



*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

**April 5, 2026**  
**10:00 AM**

*Order of Worship*

*Easter Sunday*

*April 5, 2026*

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

**A Word of Encouragement**

*"He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said."*

Matthew 28:6

**Prelude** "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" Lyra Davidica & Cindy Berry

**Ring of Church Bell**

**Handbell Introit** "God of Grace and God of Glory" arr. Jason Krug

**Life in the Church**

**The Church in Action**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

The Christ light was not out for long. On the third day our Lord Jesus the Christ rose from the dead. The light of Christ will never go out again. Praise God!

**Call to Worship** (Responsively)

They were looking for a dead friend,

**Mourning a loss,**

Caught up in grief,

**Worrying about stone-cold tombs.**

They were prepared for death,

**But not for life.**

They were ready for sadness,

**But not for joy.**

Yet, Easter turned it around!

**Turned the world upside down,**

Set love on the throne,

**Hope on the horizon,**

Joy in each moment.

**Easter still turns darkness around,**

Makes our lives different,

**Renews our hope,**

Fills us with courage,

**Gives us a song to sing.**

## **\*Call to Confession**

The joy of this Easter Sunday reminds us of God's resurrecting power. Let us confess all that turns us toward death, so we can know the grace of new life through Christ.

## **\*Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

**Living God, we confess that we look for the living among the dead. We are foolish and slow to believe the promise of the prophets. We are frightened and full of doubt, even when you stand among us. Forgive us, God of grace. Open our hearts to receive your word, and feed us with the bread of life, the life that death cannot destroy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Assurance of God's Forgiveness (Responsively) – *from the Hymn, "Jesus Christ is Risen Today."***

"Jesus Christ is risen today. But the pains which he endured, our salvation have procured."

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Alleluia. Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

Hymnal #581

**Anthem** "Christ Is Risen Today!"  
Chancel Choir

Nancy Price and Don Besig

## **Sacrament of Baptism (See insert)**

Anderson Benjamin Meute, son of Caleb and Molly Meute

*In the early church baptisms were held on Easter because the sacrament is deeply connected to the meaning of Christ's*

*resurrection. In Christian theology, baptism symbolizes dying and rising with Christ. As the Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 6:3–4, those who are baptized are “buried with Christ in baptism so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead, they too may walk in newness of life.” Easter proclaims precisely this victory of life over death.*

**Epistle Reading**                      Colossians 3: 1-4    P. 201

**\* Hymn**                      “Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”    Hymnal# 248

**Prophetic Reading**                      Isaiah 50: 4-9a    P. 68

**Gospel Reading**                      Matthew 28: 1-10    P. 33

This is the gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

**Message**                      “The Things Above”

### **Invitation to the Offering**

Give thanks to God for God is good. Let us gratefully give of our offerings to the glory of God and in praise of Christ’s resurrecting ministry.

**Offertory**                      “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”    Robert Robinson

Duet: Sam Tharpe, Jr. and Ryan Richardson

**\*Doxology**

### **Prayer of Dedication**

God of the empty tomb, your grace astounds, your generosity fills to overflowing. Accept these offerings as signs of our gratitude and bless

our work on Christ's behalf. May we love as Christ loved. May we serve as Christ served. Call us forth into your world, guided by Christ's spirit. **Amen.**

## **Prayers of the People**

### **Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**

**\*Hymn**                      "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"                      Hymnal #232

## **Parting Greeting**

--Today: **Easter Egg Hunt** in the cemetery immediately following worship.

--Wednesday, 7:30 PM **Chancel Choir** rehearsal in the sanctuary.

--Thursday, 8:00 AM **Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast** by Mason-Dixon Community Service Centers, Inc. being held in Netting Hall.

--Friday, 7:00-9:00 PM **Teen Night** "Trivia."

--Saturday, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM, Shopping at **Threads of Hope Clothing Ministry**

--Next Sunday, **Congregational Meeting** immediately after worship to elect Steve Hardy to serve on Session as an Elder

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude** "Alleluia! Christ is Risen"

Thank you – to Pete McCallum and Savannah and Hazel Thompson, 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**

### **Mason Dixon Food Bank**

Mason Dixon Community Services is requesting ravioli and toothpaste and toothbrushes this week. In the last weeks, Highland donated 32 lbs. of food and 8 lbs. of non food items. Please continue 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

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## **THANKSGIVING FOR:**

New life in Christ

## **INTERCESSIONS FOR:**

+Pat Allingham (Pastor Ray)  
+Heidi Richardson (Stu Richardson)  
+Caleb Evans (Stacey Scarff)  
+Chris (Ian Fallon)  
Family of Joy Merryman (Nancy Jones)  
Debbie Wilson (Susan Summerfield)  
Traveling mercies for Narciso family (Edgar Narciso)  
Family of Donald Jones (Pastor Ray)  
Jennifer Lilly (Becky Gray)  
Madelyn Bedsaul (Susan Summerfield)  
Nettie Fisher (Jean Bullen)

## **LONG-TERM PRAYERS NEEDED:**

Jimmy Galbreath (Nancy Jones)  
Art Noble (Donna Noble)  
Carole DeRan (Craig DeRan)  
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)  
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)  
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 – Good Shepherd  
Presbyterian  
All Leadership, HPC Legacy Bldg. Team  
Local Mission – SARC (Sexual Assault/Spousal Abuse Resource Center)

## **OUR MILITARY:**

Cathy Durand Cantu, USCG  
Ryan Richardson, USNR  
Bradley Lim and Aaron Macy, USAF

## **COMMUNITY, NATION & WORLD:**

The killing of 175 girls at Iran school by US missile  
End to the War in the Middle East  
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  
Economic uncertainty  
Truth to guide all world, national & local events  
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: The Balkans-Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia