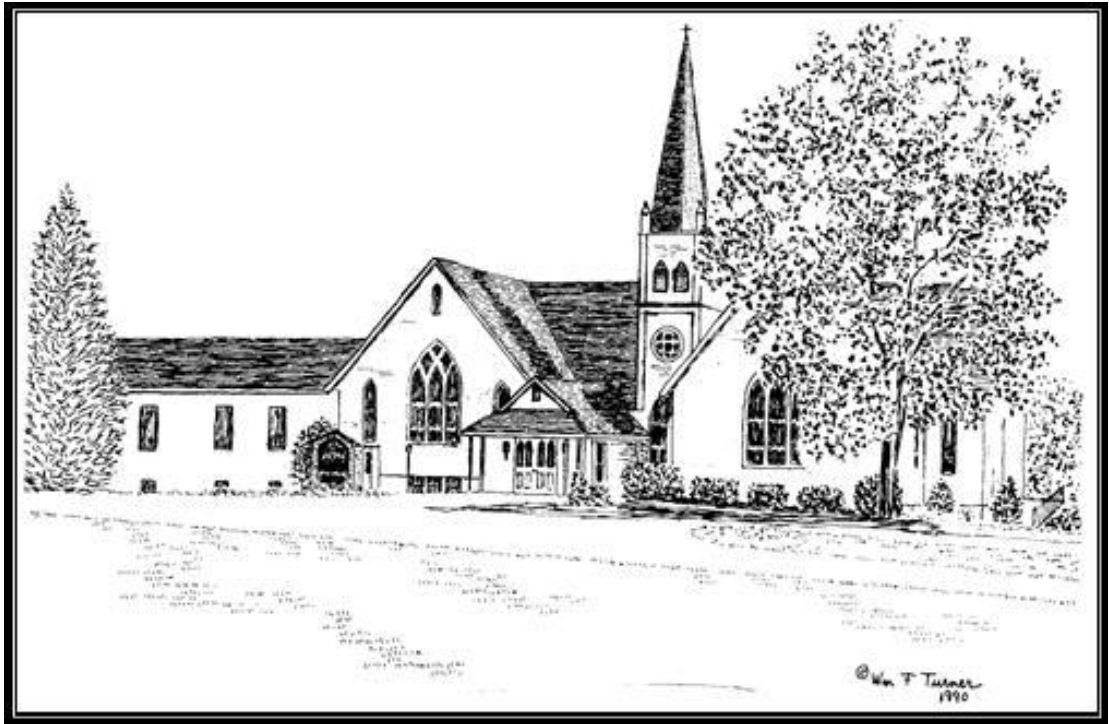




Founded 1890

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



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

September 13, 2026
10:00 AM

Order of Worship

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2026

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

A Word of Encouragement

“Never cut what can be untied.”

Life's Little Instruction Book, H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

Prelude

Ringling of Church Bell

Life in the Church

The Church in Action

Lighting of the Christ Candle – *based on Matthew 9:22*

The light of Christ is healing medicine. As Jesus would say, “Take heart, your faith makes you well.”

Call to Worship (Responsively) – *from Psalm 103:1-4*

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me.

Bless God's holy name.

God forgives. God heals. Gods transforms with steadfast love.

Bless God's holy name.

*** Hymn** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" Hymnal #35

***Invitation to Confession**

Before we can hear God's truth spoken in love, we must free ourselves from all that obstructs us from honestly acknowledging our wrongdoing. Let us examine our hearts and confess our sins to God.

***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

Nurturing God, like a hen gathers her brood under her wings, you desire to gather your children. But division and disagreement plague us. We cling to rigid certainties, approach each other in arrogance, and fail to listen. We walk away from conflict, rather than working through it. Forgive us, Holy God. Help us grow in faith, mature in relationship, and be transformed through your steadfast love. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness (Responsively) – *from James 5:15-16

The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, redeemed and restored to God's path of righteousness. **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.**

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

P. 48

Anthem

“Rejoice! Give Thanks! Celebrate!” Joseph M. Martin

Chancel Choir

Time with Young Followers of Jesus and Noisy Offering

***Hymn**

“Woman in the Night”

Hymnal #161

Psalm Reading

Psalm 103:1-13

P. 554

Message

“God’s Great Mercy”

The Rev. Mike Schutz

Affirmation of Faith (Unison) – *from Book of Common Worship*

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God’s purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

We are inspired to be generous by a generous God. We are inspired to give by the greatest of givers. In gratitude to God, let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Offertory

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Holy God, bless these gifts for your good use. May these tokens of our gratitude be of service in blessing the poor, feeding the hungry, clothing and sheltering those struggling to survive. Use these gifts to further Christ's mission and ministry in a hurting world. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

***Hymn** "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven" Hymnal #619

The Week Ahead:

--Today: We welcome back to our pulpit **The Rev. Mike Schutz!** Mike is a retired pastor. He continues in ministry at Grandview Church in Lancaster, PA where he serves at the food pantry, writes small group curriculum, facilitates two groups, curates the church library, works in the after-school program, and is a bouncer...er, greeter, for the early service. His wife Esther, a retired music educator, is Music Director at a UCC congregation in Hummelstown, PA. During the school year she works with autistic children.

--4:00 PM Grove Music Series: **Larry Noto and The Little Big Band.** Free Broom's Bloom Dairy Ice Cream as well!

--Monday, 7:00 PM **Nominating Committee** meeting at church.

--Tuesday, 6:30 PM **Deacons** meeting at church.

--Wednesday, 10:00 **Mason-Dixon Ministerium** meeting at Slateville Presbyterian Church; 7:30 PM **Choir Rehearsal** in the sanctuary.

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

--Looking ahead to Sunday, September 27: **Congregational Meeting** after worship followed by **Farewell Luncheon** for Pastor Ray and Nancy Meute.

Benediction

Choral Benediction “Dona Nobis Pacem”

Postlude

Thank you – to Daisy and Truett Hardy and Pete McCallum 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 AUGUST 2026		
	<u>Month</u>	<u>YTD</u>
<u>Receipts</u>		
General	\$11,515	\$132,229
Missions	\$4,139	\$16,951
Building	\$3,735	\$8,490
<u>Disbursements</u>		
General	(\$14,679)	(\$137,935)
Missions	(\$2,737)	(\$13,302)
Building	(\$5,154)	(\$5,179)
<u>Net Income</u>		
General	(\$3,164)	(\$5,706)
Missions	\$1,402	\$3,649
Building	(\$1,419)	\$3,311
Total		<u>\$1,254</u>

Highland Happenings

Mason Dixon Food Bank

Mason Dixon Community Services is requesting any food item or personal care item. Please continue to help our neighbors in this time of need. Please place your donation in the basket in the narthex.

Sunshine Bags

The Deacons are looking for donations for Sunshine Bags. Items needed are fidget toys and adult coloring books. Please see a Deacon for more information.

Pastoral Study Hours

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

****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:

Schools

INTERCESSIONS FOR:

+Melanie Pak Family (Gwen Richardson)
+Alvin Joudrey (Adrienne DeRan)
+Clay Miller (Dave Thompson)
+Henry Schafeur (Pete McCallum)
+Narciso Family (Edgar Narciso)
+Ed Starleper (Sondra Starleper)
+Autumn Gallagher (Mary Beverly Gallagher)
Nancy Heinz (Claudia Scarborough)
Family of John P. Wilson (Stan Wilson)
Debbie Bowers (Claudia Scarborough)
Family of John F. DeRan (Craig DeRan)
Susan Heaps (Claudia Scarborough)
Heide Schammel (Claudia Scarborough)
David Rose (Dave Thompson)
Jim Mitchell (Claudia Scarborough)
Fred Poe and Family (Adrienne DeRan)
Trish Skidmore (Adrienne DeRan)
Jesse Perry (David Lijoi)
Julia & Clara Mesh (Elaine Derickson)
Jim & Rachel Ayres (Pastor Ray)

LONG-TERM PRAYERS NEEDED:

Wilson Tharpe (Sam Tharpe)
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)
Mike Mills (Wilson)
Molly & Sisters (Rose)
Michael Yarrington (Amos family)
Paul (Ian Fallon)
Gail Hartman (Lucy Hollens)

Heidi and Stu Richardson

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

MINISTRIES AND MISSIONS:

Baltimore-Dakota Partnership Mission
All people & their loved ones suffering from
addictions and outcomes
Presbytery of Baltimore
Susquehanna Parish – Fallston Presbyterian
All Leadership, HPC Legacy Bldg. Team
Local Mission – S.A.R.C. (Sexual Assault/Spouse
Abuse Resource Center)

OUR MILITARY:

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

COMMUNITY, NATION & WORLD:

Extreme weather throughout the world, pray for
relief
Flooding and wildfire aid in US and Canada
Venezuelan earthquake recovery
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 actions
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: Ghana,
Nigeria