



Founded 1890

HIGHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

701 Highland Road, Street, Maryland 21154

(410) 452-9394



email: followchrist@highlandpresbyterianchurch.org

<http://www.highlandpresbyterianchurch.org>



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

April 26, 2026

10:00 AM

Order of Worship

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

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

A Word of Encouragement

"You are the laboratory and every day is an experiment. Go and find what is new and unexpected."

Joel Elkes

Prelude

Ringling of Church Bell

Life in the Church

The Church in Action

Lighting of the Christ Candle – *Based on Isaiah 51:6*

The flame on the Christ candle catches our attention. It catches our attention like the familiar voice of a beloved coach, teacher, parent, or friend. As we gather to worship God, we hope to hear the voice of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Call to Worship (Responsively) – *adapted from Glory to God #93*

Lift your heads, ye mighty gates!

Behold! The Savior of the world is risen!

Fling wide the portals of your hearts:

Let us feel the presence of the God's grace and love!

O Holy spirit, lead us on in worship;

Call us each by name, that we may give God glory!

* **Hymn** "I Come with Joy"

Hymnal #515

***Call to Confession**

Jesus said, "I am the Good Shepherd; I know my own, and my own know me" (*John 10:14*). In confession, we trust God to know us fully: the good and the bad, the faithful and the sinful. But we also know God's faithfulness, God's mercy, and God's power to redeem us and lead us into new life. Trusting in this promise, let us confess our sins together.

***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

Gracious God, from before the foundation of the world, you called us by name and pledged your steadfast love. But like ornery sheep, we stray from the fold. You offer to lead us, but we prefer to lead ourselves. Christ laid down his life, yet we refuse to lay down our phones, our plans, our pride.

Forgive us, O God. Call us back to the open gate of Christ's redeeming love that we may enter your Beloved Community and

find restoration for our souls, reconciliation with our enemies and the glory of abiding with you forevermore. Amen.

***Assurance of God's Forgiveness (Responsively)**

The proof God's amazing love is this: while we were yet sinners, Christ came to us; Christ died for us; and Christ rose from the dead so that the gates of hell and heaven may be thrown open wide and all of creation renewed. So, believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and restored to new, abundant life. **Alleluia! Amen!**

*Gloria Patri

Hymnal #581

Psalm Reading

Psalm 100

P. 552

Ordination and Installation of Ruling Elder

Anthem

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

Isaac Watts

Chancel Choir

Time with Young Followers of Jesus and Noisy Offering

*** Hymn**

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Hymnal #187

New Testament Reading

Acts 2: 42-47

P. 120

Gospel Reading

John 10: 1-10

P. 103

This is the gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

Message

“The Pulse of the Church”

Affirmation of Faith (Unison) – *The Second Helvetic Confession*

In all crises and trials of our life we call upon God alone and do so by the mediation of our only mediator and intercessor, Jesus Christ. For we have been explicitly commanded: “Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me” (*Psalm 1:15*). Moreover, we have a most generous promise from the Lord who said: “If you ask anything of the Father, he will give it to you” (*John 16:23*), and: “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest” (*Matthew 11:28*). And since it is written: “How are men to call upon him in whom they have not believed?” (*Romans 10:14*), and since we do believe in God alone, we assuredly call upon God alone, and we do so through Christ alone. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Our savior, as the Good Shepherd, leads us to what nourishes, comforts and secures our living. When we reflect upon all that God provides, we see that our cup indeed runs over. In gratitude and in faith, may we practice Christlike generosity to support the living body of Christ that is this church. With joy and thanksgiving, let us offer what is precious to us to God.

Offertory

*Doxology

***Prayer of Dedication**

Shepherding God, you lead us, guard us, prepare us and preserve us. We have responded by giving back to you what has come from your hand. Bless these gifts, and multiply them in the life of your church, so that the gates of salvation may be flung wide, and all your Beloved Community may know the love and the peace that is ours in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

***Hymn** “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Hymnal #39

Parting Greeting

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

--Highland **Grove Music Series:** Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 17! The musical guest will be Bob Beach in the Grove from 4 to 6 PM.

Benediction

Choral Benediction “Dona Nobis Pacem”

Postlude

Thank you – to Corbin Hardy and Rachel Ayers 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 jam, jelly, and instant oatmeal this week. Last week, Highland donated 15 pounds of food and 5.5 pounds of toothbrushes, toothpaste, and other toiletries. 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

THANKSGIVING FOR:

A caring congregation

INTERCESSIONS FOR:

+Cindy Seibel (Claudia Scarborough)
+Prayers for the family of Miss Edna (Wilson Tharpe)
+Lily & Nathan's wedding (Dave Derickson)
Elaina Bennett (Jonathan Bennett)
Pastor Ray & Nancy Meute/Noble family (The Congregation)
Family of Sam Jones (Sarah DeBaugh)
Laurie Falkner (Claudia Scarborough)
Ken Horn (Kathy Watson)
Pat Allingham (Pastor Ray)
Heidi Richardson (Stu Richardson)
Caleb Evans (Stacey Scarff)
Chris (Ian Fallon)
Jennifer Lilly (Becky Gray)

LONG-TERM PRAYERS NEEDED:

Nettie Fisher (Jean Bullen)
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 & Sandi)
Michael Yarrington (Amos family)
Paul (Ian Fallon)
Gail Hartman (Lucy Hollens)
Frank Thayer (Dolly)

Heidi and Stu Richardson
Ruth Noble (mother-in-law of Donna Noble)
Tom Bulleit (Eley Welkner)

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 – Susquehanna Habitat for Humanity

OUR MILITARY:

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

COMMUNITY, NATION & WORLD:

All nations refraining from genocidal threats and actions
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: Armenia ,Azerbaijan , Georgia