Church Bell

Life in the Church

The Church in Action

Lighting of the Christ Candle -- based upon Isaiah 55:6

“Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near....” The Christ candle is lit, inviting us to put aside our swirling thoughts and to entertain the thoughts of the Lord, to the extent that we can grasp them.

Call to Worship (Responsively)

Is anyone thirsty?

Come and drink!

Is anyone hungry?

(* - Please stand as you are able)

Enjoy the finest foods at the table of the Lord!

What more do we need?

The Lord has made an everlasting covenant and promised unfailing love.

We will worship God.

***Hymn** “As a Chalice Cast of Gold” Hymnal #429

Invitation to Confession -- *Isaiah 55: 6-7

The prophet Isaiah instructs us to seek and to call upon the Lord. The prophet pleads with the wicked to forsake their way, with the unrighteous to forsake their thoughts. The prophet invites them to return to the Lord that he may have mercy on them and assures them that our God will abundantly pardon. Let us seek God, let us call upon the Lord, knowing that we will be received with mercy and abundant forgiveness.

***Prayer of Confession** (Unison) – *Luke 13*

Merciful God, we confess that we have been quick to judge others and slow to make changes in our own lives. We confess that we have focused on others' shortcomings instead of reforming our own.
Turn us, O Lord, from these ways that lead to perishing. Lead us, O Lord, in your ways that lead to abundant life. (*Time for Silent Confession.*) In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of God's Forgiveness**

God speaks through the prophet Isaiah: my thoughts are not your thoughts nor are your ways my ways. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways. Let us find peace in God's ways of mercy and grace knowing that we are forgiven. **Amen.**

***Congregational Response** “Gloria Patri” Hymnal #581

Prophetic Reading *Isaiah 55: 1-9* P. 685

(* - Please stand as you are able)

Choir Anthem

“Take Root In My Heart”

Frombach and Courtney

Chancel Choir

Psalm Reading Psalm 63: 1-8

P. 527

Time with Young Disciples and Noisy Offering**Hymn** “Hear the Good News of Salvation”

Hymnal #441

Gospel Reading

Luke 13: 1-9

P. 76

This is the gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!**Message**

“Everlasting”

Affirmation of Faith (Unison) - *from the Confession of 1967, Inclusive Language Text***God’s sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind.****Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God’s love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God’s love.****God has created the world of space and time to be the sphere of God’s dealings with humankind. In its beauty and vastness, sublimity and awfulness, order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of faith the majesty and mystery of its Creator.****Invitation to the Offering**

The Confession of 1967 reminds us that “Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage.” God has given each of us and all of us a variety of gifts and we are grateful. As an act of worship, let us commit to returning those gifts to God and God’s service.

Offertory***Doxology***(* - Please stand as you are able)*

***Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious God, you give to us out of your abundance. For the material gifts and the spiritual gifts, you give us, we thank you. We dedicate these gifts of time and talents and tithes to you and ask that you continue to lead us as we use these gifts to join your work in this community. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

***Hymn**

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

Hymnal #182

Parting Greeting

--Today: **Healing Prayer** immediately after worship in front of sanctuary.

--6:00 PM Lenten Wednesday Worship “**Dinner Church**” at **Highland Presbyterian Church** in Netting Hall. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share and use this form to indicate what you will bring:

<https://forms.gle/2QwZndZbTRDDiavc8>. The services are based on the book Meeting Jesus at the Table.

--Friday, 7:30 AM **Men's Breakfast** at Delta Family Restaurant; 7 PM **Teens** “Paint Night.”

--Next Sunday, **Breakfast Church Worship** in Netting Hall at 10 AM. We will honor George and Carolyn Patrinicola for their faithful service and celebrate one special birthday!

Benediction

Choral Benediction “Dona Nobis Pacem”

Postlude

Thank You ~ to Braylen Gray and Steve Taylor for serving as our Worship assistants this morning. Also, thank you to Nancy Jones, Organist and Ian Fallon, Pianist for the wonderful music today~all of our Worship is to the Glory of God!

(* - Please stand as you are able)

FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF 2/28/25

Receipts

General	\$11,833
Missions	\$578
Building	\$499

Disbursements

General	(\$14,103)
Missions	(\$0)
Building	\$0

Net Income

General	(\$2,270)
Missions	\$578
Building	\$499

Reconciled Fund Balances 2/28/25

General	\$50,440
Missions	\$7,595
Building	<u>\$9,324</u>

TOTAL	\$ 67,360
--------------	------------------

(* - Please stand as you are able)

Per Capita Assessment for every member is \$42 for 2025. Thank you for contributing this amount per church member.

Please e-mail Pastor Ray with all prayer-related additions, changes & removals by Tuesday mornings 10:00 AM to ensure that they will be included in next Sunday's bulletin. Names under Intercessions will be removed after 3 weeks unless otherwise instructed by email. Email for Pastor Ray is pastor.meute@verizon.net.

Pastoral Study Hours: Tuesday through Thursday, 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM, with exceptions. It is always best to make an appointment to meet with Pastor Ray.

From the Deacons...

The Deacons are organizing a Meal Train page for Stu and Heidi Richardson and their family living with them. The Richardsons have been facing long-term health issues for some time, and a weekly meal would be helpful and much appreciated by them. Please use the link below to sign up if you would like to bless them by participating. If you have questions or need help delivering a meal, please contact Mary Beverly Gallagher at (410) 937-2500, or dartfrog999@gmail.com.

<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/R44V7L>

For those without access to a computer, please contact Koren Buehler at (410) 937-9172 to sign up. Maybe consider teaming up with someone else to make it easier!

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

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

Our Tithes and Offerings

You can now give to Highland electronically through our secure e-Giving option provided through the Presbyterian Mission Exchange. You can set up a giving profile (which will save your giving information if you wish) to either give a one-time gift or to make regular giving easy.

Click “Give Now” above (also posted on Highland’s website) or you can scan the QR code at the bottom with your smart phone to set up your profile and begin giving electronically today!

As always, you may make your contribution to the Church via check. If you are giving to a certain fund, please designate on your check and/or giving envelope the amount given to each fund.

*Thank you for your prayers & continued financial support of
Highland Church!*



Prayer List

+Denotes New Addition

THANKSGIVING FOR:

March Birthdays

The beloved community

INTERCESSIONS FOR:

+Family of Leroy Gross (Jean Bullen)

+Family of Pat Wernig (Wilson Tharpe)

+Susan Thompson (Dave Thompson)

+Family of Gloria Iley (Eley Welkner)

Scott Schubert (Wilson Tharpe)

Bob Evans (Wilson Tharpe)

Jackie Doyle (Claudia Scarborough)

Judy Taylor (Steve Taylor)

Tom Bulleit (Eley Welkner)

Connie Starleper (Stacey Scarff)

Gary Lowe (Claudia Scarborough)

LONG -TERM PRAYERS NEEDED:

Jose Lopez, Sr. (Pastor Ray)

Grace Christman

Tommy Amrein (Eley Welkner)

Mike Mills (Wilson)

Molly & Sisters (Rose)

Margaret (Elaine & Sandy)

Michael Yarrington (Amos family)

Andy Gallagher (Mary Beverly Gallagher)

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)

Sharan Deinlein (Mary Thompson)

Art Noble (Donna Noble)

Family of Leroy Gross (Jean Bullen)

MINISTRIES AND MISSIONS:

Baltimore-Dakota Partnership Mission

Hurricane Helene recovery, prayers & aid

All people & their loved ones suffering from addictions & outcomes

Presbytery of Baltimore

Susquehanna Parish – Churchville PC

All Leadership, HPC Legacy Bldg. Team

Local – All Outreach Ministries

Missions: One Great Hour of Sharing

OUR MILITARY:

All being affected by mid-east & Ukraine uncertainty, plus worldwide needs

Ryan Richardson, Navy Reserves

Peter Barndt, AD, USN

Cathy Durand Cantu, Coast Guard – AD, Alaska

COMMUNITY, NATION & WORLD:

Shelter and mercy for those exposed to the cold

Truth to guide all re: world, national & local events

Peaceful & just end to Middle East conflicts

Peaceful & just end to Russian invasion of Ukraine

Comfort to those living in fear

Immigrants being deported and families being separated

Federal government employees being dismissed from their jobs

Downsizing of CDC and cuts to USAID

World Council of Church Prayer Cycle: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania