

# Highland Presbyterian Church

May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Communion Sunday  
10:30 a.m.



Love one another.

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.



MORE LIGHT  
PRESBYTERIANS



Prelude

Sortie on "Heremas"

Havergal / Broughton

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## Gathering

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Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Matthew Benz-Whittington

### Call to Worship (Responsive)

Erica Patton

One: Sing to our God a new song.

**All: God has done marvelous things!**

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

**All: Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

One: Let the sea roar and all that fills it.

**All: Let the world and its people sing together for joy!**

\*Opening Hymn

*Help Us Accept Each Other*

Hymn 754

Call to Confession

Erica Patton

Prayer of Confession (**Communal**)

**Loving God, we have not loved you or each other with our whole hearts. Forgive us, we pray, and lead us toward wholeness, that we may be filled with your joy. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

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<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> 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#) (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.

Time for the Children

Rev. Matthew Benz-Whittington

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**The Word**

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**Prayer for Illumination**

Erica Patton

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, in the reading of your Word, that we would hear what you have to say to us today. May your Holy Spirit be poured out upon us; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Holy Scripture**

John 15:9—17

As God has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept God's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Anthem *We Are One In the Spirit* Highland Choir

Sermon “Love” Rev. Matthew Benz-Whittington

Statement of Faith (**Communal**) Excerpts from A Brief Statement of Faith (PC(USA))

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Minute for Mission Pentecost Offering Jeremy Lloyd

Offertory *O Love that will not Let Me Go* Peace / Keveren

\*Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* Hymn 609

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God, all creatures high and low.**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise God, in Jesus fully known:**

**Creator, Word, and Spirit one.**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving (**Communal**)

**Holy God, we give you thanks and praise for light and life and love, and—above all—the presence of the living Lord among us. By your Spirit who breathes within us, strengthen our faith, use our gifts, and work in our lives to bear witness to the resurrection of Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

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**Eucharist**

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Communion, Prayers of the People, and the Lord's Prayer

Invitation

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.**

Communion Music

*For Everyone Born*

Hymn 769

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**Sending**

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\*Closing Hymn

*In Christ There is No East or West*

Hymn 317

\*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Matthew Benz-Whittington

Postlude

*Old Time Religion*

traditional / Thomas

## **Free Little Neighborhood Item of the Week**

Our Free Little Neighborhood Item of the week is soup. Next time you're at the grocery store please pick up a few extra cans or packages of soup. If you can find containers that are microwavable, that is a big help for some of our neighbors who don't have access to a full kitchen.

Weekly Schedule for May 5<sup>th</sup> – April 12<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, May 5 – Sunday Worship (Communion) **10:30 a.m.**  
Building & Grounds Committee **11:30 a.m. Parlor**  
Sustainability Committee **11:30 a.m. Parlor**  
Fred Erickson Lunch **11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall**

Monday –

Tuesday – Quilters **9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall**

Wednesday – OA- **1 p.m.**

Thursday – Piano Lessons **3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Sanctuary**

Friday –

Saturday –

Sunday, May 12 – Sunday Worship **10:30 a.m.**

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Small and Might Youth Event Sunday, May 19**

Our youth ministry partnership, Small and Mighty, will gather for our monthly meeting on Sunday, May 19 for a movie night at a church in the Knoxville area. Our original location is having technical difficulties in their fellowship hall so we are searching for a new location. RSVP to Pastor Matthew if you would like to attend.

### **Happy Highlanders Tuesday, May 21**

Meet at Highland to ride together to the Tellico Plains Mennonite Farm. Pat and David Woody will lead us on a trip of this farmer's market. We will plan to meet at 11am at Highland to carpool.