



Founded 1890

HIGHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sharing Christ's Love and Growing Disciples

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

September 14, 2025
10:00 AM

Order of Worship

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 2025

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

A Word of Encouragement

"I can encourage others with my words and actions."

The Upper Room

Prelude

Ringling of Church Bell

Life in the Church

The Church in Action

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Look for the light of God in the Christ candle, in our worship today, and in each other.

Call to Worship (Responsively)

The Lord looks down from heaven to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God.

They have all gone astray, there is no one good, no, not one.

Have they no knowledge, those who devour God's people and do not call upon the Lord?

O that our deliverer would come! Lord, restore our lives and make us glad.

*** Hymn** “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” Hymnal #12

***Invitation to Confession**

Sisters and brothers, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God every time we turn toward our home and remember whose we are. With open hearts, we pray.

***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

Creator of the universe, we imagine we are in familiar territory, that we know what to expect of this hour, that we will leave much the way that we came. Do not abandon us to our foolishness. In judgment, illumine our darkness. In mercy, bear us home—until we recognize your presence wherever evil is confronted, truth is spoken, and life is restored.

[silent confession]

***Assurance of God’s Forgiveness**

But this we call to mind, and therefore have hope:

the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, God’s mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. In the name of the Lord, who is our portion and our hope, I declare that our sin is forgiven.

May our mouths be filled with praise.

***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.

Prayer of Illumination

Mighty God, you spoke the world into being; speak now to our hearts.
By the power of your Spirit, make these ancient words live, that we
might be shaped into your people, eager to bear your claim in the
world and to give flesh to your future. For we pray in the name of
Jesus, who leads us into life. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

P. 702

Anthem “Creation Praise”

Joseph M. Martin

Time with Young Disciples and Noisy Offering

***Hymn** “The Foolish in Their Hearts Deny”

Hymnal#335

Epistle Reading

1 Timothy 1:12-17

P. 208

Gospel Reading

Luke 14: 15:1-10

P. 78

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

Message “Lost and Found”

The Rev. Michele Wallen

Affirmation of Faith (Responsively) – *Adapted from Westminster Shorter Catechism, 7.029 – 7.031*

How do we share in the redemption of Christ?

**We share in the redemption of Christ
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
who convinces us of our sin,
enlightens our minds in the knowledge of Christ,
and renews our wills,
persuading and enabling us
to embrace Jesus Christ,
freely offered to us in the gospel.**

Invitation to the Offering

Time and again, God clears a path for us to seek the way of life, to do good, to become a refuge for the poor. That path lies before us. With joy, let us offer our gifts and our lives in trust.

Offertory

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Holy One, receive these offerings as you receive our lives.
Gather our false starts and uncertain efforts, our generosity and our reluctance. Enliven us with your breath and make your purposes known that our lives might show forth your glory. For we pray in the name of Jesus and by the power of your Spirit.
Amen.

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

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

Parting Greeting

- Today we warmly welcome to our pulpit, **The Rev. Michele Wallen**, Associate for Missional and Community Engagement, The Presbytery of Baltimore, and also the Transitional Pastor and Head of Staff for Ashland Presbyterian Church, Hunt Valley, MD.
- Wednesday, No Choir rehearsal this week.
- Thursday, 6:00 PM **Pub Theology** at Falling Branch Brewery.
- Today, 4:00 PM **Choir Fest at Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church** to celebrate their 275th anniversary. Church choirs which originated from the log church of The Barrens (1747) will be participating.
- Next Sunday, **Highland Grove Music Series**: Sunday, September 21 at 4:00 PM in the Grove. The Mayo Family Band will be sharing their bluegrass style of entertainment. Free ice cream will be provided as well. Bring friends and family!

Benediction

Choral Benediction “Dona Nobis Pacem”

Postlude

Thank you – to Sam Tharpe Jr. for serving as our Worship assistants this morning. Also, thank you to Nancy Jones, Organist; Ian Fallon, Pianist; Stacey Scarff, Director of Music; for the wonderful music today – all of our Worship is to the Glory of God!

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: Monday through Wednesday, 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



GIVE NOW

Highland Church!



Prayer List

+Denotes New Addition

THANKSGIVING FOR:

Deacons
Sunday School

INTERCESSIONS FOR:

+Family of Andrew Joseph Gallagher (Mary Beverly Gallagher)
+Family of Thomas Kelbaugh (Dave Derickson)
+Ben Lewis (Ian Fallon)
+Mindy Foreman (Ray and Nancy Meute)
Eley Welkner (Claudia Scarbrough)
Molly Deise (Pete & Carol McCallum)
Leah Starlepper (Stacey Scarff)
Margaret O'Donnell (Wanda Amos)
Elaine Derickson (Dave Derickson)
Dan Markle (Eley Welkner)
Susan Heaps Burcham (Rachel Ayres)
Rick and Joyce Johnson (Claudia Scarborough)
Sheila Brooks (Adrienne DeRan)

LONG -TERM PRAYERS NEEDED:

Bill Netting (Dave Thompson)
Jeanie Rainey (Donna Noble)
John Philip Wilson (Lucy Hollens)
Jenny Smith (Kim Goode)
Betty Jane Meute (Ray and Nancy Meute)
Jean Bullen (Pastor Ray)
Debbie and Family (Kathy Watson)
Jim Lawrence (Debbie Mezzatesta)
Valerie Keck (Mary Beverly Gallagher)
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)
Dorothy Shahan (Julie-Anna Flaherty)
Art Noble (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 – Churchville PC
All Leadership, HPC Legacy Bldg. Team
Local – Susquehanna Habitat for Humanity

OUR MILITARY:

Peter Barndt, USN
Cathy Durand Cantu, USCG
Ryan Richardson, USNR

COMMUNITY, NATION & WORLD:

+Shooting victims & families in Minneapolis
Aftermath of flooding in central Texas
Families suffering from loss of federal assistance
Travel mercies in summer months
Immigrant population in U.S.
Families in Minnesota and Wisconsin
All being affected by mid-east & Ukraine uncertainty, plus worldwide needs
Economic instability
Truth to guide all re: world, national & local events
Peace & restraint in Middle East conflicts
Peaceful & just end to Russian invasion of Ukraine
Comfort to those living in fear
Immigrants and US citizens being deported and families being separated
World Council of Church Prayer Cycle: Ghana, Nigeria