



# Highlands

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**April 28, 2024**

Morning Worship - 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m.

Sunday School and Communities - 9:45 a.m.

# ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

April 28, 2024

## Gathering Song

### O God Beyond All Praising

Words: Michael Perry, 1982

Music: Gustav Theodore Holst, 1914

O God beyond all praising, we worship You today,  
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay.  
For we can only wonder at every gift You send,  
at blessings without number, and mercies without end.  
We lift our hearts before You and wait upon Your word.  
We honor and adore You, our great and mighty Lord!

## Welcome

## Meditation and Preparation

### Christ, the Sure and Steady Anchor

Words and Music: Matthew Boswell,

Matthew Papa, 2015

Christ, the sure and steady anchor  
in the fury of the storm,  
when the winds of doubt blow through me, and my sails have all been torn.  
In the suffering, in the sorrow when my sinking hopes are few,  
I will hold fast to the Anchor; it shall never be removed.

## The Call to Worship

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

**People: Serve the LORD with gladness!**

Pastor: Come into his presence with singing!

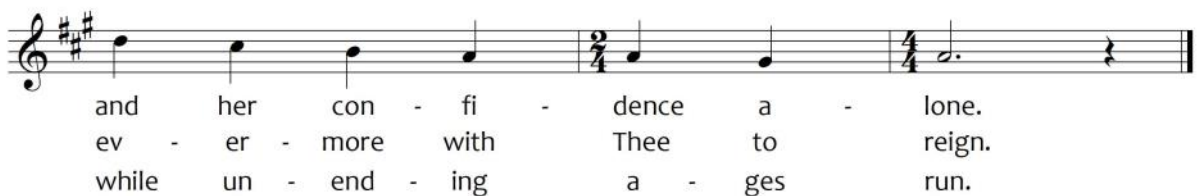
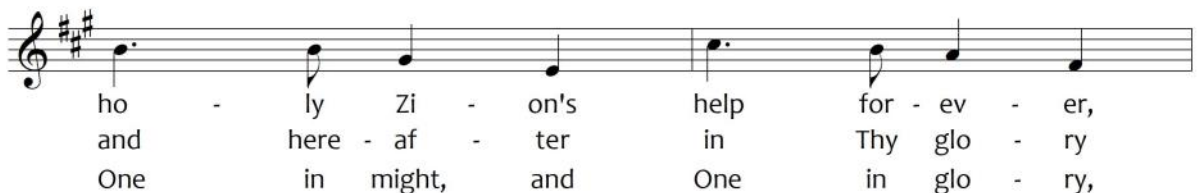
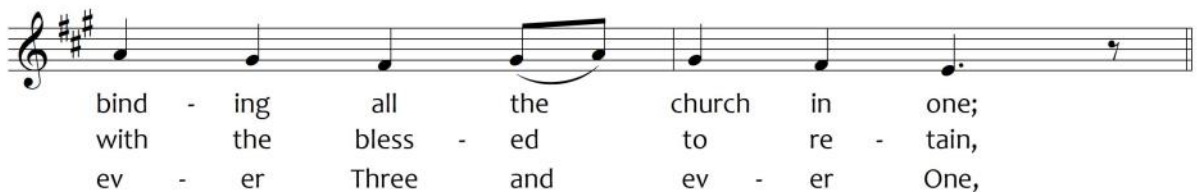
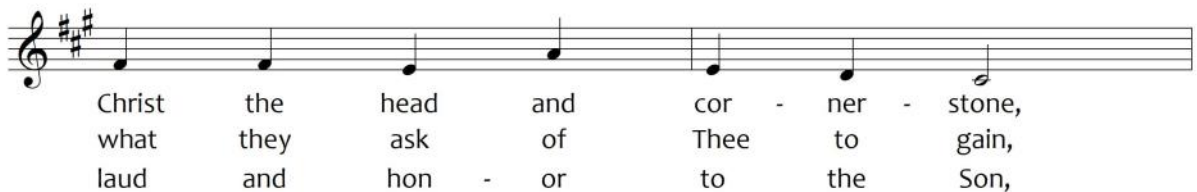
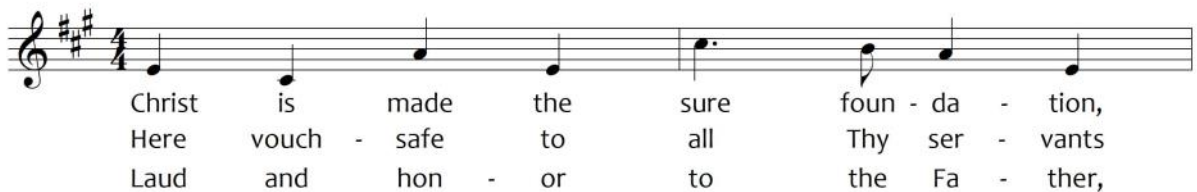
**People: Know that the LORD, he is God!**

Pastor: It is he who made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

**All: Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
and his courts with praise!  
Give thanks to him; bless his name!**

Psalm 100:1-4

# Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation



Words by James Montgomery, 1816. Music by Henry Smart, 1867.  
Arranged by Mike Murphy and Allie Murphy. © 2012 MikeMurphySound

## The Old Testament Reading

I will tell of your name to my brothers;  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:  
You who fear the LORD, praise him!  
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him,  
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!  
For he has not despised or abhorred  
the affliction of the afflicted,  
and he has not hidden his face from him,  
but has heard, when he cried to him.  
From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will perform before those who fear him.  
The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the LORD!  
May your hearts live forever!

Psalm 22:22-26

### Abide With Me (Be Still, My Soul)



A - bide with me; fast falls the e - ven-tide;  
I need Thy pre - sence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour.  
I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;  
Hold thou Thy cross, be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



the dark - ness deep - ens; Lord with me a - bide.  
What but Thy grace, can foil the temp - ter's pow'r?  
ills have no weight, tears lose their bit - ter - ness.  
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail, and com - forts flee,  
Who, like Thy - self, my guide and stay can be?  
Where is death's sting? Where grave thy vic - tor - y?  
Heav'n's mor - ning breaks, and earth's vain sha - dows flee;

1, 3

2, 4

help of the help - less, a - bide with me.  
 Through cloud and sun - shine, a - bide with me.  
 I tri - umph still, a - bide with me.  
 in life, in death, Lord, a - bide with me.

bide with me. Be still, my soul; be still, my soul;  
 bide with me.

be still in ev - 'ry change. Be still, my soul; be still, my soul;

through cloud and sun - shine You will re - main.  
 in life, in death, Lord, You will re - main.

Verse words by Henry Lyte, 1847. Chorus words by Katharina von Schlegel, 1752. Trans. by Jane Borthwick, 1855.  
 Music by Mike Murphy © 2024 Murphy Sound

## The Morning Prayer

## **We Bring God’s Tithes and Our Offerings**

*Offering plates will be passed, but you may place your offering in one of the offering boxes outside the sanctuary doors or inside the balcony entrance. To give online, please visit [highlandspca.org](http://highlandspca.org) or follow the QR code on page 9 of the bulletin.*

### **Offertory: I Set My Hope on Jesus**

Words and Music: Keith Getty,  
Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, 2023

When this life of trials tests my faith,  
I set my hope on Jesus.  
When the questions come and doubts remain,  
I set my hope on Jesus.  
For the deepest wounds that time won’t heal,  
here’s a joy that runs still deeper,  
There’s a truth that’s more than all I feel;  
I set my hope on Jesus.

I set my hope on Jesus, my rock, my only trust,  
Who set His heart upon me first: I set my hope on Jesus.

Though I falter in this war with sin, I set my hope on Jesus.  
When I fail the fight and sink within, I set my hope on Jesus.  
Though the shame would drown me in its sea,  
and I dread the waves of justice,  
I will cast my life on Calvary: I set my hope on Jesus.

Though the world calls me to leave my Lord, I set my hope on Jesus.  
Though it offers all its vain rewards, I set my hope on Jesus.  
Though this heart of mine is prone to stray,  
give me grace enough to finish,  
till I worship on that final day, I set my hope on Jesus.

## **The New Testament Reading**

Hebrews 2:14-18

## **We Receive God’s Word**

The Rev. Bradford Mercer

“Freedom from Fear”

## Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry  
3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all Thy



earth come down: fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing,  
trou - bled breast; let us all in Thee in - her - it,  
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn and nev - er,



all Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown: Je - sus, Thou art  
let us find the prom - ised rest: take a - way the  
nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be



all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art;  
love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;  
al - ways bless - ing, serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove.



vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
End of faith, as its Be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
Pray and praise Thee, with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.

Words by Charles Wesley, 1747. Music by John Zundel, 1870; alt. 1990.

## Highlands' 30th Anniversary Celebration - Sunday, May 19, 2024

Please join us for Morning Worship at 9:00 a.m. as we offer praise and thanksgiving for our great God's care, blessing, and provision over the past 30 years. Adults will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 a.m. for combined Sunday School. We'll continue the celebration from 5 until 7 p.m. that evening featuring the Mississippi Swing Band. Supper will be provided and includes Calvin's barbecue sandwiches, hot dogs, chips, and birthday cake. Bounce houses and outdoor games will be available for the children. To help us plan for the picnic, please register using the QR code or at [highlandspca.org/hpc-30](http://highlandspca.org/hpc-30).



HPC Picnic

## GENERAL FUND GIVING UPDATE THROUGH APRIL 21, 2024

Regular monthly giving provides for the ongoing ministry of Highlands. Offering plates will be passed during the 10:50 service only, or you may place your offering in one of the four wall-mounted boxes located outside the main sanctuary doors, just inside the balcony doors, or at the Welcome Desk. Your gifts can also be mailed to the church office or made through online giving at [highlandspca.org](http://highlandspca.org). The QR code below links directly to our online giving page.

General Fund Budget through April 30, 2024      \$623,505

General Fund giving received through 4/21/24      \$509,947



Giving

Thank you for your support of the ministry and outreach of Highlands!

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### All Youth

Visitors, please join us in anything you see below. The Youth building is behind the church (we call it "The U").

- Sunday School: 9:45am in The U.
- Tonight: Small Groups, 5:00-7:00pm in The U. Game time from 7-8pm.
- Wednesdays - Youth Group: 5:45-7:00pm in the U.

Interim Director of Student Ministries: Steve Weeks · [sweeks@highlandspca.org](mailto:sweeks@highlandspca.org)

JrHi Ministry Coordinator: Joel Blackmon · [joel@highlandspca.org](mailto:joel@highlandspca.org)



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Midweek at Highlands returns September 11, 2024.*

**Together This Summer!** We are excited to announce that our Session recently voted to unite our congregation in one worship service this summer. From Sunday, May 19 through Sunday, July 28, we will have one worship service from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. followed by Sunday School from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Obviously, this will involve some flexibility for all of us, but we look forward to being together for worship, the Lord's Supper, baptisms, singing, giving, and fellowship. This change also gives us the opportunity to invite others to join us in our Sunday School and Community ministries immediately following the service. Mark your calendars, invite others, and join us this summer!

**TODAY: El Salvador Mission Trip Interest Meeting.** Chip Johnson will host a meeting today from 4:30 until 5:00 p.m. in the Parlor for those interested in a mission trip to El Salvador September 27 - October 5.

**VBS Leader Orientation May 1:** This Wednesday night, May 1, all VBS Leaders and Youth assistants are asked to join us in Room 301 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. for a pizza supper and VBS orientation. Childcare will be provided upon request to [laurie@highlandspca.org](mailto:laurie@highlandspca.org).



**We need VBS Volunteers! June 3-7, 9:00am to 12:00pm:** Join us as we follow Peter as he follows Jesus through all the twists and turns of life. Adult and youth volunteers are needed to help the kids level up and play to win through various activities! Please sign up using the QR code or at [highlandspca.org/vbs-volunteers](http://highlandspca.org/vbs-volunteers).

**HPC Pickleball May Madness begins May 7:** We're forming a Pickleball League right here at Highlands! Join us on Tuesday nights in May with or without a partner. There are three divisions: Beginner, Not-a-Beginner, and The Wise Ones (50+). Register by using the QR code or at [highlandspca.org/pickleball](http://highlandspca.org/pickleball). For questions, call or text Chandler Strain at 601-270-1822.



**VBS Registration is now open:** Twirl the spinner, skip ahead and play to win at Twists & Turns VBS 2024! Join us on June 3-7 from 9:00-12:00 each day. Follow Peter as he follows Jesus, often taking one step forward and two steps back. He messed up and stumbled and certainly wasn't perfect. But it wasn't "Game Over" as God continued to work through him to teach others about Jesus. All children

who have **completed Pre-K 4 ~ 5th grade** can register using the QR code or at [highlandspca.org/vbs](http://highlandspca.org/vbs).

**Center for Pregnancy Choices Life Walk May 4:** Even though abortion is illegal in Mississippi, the need still exists to reach those who are seeking abortion with Christ-centered alternatives. CPC Metro is a non-profit organization offering women personalized and comprehensive support throughout pregnancy. Please register as a walker or create a team at [cpcmetrofriends.org/lifewalk](http://cpcmetrofriends.org/lifewalk).

# CHURCH OFFICERS

## THE SESSION

Jim Brown	Shannon Carroll	Craig Crosland
Carroll Dew*	Richard Dixon	Hap Farber
Scott Jones	Chuck McBride	Bill McDonald
Mac McGehee	Billy Mounger	Clay Parker
Jim Pettis	Clark Robinson	Kevin Russell
Stephen Sellers	Monty Simpkins	Brad Tisdale
Trey Toler	Will Watson	Andrew Wilson
Max Yates		
*Emeritus		

## THE DIACONATE

Randy Assink	Matthew Bailey	Nathan Beavers
Barr Biggs	Trent Butler	T. C. Castleberry
Todd Clark	Bryan Clay	Scott Day
Jerry Eichelberger	Craig Eversole	Thomas Gandy
Mike Green	David Harbaugh	Michael Hawkins
Gary Heine	Chip Johnson	Andy Sensing
Chandler Strain	Andy Thaggard	Steve Weeks
Taylor Wilson		

# SERMON NOTES

“Freedom from Fear”

April 28, 2024

Hebrews 2:14-18  
Page 1002 in the pew Bible



Celebrate our  
**30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
Sunday, May 19

9:00 a.m. - *Service of Praise and Thanksgiving*

10:30 a.m. - *Combined Adult Sunday School*

5:00 p.m. - *HPC Picnic on the Church grounds*



**Highlands**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH