

# Highland Presbyterian Church

March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024  
Easter Sunday  
10:30 a.m.



**Highland Presbyterian Church** seeks to be a *diverse* and *inclusive* Christian Community as we embody the love and forgiveness of Jesus by serving the Community and the World, drawing people to Christ.

Prelude

*Crown Him Lord of All*

Ellor / McDonald

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## Gathering

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Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Matthew Benz-Whittington

Call to Worship

Pam Clifford

One: Beloved church, behold the victory of our God: Jesus, our Lord, has conquered the grave.

**All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

One: Sin and death shall reign no more.

**All: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

One: Let this place resound with joy.

**All: Christ is risen! Alleluia! Thanks be to God.**

\*Opening Hymn

*Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

Hymn 232

Prayer of Compassion (Responsive)

Pam Clifford

One: Gracious God, we have heard the good news: how on the third day, Christ rose again.

**All: Still we look for the living among the dead.**

One: You rolled away the stone from the tomb.

**All: Still we look for the living among the dead.**

One: You sent messengers to proclaim the gospel.

**All: Still we look for the living among the dead.**

One: You were faithful to your promise; you have done wonderful things!

**All: Still we look for the living among the dead. Teach us, Lord, we pray to follow you more faithfully. Teach us to trust your promise and to believe the good news of salvation:**

**Christ is alive; Jesus is risen from the dead. Amen.**

\*Asterisk indicates when to stand in body or in spirit

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,  
 2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)  
 F B $\flat$  E $\flat$  B $\flat$  Gm7 C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,  
 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F $\sharp$ ) (Bm)  
 C7 F A Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.  
 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)  
 Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

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## The Word

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Prayer for Illumination

Pam Clifford

### Holy Scripture

John 20:1—18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on

Jesus's head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb, and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to God. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to God, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Special Music	<i>Crown Him Lord this Easter Day</i>	Highland Choir
Sermon	<i>Competition or Compassion</i>	Rev. Matthew Benz-Whittington
*Hymn	<i>That Easter Day with Joy was Bright</i>	Hymn 254
Minute for Mission	One Great Hour of Sharing	Jeremy Lloyd
Offertory	<i>Crown Him with Many Crowns</i>	Gavin Morris on Saxophone

# Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of five lines of music. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: D, A, D, Bm, A, D, G, D, Bm, E, A, D, D, G, A, D, Em, A, Bm, Em, D, G, A, Em, G, A, D.

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures  
high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise  
God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it  
one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## \*Prayer of Thanksgiving (Communal)

**We praise you, O God, and give you thanks that you have given us such joy, such grace, and such hope, in the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord. Let our lives be proof of that good news. Let all our words and actions, our love and service bear witness to your resurrection power; for the sake of our living Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

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## Sending

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*Closing Hymn	<i>Lift High the Cross</i>	Hymn 826
*Benediction		Rev. Matthew Benz-Whittington
Postlude	<i>How Majestic is Your Name</i>	Smith/Hayes

## Upcoming Events

### Highland Spring Work Day Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup>

Join the Building and Grounds Committee for our Spring Work Day on **Saturday, April 6 from 8:00 a.m. - noon.** We'll complete a few projects inside and outside and get Highland looking beautiful for the upcoming spring and summer.

### Happy Highlanders Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>

Join the Happy Highlanders, Highland's older adult ministry, on **Tuesday, April 16 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** as we take a tour of the Blount County Library and eat lunch at the café. We'll learn about the community work the library does and what all it takes to make a library successful. Let Bruce or Pam Clifford know if you'd like to attend.

### Gate Party at Highland Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

Highland is excited to host a pizza and dance party for the Gateway to Independence in Highland's Fellowship Hall on Sunday, (**April 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.**) We expect this to be a wonderful night of dancing and fun. If you would like to help, there are several ways: Donate a dessert or veggie tray, contribute funds to help pay for pizza and supplies that night, or help with set up and clean up. Let Eleanor Wills know if you would like to help in anyway.

Weekly Schedule for March 31<sup>st</sup> – April 7<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, March 31 (Easter Sunday) –	MC Sunrise Service <b>7:00 a.m. on Lloyd Beach</b> Men’s Easter Breakfast <b>9:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall</b> Sunday Worship <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Easter Egg Hunt <b>11:30 a.m.</b>
Monday –	Pastor Matthew’s Day Off
Tuesday -	Quilters- <b>9 a.m.</b>
Wednesday -	OA - <b>1 p.m.</b>
Thursday -	Piano Lessons <b>3:00-5:00 p.m. Sanctuary</b>
Friday -	
Saturday -	Spring Work Day 8:00 a.m. – Noon.
Sunday, April 7 -	Worship (Communion Sunday) <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Building & Grounds / Sustainability Committee <b>11:30 a.m.</b>

Thank you to Gavin Morris for providing special music for today’s worship service.

<u>Highland Presbyterian Church</u>	
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Choir Director & Organist: Jussara Horton	<a href="mailto:hortonjussara@gmail.com">hortonjussara@gmail.com</a>
Office Administrator: William Martin (Tues. & Wed. 11 a.m. – 2 p.m./ Thursday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)	<a href="mailto:office@highlandpresby.org">office@highlandpresby.org</a>
Church Accountant: Rebecca Wade	<a href="mailto:financehighlandpresby@gmail.com">financehighlandpresby@gmail.com</a>
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