

What's in
Your Lunch Box?



**HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

August 12, 2018

"Back to School Sunday"

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"WHAT'S IN YOUR LUNCH BOX?"

HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. David Lee, Pastor
Laura Sambito, DCE
Gibson Dixon, Director of Music
Anneliese Robbins, Church Administrator
10900 McCormick Road
Jacksonville, FL 32225
904-641-9622
hupcjax.org/hupc_jax@bellsouth.net

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." (John 6: 51)

We're going to bless those backpacks today. Please place them up front at the steps.

As we prepare our hearts and minds to be open today to the Word, we'll listen to a medley of "Jesus Loves the Little Children" and "Whole World In His Hands" by David Baroni.

Our Service begins with a **WELCOME** to all who are gathered to worship together. We share news of our life together as a church in our service because what we do, outside of worship, is a very vital portion of our 'service to God'.

Our Call to Worship each week is designed to bring us into focus and help us to heighten our awareness of being in a special place, in the presence of God.

Our "Gathering Prayer" is an opportunity for us to center our minds and hearts on the presence of God in our worship today.

"O Sing to the Lord" is our gathering hymn. It is in Spanish and English and has a Brazilian tune! Enjoy!

HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Celebration of Worship

August 12, 2018

"ENTER WITH REVERENCE TO WORSHIP GOD"

MUSIC AND TIME OF PREPARATION

*(Enter reverently. Before the service, speak to God.
During the service, let God speak to you. After the service, speak to one another.)*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AND SHARING LIFE IN THE CHURCH

PRELUDE AND BRINGING THE LIGHT

"Sinfonia No. 15 in B Minor BWV 801" J S Bach
Gibson Grimm, Piano

GATHERING

Good words are coming to us today like bread from heaven.

What kind of words?

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

Those are good words!

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

We come as God's beloved children, seeking the bread that gives new and everlasting life.

Come, let us worship God together.

*OPENING PRAYER (responsive)

O Bread of heaven, come down.

Come down and fill us with your Spirit— for your Spirit satisfies like no other.

We hunger and thirst for you this morning and long to be nurtured
in your love and forgiveness.

So we come to this sacred time and place,

where our hungers are finally and fully satisfied as only your bread can do.

We will wait and listen for your leading in this hour, even as you listen to your prayer from us,

"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."

*GATHERING HYMN NO. 472 "O SING TO THE LORD"

*If comfortable, please stand

***PASSING THE PEACE** (Please Remain Standing)

May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(At this time you are invited to share a sign of peace: a hug, a handshake, a kiss...)

***CHORAL RESPONSE:** (Hymn. No. 438, vs. 1)

“Blest be the tie that binds, Our hearts in Christian love:

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.”

"SEEK FORGIVENESS AND FELLOWSHIP"

***CONFESSION AND PARDON (responsive)**

We have gathered today as people in need of God’s presence in our living. We need to know of God’s love and care. Sometimes, God’s assurances are not heard. We come confessing. Let us pray:

Living God,

being together gives time to reflect on our presence in your world.

We confess that sometimes our lives do not reflect the abundance of your love.

Forgive us, God, and help us.

We confess that sometimes our living does not reflect our gratitude for all you give so freely.

When we do not live as neighbors, when anger controls our actions, when we walk away from hard conversations, when we avoid our own guilt, and fail to build up the Body of Christ,

Forgive us, God, and help us.

Renew our desire to live transformed by your love.

Do not let us be defeated by our failures.

In being honest with you,

keep us from being disheartened disciples.

Renew us, God, and help us. Amen.

**“Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us,
Christ, Have Mercy Upon Us,
Lord, Have Mercy Upon us.”**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God forgives us unconditionally. Through this gift of grace may we have confidence to live, transformed by God.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

***THE GLORIA PATRI**

“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.”**

Our final ‘gathering act’ we **“Pass the Peace”** as an act of caring, welcome, and mutual love. In any language, the love of God is translated into peace as we join hands and hearts together. We are re-gathered as a worshipping community with a verse from the Hymn “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

Corporate Confession:
In the Presbyterian and Reformed Tradition, we do not offer individual confession save for that which we offer in our silent prayers.

“The Proclamation of God’s Word” is central in the life of the worshipping community. This ‘proclamation’ includes the reading of scripture, the sharing of an anthem or musical expression of the day’s theme, the Time With The Young Church and the preaching of the Word.

For “Special Music” today we will invite everyone to sing “Wonder of Wonders.” On our back to school “Blessing of the Backpack” Sunday we’ll share a baptism hymn to remind us of our promises for the raising of our children. The choir will start and then we’ll sing as indicated.

During the “Time with the Young Church” we’ll spend a few minutes talking about ‘back to school’ and then we’d like to bless our school children, youth and school employees and volunteers as they go back to school.

In response to the Word which fills us we sing **“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly,”**

“THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD”

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

(OT: p. 292)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

LET’S ALL SING SPECIAL MUSIC “WONDER OF WONDERS”

(Tune: Vom Himmel Hoch”

**Choir: “Wonder of wonders, here revealed; God's covenant with us is sealed.
And long before we know or pray, God's love enfolds us every day.**

**All: Here in this sacrament we see, God's grace unbound, for all, for me!
May we respond with joyful praise In loving service all our days.**

**Women and Children: Children of God, though young or old, Are welcome
always in Christ's fold, To know with us God's loving care;
Here all our joys and sorrows share.**

**All: Now we our vow of faith renew, Stretch wide our sights to global view,
And claim with Christians far and near A larger family held dear.”**

***NEW TESTAMENT LESSONS**

Ephesians 4:32-5:2

(NT: p. 194)

*John 6:35, 41-51

(NT: p. 98)

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

“BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS”

INTERLUDE

(All children, ages 3 through 1st grade are invited to attend “Children’s Church” after “A Time with the Young Church.” Their leader will meet them in the back of the sanctuary. They may be picked up after worship in the Family Life Center, room #210.)

SERMON

“What’s In Your Lunch Box?”

"SHARING OUR RESPONSE TO GOD"

***HYMN OF RESPONSE “All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”**

**“All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.**

**All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered in communion’s love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.**

**All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.”**

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostles’ Creed (Ecumenical) in Unison)**

“I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic (universal) church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.”

BEING THE CHURCH IN MISSION, PRAYER AND GIVING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Responsive)

We give thanks to you, God, for our lives, which you have blessed.

You lead us through days when the shadow of death overtakes us,
and keep our hearts tender in the midst of loss and
disappointment.

We pray for people whose hearts are breaking,
and for people who are afraid to love and be loved.

Alleluia! Love is a gift from God.

We give thanks to you, God, for giving us a ministry of reconciliation in
this world.

We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, who is our peace.
We pray for broken relationships in families and among friends.
We pray for peace within congregations and between countries
and cultures. May all be reconciled through your peace.

Alleluia! Love is a gift from God.

We give you thanks, O God, for the gift of being made one of your people,
and being given a spiritual home in the Body of Christ.

We pray for our congregation and its leaders.
Nurture in each of us a seasoned faith
and give birth to a lively faith in our midst.

Alleluia! Love is a gift from God.

We give thanks to you, O God, for trusting us to be stewards of your word,
and witnesses to your works of forgiveness, healing, and freedom.

We give thanks for the hope you place among us in the promises
of your word. We pray that we will trust you in return, believing in
your transforming power, proclaiming it with confidence, and
opening ourselves to it even as we welcome others to its hope.

Alleluia! Love is a gift from God.

We are a ‘creedal’ church and we use one of the oldest and most endearing creeds, The Apostles’ Creed, set in a more modern and ecumenical form.

Please take a moment and read through the prayer concerns on the back of the bulletin.

In our prayers we ask for God’s presence with and intervention for those we list each week on the back of the bulletin. We have many who are in ongoing situations of treatment, others who are saddened by loss, and still others who face uncertain futures. We keep these in our prayers today and every day.

Our Offertory Anthem today is "O Taste and See" by Gordon Young. The anthem is based on the 34th Psalm in which the Psalmist declares both God's goodness and our wisdom in trusting in God. We are invited, at the table, to literally 'taste and see' God's graciousness.

A "Charge and Blessing" is the parallel element of worship for the "Call to Worship" which begins the service. The charge is for us to take what we have gained in worship into the world as an active service to God. The blessing is a word to us to remember that God goes with us when we go.

Our Hymn as we go has fed millions over the years with the powerful images of the church.

The 'Benediction' offers the final 'good words' said over God's people as they continue to worship in their living day by day.

Please join us in the Dining Hall following worship for a time of fellowship.

We give thanks to you, O God, that this morning we have opened our eyes to a new day and the privilege of life.

We pray for people who have come to fear a new day,
for those who are depressed, and for those who have lost the joy
of seeing what is good and wondrous in this world.

Alleluia! Love is a gift from God.

We give you thanks for feeding us with living bread and for the hope it offers. We pray for those so very near to us who are hurting in so many ways, and for those very far from us whose lives are in upheaval.

Help us and our world put away all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven us. Help us to be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us and became for us living bread.

Alleluia! Love is a gift from God.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

"O Taste and See"

G. Young

"O taste and see how gracious the Lord is; Blessed is the man that trusteth in him.
O taste and see...that the Lord is good. O Fear the Lord...for there is no want to them that fear him.
O taste and see.... O Fear the Lord."

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**"Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."**

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Be imitators of God, as beloved children,
and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us,
a fragrant offer and sacrifice to God.
Find and share the bread of life!

We Go To Love And Serve The Lord.

***HYMN AS WE GO NO. 433 "There's A Spirit in the Air" (vss. 1-5)**

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE "May the God of Hope"**

**May the Spirit fill our praise,
Guide our thoughts and change our ways.
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!**

**There's a Spirit in the air,
Calling people everywhere;
Praise the love that Christ revealed,
Living, working in our world.**

***- if comfortable, please stand**



HIGHLANDS' HIGHLIGHTS
 This Week at Highlands
 Week of August 12th – August 18th, 2018



This Week's Calendar of Events:

Today:	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
Monday:	9:00 a.m.	Crafty Ladies

"WELCOME ONE ANOTHER, AS CHRIST WELCOMES US!"

HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WELCOMES YOU! We are so glad that you are here and worshipping with us this morning. We are privileged to have you with us and would invite you to a time of Fellowship in our Dining Hall after worship. Please do us a favor by signing the Friendship Register and mark appropriate boxes. There are also visitor cards in the pew racks. **FIRST TIME VISITORS – WE HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU!** Thanks!

MEMBERSHIP AT HIGHLANDS is open to all who believe in Jesus Christ as Lord of their lives and who wish to join in the worship and ministry of this church. The pastor or any member of the Session would be more than happy to discuss this with you.

A NURSERY IS PROVIDED IN THE FAMILY LIFE building for those who wish to have their children cared for during worship. Parents receive a 'silent pager' for peace of mind and will be paged in case of any need. Highlands takes great care in caring for your children.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH FOR AGES 3 THROUGH 1ST grade is in the Family Life building after "A Time with the Young Church," except on Communion Sundays. A nursery is provided for infants through two years of age in the Family Life Center. Worship folders for young Highlands' worshipers can be found at the usher's stand. PARENTS please help your children with their worship experience. **WE LOVE OUR CHILDREN AT HIGHLANDS** and want to keep them safe! Please help us with this goal by ensuring that **all children are supervised by an adult while on the playground at all times.**

DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE IN NEED OF HEARING ASSISTANCE AT THE USHER'S STAND.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



TODAY IS THE 12th Sunday after Pentecost and we gather and hear once again that Jesus is the "bread of life" which prompts, on this back to school Sunday, the question, "What's in our lunch boxes?" Are we sending our children into the world, back to school with the necessary nutrition? Are we working or enjoying our retirement leisure with all the necessary nutrients? Good questions for us today as we 'bless the backpacks and those who carry them. As our children and youth return to school this week we will send them off with our 'blessings.' School children, teachers, assistants and administrators will receive prayers of blessings. This special day is all about the school children. Our children will receive a blessing and we'll receive special offerings for our

Micah's Backpack Children (with financial support and any Micah's food items) and our **Haiti School Children with school supplies** (paper, pencils, crayons, etc. etc). If school kids need it here, they need it there! The Grace of Mercy school has over 60 students meeting on the orphanage grounds along with those children who are being cared for by Grace of Mercy who are also school age. In other words, we need LOTS of supplies!)

IF IT IS 'BACK TO SCHOOL TIME' THEN 'LOGOS' WILL BE COMING SOON! Our "LOGOS Kickoff" supper is Sept. 5 and "LOGOS" begins on September 12. Which means we need LOGOS volunteers!! **WILL YOU HELP WITH 'LOGOS' THIS YEAR?** We are doing our best to fill positions from a 'welcome to LOGOS check-in' to 'see you next week at LOGOS' and everything in between. (Please talk to Dr. Dave about helping in the kitchen for setup, cooking and clean up.) Did YOU stand up when we baptized the LOGOS children and youth when they were baptized and say 'yes', I'll help to raise them in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?' Guess what – that's what LOGOS and Sunday School are all about. Right now, we have positions to be filled by people who made vows. How about helping this year? LOGOS is great fun!

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES BEGINS ON AUGUST 19. Our adult classes will continue, and resume and we have new curriculum for our children and youth! PARENTS do you know where your children will be on Sunday mornings? They NEED to be at HUPC so that we can fulfill our vows spoken at their Baptism to nurture them and raise them in the love of their church!! It is the church's responsibility to provide a program (Sunday School, LOGOS, PYC) for your children! It is YOUR responsibility to see that they are here!

MICAH'S BACKPACK'S FIRST PACKING will be on Thursday August 16 at 5:30 PM in Harris Hall. If you haven't experienced a packing yet, come and join us! You will feel good about feeding little kids and it only takes about 45 minutes, from the time you walk in the door until the last car is loaded for delivery on Friday morning. We are starting with 102 children this year...84 children at HUPC packing site and 18 at St. Matthew's packing site. Come and help feed God's little ones.

Back to Preschool! Our wonderful preschool teachers will be spending this week planning for their upcoming school year. Highlands Precious Gifts has been flourishing and will welcome 95+ students next week as they begin their 26th year! Next week, you'll be invited to take a Prayer Walk to each of their rooms. You are encouraged to spend a few minutes writing encouraging notes for our teachers as they begin a new school year.



OTHER ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE

HIGHLANDS' FALL BLOOD DRIVE is scheduled for Sunday, August 26. Please mark your calendars now. The Oneblood people may call you this summer, but Sharyn' requests that you save your donation for Highlands' blood drive! You will be hearing more about the drive by the middle of August.

HIGHLANDS PRECIOUS GIFTS PRESCHOOL IS ENROLLING for the Fall 2018 school year. Open Enrollment is now in progress for ages 15 months to 4 years old. We are excited to be an outreach of all the great Mission work at Highlands. Providing for a community of children on the campus of Highlands, you truly know God's blessings. Tell your friends and family to stop by for a tour and meet the staff anytime Monday through Friday, 7:00am to 6:00pm

ARLINGTON COMMUNITY SERVICES: ACS needs the following items: toothpaste, powdered milk, canned milk, canned pasta, pasta sauce, canned meat, canned tomatoes, canned potatoes, peanut butter, jelly- HUPC's specialty, and toilet tissue. Every grocery order going out of ACS has a jar of HUPC jelly. We had sixteen jars of jelly last week. **Don't forget your jelly next Sunday!**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED LOVE AND SUPPORT FOR THE CHILDREN OF HAITI. Please make sure your payments are marked "**HAITI CHILDREN**" to ensure the money goes to the correct place.

PRAYER CONCERNS AND TODAY'S SERVICE

SPECIAL AND ONGOING PRAYERS: PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

IN THE HOSPITAL AND UNDER GOING TEST THIS WEEK: Tom Douget's brother, Tim, in Houston.

OUR FRIENDS IN CARE FACILITIES: At the Atrium Rehab Center – Bruce Marley; At Brookdale Southside: (9601 Southbrook Dr., Jax, FL 32256); Hank Green (N-122): At Clare Bridge: Louise Keen; At the Atrium (9960 Atrium Way, 32225): Boyd and Doreen Harris (#528), Doris Ruby (#219), Others: Fay Sweeney (# E10 A) at Cypress Village, 4600 Middleton Park Circle East, Jacksonville, FL 32224).

AT HOME: Jim Walters, Reinhard Bohling, Jim Moss, Joy Patterson, Don Hall, Kit Fink, Jo and Hoagy Carmichael, Kinzey Reeves, Patty Strader, Marilyn Reed, JoAn Ewing, Bruce and Annette Marley, Gwen Brown, Barbara Ash and Carolyn Starkweather.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Kenneth Moon (Barbara's son), Lenwood Lee (Dr. Dave's father), Ashley Parsons (DCE at Orange Park PC), Ed Mallard, and Rebecca Briones' mom.

IN THE MILITARY: Jacob Loerop (Jacob.Loerop@CVN68.navy.mil, IT2 Jacob Loerop CVN 68 USS Nimitz Unit 100103 Box 1771 FPO AP 96620. Amelia Powell (amelia.powell@cvw7.navy.mil) 1163 SW 2nd Avenue, Oak Harbor, WA 98277.

PRAYER BEARS: Prayer Bears and Caring Critters are available in the Fellowship Hall after each service.

MEMBER CARE: Bev Connell is our **Prayer Ministry Coordinator**. Bev's number is **(904) 868-9659**. Her email address is bevconn2016@gmail.com. Please contact Bev with your prayer request. As always, prayer requests can be made as well by calling the church office, completing the gray slips in the church pews, using the church website (hupcjax.org under "Contact Us") or by notifying your Shepherd.

FAMILIES WE ARE PRAYING FOR THIS WEEK: Barbara Ash, The Austin Family and Twila Baker.

OUR VOLUNTEERS THIS MORNING ARE: Greeters: Jim and Jan Walters. Children's Church Leader: Jessica Sorrells.

THE FLOWERS ON THE COMMUNION TABLE are given to the glory of God by Mark and Bonnie Vanderberg.