



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

May 17, 2026

10:00 AM

Order of Worship
Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 17, 2026

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

A Word of Encouragement

“Let us not be disheartened, even when the horizon of history grows dim and closes in, as though human realities made impossible the accomplishment of God’s plans. God makes use even of human errors, even of human sins, so as to make rise over the darkness what Isaiah spoke of. One day prophets will sing not only the return from Babylon but our full liberation.” Oscar Romero, The Violence of Love

Prelude

Ringing of Church Bell

Life in the Church

The Church in Action

Lighting of the Christ Candle —*verse one of Light Dawns on a Weary World
(Glory to God, hymn 79)*

Light dawns on a weary world when eyes begin to see all peoples’ dignity.
Light dawns on a weary world, the promised day of justice comes.

Call to Worship— based on Psalm 68:4-10, 32 (Responsively)

Sing to God! Sing praises to God’s name, lift a song to God who rides upon
the clouds – God’s name is the Lord – be exultant before the Lord.

Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in holy habitation.

God gives the desolate a home to live in; leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious live in parched land.

O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched in the wilderness, the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain, at your holy presence.

Your flock found a dwelling in your presence.

In your goodness, O God, you provide for the needy.

In our need, and in our hope, we gather in your presence, O God.

Fill us with your Spirit, now and always, that we might know and live your love for all creation! Awesome is God who gives power and strength to God's people!

* **Hymn** “O Worship the King, All Glorious Above” Hymnal #41

***Call to Confession** – (*1 John 1:5-10*)

This is the message we have heard from Christ and proclaim to you, that God is light and in God there is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with God while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as God the divine Self is light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, God's Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

***Prayer of Confession** (Unison)

Holy God of glory and grace, we admit we are frail children of dust and feeble as frail. We confess we try to hide our weaknesses by acting confidently. We deny our faults. We point out the faults of others, while ignoring our own. We refuse to listen to You and to one another.

Forgive the sinful ways we fracture humanity and all creation. Open our hearts to your Holy Spirit who leads us into the way of Jesus Christ. Unite us with you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, that we might be united in love with one another. Amen.

***Assurance of God's Forgiveness (Responsively) – (2 Corinthians 5:17,19)**

So, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! In Christ God was reconciling the world to the Divine Self, not counting their sins against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. Believe the good news of the gospel: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.**

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

Acts Reading Acts 1:6-14 P. 118

Anthem “Camp Meeting” arr. Page and Shafferman
Chancel Choir

Time with Young Followers of Jesus and Noisy Offering

***Hymn** “Help Us Accept Each Other” Hymnal #754

Epistle Reading

I Peter 5:6-11 P. 235

Gospel Reading

John 17:1-11 P. 111

This is the gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

Message “Sharing the Heart of Jesus”

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

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 people. 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 his love. God has created the world of space and time to be the sphere of God’s dealings with people. In its beauty and vastness, sublimity and awfulness, order and disorder, the entire world reflects to the eye of faith the majesty and mystery of its Creator.

Invitation to the Offering

In great gratitude to God that we are never left to our own devices, let us give joyfully and generously for God’s work in the world.

Offertory

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication**

O Lord our maker, defender, redeemer and friend, accept and multiply the gifts we give today to be for your glory and for the good of your people. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

***Hymn** “Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

Hymnal #547

Parting Greeting

--Welcome to the Rev. Merritt Schatz who is preaching and leading in worship today. Rev. Schatz is a retired PCUSA minister who served congregations in Edinburgh, Scotland; Wichita, Kansas; Washington, D.C.; Aberdeen, Maryland; and Nottingham, Pennsylvania over the course of 41 years. She served as Moderator of the Presbytery of Southern Kansas; as a commissioner to two General Assemblies; commissioner to one Synod gathering; and in various other capacities in presbyteries, including Chair of the Committee on Ministry in Baltimore Presbytery. For eighteen years she has been a member of the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance National Response Team. She is married to Noel Schatz and they love their four adult children (two biological and two in-law). Their so-called empty nest is now inhabited by Fresca (dog) and Frankie (cat). --Also, today! **Grove Music Series:** The musical guest this afternoon will be Bob Beach and Charlie Muench in the Grove from 4 to 6 PM. Bring chairs, bring friends, enjoy!

--Wednesday, 10:00 AM **Mason-Dixon Ministerium** meeting at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church; 7:00 PM **Special Session** meeting with Confirmation Class; 7:30 PM **Choir Rehearsal** in the sanctuary.

--Thursday, 6:00 PM **Pub Theology** at Falling Branch Brewery.

--Next Sunday (Pentecost): Both sacraments of **Baptism** and the **Lord's Supper** will be celebrated. Also, our Annual Service of Remembrance will be held in the cemetery following worship. Prepare for a big Sunday!

Benediction

Choral Benediction "Dona Nobis Pacem"

Postlude

Thank you – to Dylan and Maya Narciso and Craig DeRan 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!

FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR APRIL 2026

Receipts

| | |
|----------|---------|
| General | \$8,883 |
| Missions | \$664 |
| Building | \$349 |

Disbursements

| | |
|----------|------------|
| General | (\$18,820) |
| Missions | (\$1) |
| Building | (\$5) |

Net Income

| | |
|----------|-----------|
| General | (\$9,937) |
| Missions | \$663 |
| Building | \$344 |

Reconciled Account Balances 4/30/26

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| General | \$48,843 |
| Missions | \$8,741 |
| Building | <u>\$12,115</u> |
| TOTAL FUNDS | <u>\$ 69,699</u> |

Prayer List

+Denotes New Addition

THANKSGIVING FOR:

New Mercies every morning

INTERCESSIONS FOR:

+Sunny Newman (Adrienne DeRan)
+Teens in car accident (Pete McCallum)
+Uncle Willie (Nicole Bennett)
The MacMeekin family (Stacey Scarff)
John Philip Wilson (Lucy Hollens)
Judy Harrison (Ian Fallon)
Laurie Seubert (Craig DeRan)
Dave McGreevy (Craig DeRan)
JulieAnna Flaherty
Cindy Seibel (Claudia Scarborough)
Prayers for the family of Miss Edna (Wilson Tharpe)
Lily & Nathan's wedding (Dave Derickson)
Family of Sam Jones (Sarah DeBaugh)
Heidi Richardson (Stu Richardson)
Chris (Ian Fallon)

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 – Threads of Hope

OUR MILITARY:

Cathy Durand Cantu, USCG
Ryan Richardson, USNR
Brady 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: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka