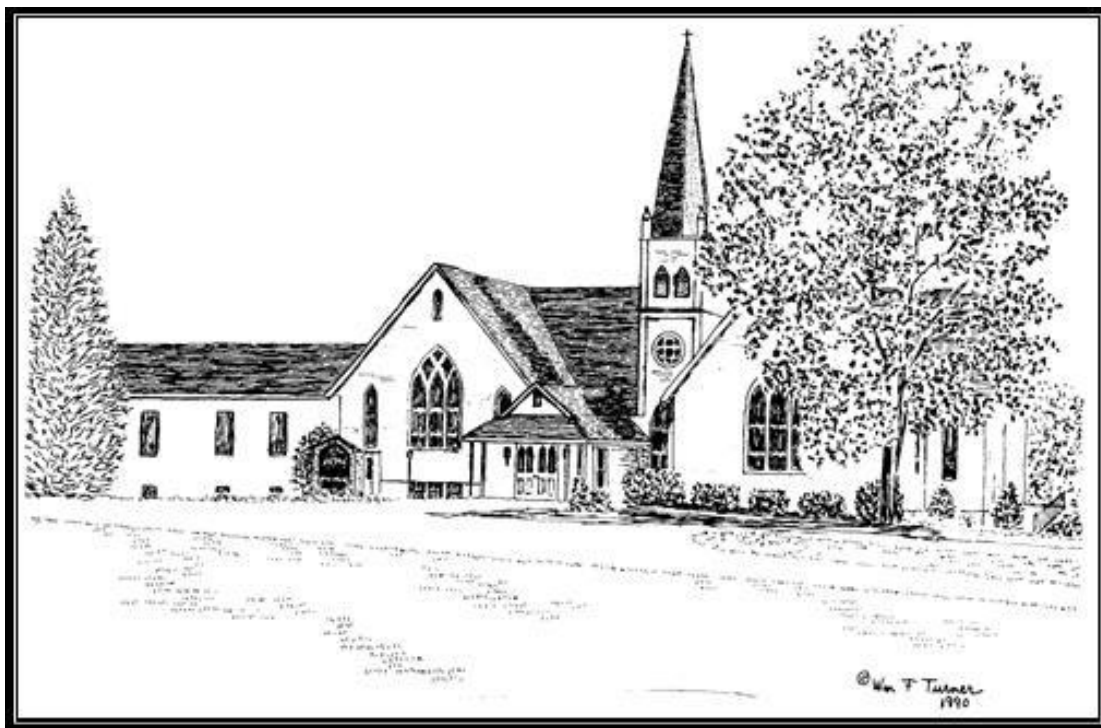




Founded 1890

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

October 18, 2025
10:00 AM

Order of Worship

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2025

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

A Word of Encouragement

“Things won are done; joy's soul lies in the doing.”

Shakespeare

Prelude

Ringling of Church Bell

Life in the Church

The Church in Action

Lighting of the Christ Candle – *based on Psalm 121: 1,2*

We will lift our eyes to the Christ candle – from where will our help come? Our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.

Call to Worship (Responsively) – *written by John Birch*

Let us never give up praying for justice, or the oppressed in this world
will one day ask us ‘Why?’

**Let us never give up praying for fairness, or the hungry of this
world will one day ask us ‘Why?’**

Let us never give up praying for healing, or the sick in this world will
one day ask us ‘Why?’

**Let us never give up praying, for to give up is to deny our faith in
a God who answers prayer.**

*** Hymn** “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

Hymnal #465

***Call to Confession**

The Word of God, Jesus Christ leads the way to salvation through faith. In turning to the Lord with humility, and trusting in his love, we confess our sin and the sins of the world.

***Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

Sovereign God, we confess that we have not turned away from sin. You call us to study the scriptures, but we are easily distracted. You ask us to be persistent in prayer, but we are quickly discouraged. Forgive us, God of grace. Write your Word in our hearts, so that we may truly know you and joyfully serve you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Whoever we are, wherever we are, however we are, we belong to God. Through Jesus Christ, God cleanses us from all unrighteousness and leads us from sin. People of God, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

***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.

Psalm Reading

Psalm 121

P. 571

Anthem “Everybody Need a King Jesus” Parker and Sorenson
Chancel Choir

Time with Young Followers of Jesus and Noisy Offering

***Hymn** “I, the Lord of Sea and Sky” Hymnal #69

Gospel Reading

Luke 18: 1-8 P.81

This is the gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

Message “It’s Not About the Widow” The Rev. Melissa McDade

Affirmation of Faith (Unison) – *from The Confession of 1967, (Inclusive Language Edition)*

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God’s forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ.

The new life takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God’s grace.

The new life does not release people from conflict with unbelief, pride, lust, and fear. They still have to struggle with disheartening difficulties and problems. Nevertheless, as they mature in love and faithfulness in their life with Christ, they live in freedom and good cheer, bearing witness on good days and evil days, confident that the new life is pleasing to God and helpful to others.

Invitation to the Offering—*Romans 12:1*

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God. Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Offertory

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication**

We give you thanks, Creator of heaven and earth and all that is within them, for the gift of this day, this moment of worship, and your word which is engraved upon our hearts. Receive and bless these gifts that we return to you, as a symbol of the dedication of our entire lives, that we as your church might be ever more faithful in your work of reconciliation, love and joy. In Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

***Hymn** "I Love to Tell the Story"

Hymnal #462

Parting Greeting

--Today we again welcome **The Rev. Melissa McDade**, a retired United Methodist pastor. She served 30 years in Northern Harford County. She is a graduate of Hereford High School, Dickinson College, and Wesley Seminary. She is married to Tom Sullivan, mother of three daughters, grandmother of six grandsons. She loves filling in for pastors, knowing how difficult it is to find someone who can do that. Plus, it's fun to worship in different congregations and meet new people!

--Tuesday, 6:30 PM **Session** meeting; **Deacons** also meeting.
(*Meetings are separate*).

--Wednesday, 6:30 PM **Legacy Building Team, Session, and Deacons** meeting in end room of Sunday school wing; 7:30 PM **Choir Rehearsal**.

Benediction

Choral Benediction “Dona Nobis Pacem”

Postlude

Thank you –To Tyler Gray 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!

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:

+Progress for John Phillip Wilson
+Possible peace in the Mid-east

INTERCESSIONS FOR:

+Care and support for those with mental illness
(Pastor Ray)
+Those grieving in Tennessee post-explosion
(Kathy Watson)
+Rosemary Thompson (Dave Thompson)
John Durand (Pastor Ray)
Family of Solomon Banjo (Ryan Richardson)
Steve Bevard (Dave Derickson)
Family of Blake Elliott (Alexa Scarff)
Zach Griffin (Alexa Scarff)
Koren Buchler (Pastor Ray)
Family of Nicole Gartside (Ian Fallon)

LONG-TERM PRAYERS NEEDED:

Bill Netting (Dave Thompson)
Jeanie Rainey (Donna Noble)
John Philip Wilson (Lucy Hollens)
Jenny Smith (Kim Goode)
Jean Bullen (Pastor Ray)
Debbie and Family (Kathy Watson)
Jim Lawrence (Debbie Mezzatesta)
Valerie Keck (Mary Beverly Gallager)
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 – Harford Family House

OUR MILITARY:

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

COMMUNITY, NATION & WORLD:

Justice and the rule of law
Government shutdown
Shooting victims
Families suffering from loss of federal and
medical assistance
Worldwide needs
Economic uncertainty
Truth to guide all world, national & local
events
Peace & restraint in Middle East conflicts
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: Belize,
Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico