



HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

AUGUST 13, 2017
10th Sunday of Pentecost

“A Step Or Two Will Do”

HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. David Lee, Pastor

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"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10:13-15)

Today is the 10th
Sunday following
Pentecost.

As we prepare for
worship we'll listen
to a folk version of
the song, "Walking
on Water" by a
husband and wife
duo who call
themselves, "We
Are the Monks."

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.
Today we echo the
gospel lesson from
Matthew.

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

HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

August 13, 2017 – 10th Sunday of Pentecost

"ENTER WITH REVERENCE TO WORSHIP GOD"

"WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP"

(They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Day by day, as they spent much time together, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.)

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.)

CHIMING THE HOUR

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AND SHARING LIFE IN THE CHURCH

PRELUDE AND BRINGING THE LIGHT

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Here, in this place, God welcomes all the dreamers, as well as the doubters:

here, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.

Here, in this time, we can remember all the ways God has graced us:

here, in these moments, we are reminded that God is with us, always!

Here are gathered those daring enough to step out of comfort into the unknown:

here, in this faith space, we will find the courage to cry out, 'God, save us!' in every situation.

Here we gather to worship.

*GATHERING PRAYER (responsive)

Holy Lord of power and might, of sea and mountain range,
of day and night,

we come yielding our will to yours in search of your peace.

Gather us this day, God of all, in this place of sanctuary rest.

Call us from the fretting care of our lives into your place, your space, claiming us once again.

Hear us pray,

"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."

*if comfortable, please stand

***HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 293** **“This Is My Father's World”**

***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. 461, vs. 1)**

“God is here! As we Your people meet to offer praise and prayer,

May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.

Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts

Wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.”

"SEEK FORGIVENESS AND FELLOWSHIP"

***CONFESSION AND PARDON (Unison)**

Too often when life threatens us, we trust the world to save us, finding it easy to believe the empty promises of seduction and doubt. But our God offers us forgiveness and healing, if we will but trust and follow. Let us begin by confession our sins together,

It seems so easy to get into the boat and set sail on our journey, God of Promises. But when the winds of change begin to blow, we want to turn around and head back to the past's safe harbor. When sin's waves crash over the side, we try to wrap ourselves in the cloak of pride thinking we will not get wet. When Jesus calls to us to get out and follow in faith, we look around, hoping he is not speaking to us.

Swamped by our fears, and sinking in doubt, we long for someone to help us - so save us, Holy One, save us! Stretch out your hand, so we might be lifted from our despair to hope, from our worries to trust, from our foolishness to faithful living. Then, we will dare to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, even if it means getting out of the sheltered lives we have built for ourselves. Amen.

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

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

In confessing that Christ is Lord, we let go of the past, and turn to God's future. We step out of our fears, and walk into the light and life offered by our God.

In trusting Christ's resurrection, we trust all of God's promises, letting the Spirit work in and through us, healing and making us whole. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

***THE GLORIA PATRI (Hymn No. 579)**

**“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 opening hymn is one of the great hymns of the church, “This Is My Father's World.” From a poem by Maltie Babcock a Presbyterian minister, the original poem was composed in 16 four-line stanzas, each beginning with “This is my Father's world.” One of Babcock's friends, Franklin Shepherd adapted an English folk song inserting portions of Babcock's text into three, eight-line stanzas. The hymn in this form first appeared in the composer's hymnal *Alleluia*, a Presbyterian Sunday school book published in 1915.

In our final ‘gathering act’ we “**Pass the Peace**” as an act of caring, welcome, and mutual love.

Corporate Confession:
In the Presbyterian and Reformed Tradition, we do not offer individual confession save for that which we offer in our silent prayers. Our prayer and the “**Assurance of Forgiveness**” echo themes for the day.

“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.

Today’s anthem is “Hymn of Promise,” which was originally, “In the Bulb There is A Flower”: written by a very popular hymnist, Natalie Sleeth, composed as an anthem and dedicated to her husband, Rev. Ronald Sleeth, who was diagnosed with cancer very soon after its composition. The anthem is widely sung and greatly enjoyed.

As we respond to God’s Word preached, we sing together hymn pleas for us to ‘Give To the Wind Your Fears,’ which extends the message of the gospel for the day. Written by Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676) who ranks, next to Martin Luther, as the most gifted and popular hymnwriter of the Lutheran Church. Translated for the English-speaking world by John Wesley this hymn challenges us to embrace the ‘sovereign care’ of God.

“THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD”

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

1 Kings 19:9-18

(OT: p. 326)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be To God!

ANTHEM

“Hymn of Promise”

Sleeth

"In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there’s a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There’s a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
There’s a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see."

*NEW TESTAMENT LESSONS

Romans 10:5-15

(NT: p.160)

*Matthew 14:22-33

(NT: p.16)

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

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 #207.)

SERMON

“A Step Or Two Will Do”

"SHARING OUR RESPONSE TO GOD"

*HYMN OF RESPONSE “Give To The Winds Your Fears”

(Tune: “Festal Song” “Arise Your Light Is Come”)

**“Give to the winds your fears, Hope and be undismayed.
God hears your sighs and counts your tears, God shall lift up your head.**

**Through waves and clouds and storms, God gently clears your way;
Wait patiently; so shall this night soon end in joyous day.**

**You see our weakness, Lord; Our hearts are known to You;
You lift us by our sinking hands, and take away our fear.**

**Leave to God’s sovereign care, to choose and to command;
So you shall, wandering, yield this day, to our God’s reaching hand.”**

***THE APOSTLES' CREED** (*Ecumenical version*)

"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

**Discipleship and Moment for Mission
As We Come to Prayer**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (responsive)

"Gracious God, you never grow weary, and you never feel faint.

But we come in the storms of our lives, crying for you, exhausted and weak, begging for mercy. Some of us come from storms with emotional burdens and struggles with self confidence, or feeling alone. Some of us come from storms of grief or struggling to understand why a loved one has fallen ill.

There are those of us who are gathered here today but are not sure why, and some are afraid, wondering how we can know you better or feel your presence as we exist in the chaos of life's waters.

All of us come to you in awe of your power and longing for you to use it in our benefit.

We need your guidance as we come here trying to be the body of Christ, but are at a loss for exactly what that means.

Help us to embrace our baptism and our call to live for you.

Guide our words as we comfort those we love and reach out to our enemies.

Help us be a voice worth hearing in this time of unrest in our world, a voice of hope and truth. Help us be the body of Christ. We pray in the strong name of Jesus, Amen!"

**GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS
OFFERTORY**

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (Hymn No. 592)

**"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."**

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.

“GOD’S PEOPLE SENT INTO THE WORLD”

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 of Parting is another ‘hymn of the day’ by Brenton Prigge, ‘We Listen.’ This, too, is a song and a challenge for us to trust in God who speaks to us so that we, in bold faith, might speak of God to others.

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.

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Jesus calms the storms of our living every day.

In faith we have gathered seeking the gift of faith.

Jesus reaches out to us and says, “Come.”

**It’s frightening. We constantly hear ourselves praying,
“Lord, save us.”**

He says, “You of little faith, why do you doubt?” Why do we doubt when lives change, when blessings are received, when, at table, we remember the depth of his love?

The wind ceases. Surely it is God who saves us.

Go in that knowledge, in that peace, with that grace, wrapped in the arms of faith.

***HYMN AS WE GO**

"We Listen"

Brenton Prigge

(Tune: Come Sing, O Church, In Joy)

**1. As children of God's love, we listen for a Sound;
not thunder from above, no quake to shake the ground;
no trumpet note, no gales nor fires; for angel choirs we listen not.**

**2. For children in God's will, this Sound is plain to hear:
God's whisper small and still within the faithful's ear.
So speak, O Lord: say what you may, we would obey your every word.**

**3. We of such little Faith! We drown in storms of life;
lose sight of Jesus' face, and we are soon in strife.
Yet from these waves - from darkest lakes of our mistakes –
our Jesus saves!**

**4. We heard and we believe, we called upon His name;
now this is why we live: in faith we have been saved.
Now we must share: If we don't speak to all who seek,
how will they hear?**

**5. Come children of the Lord, take courage, do not fear!
God's promise is His Word and surely He is near.
Go out in faith: Go tell the world, the needful word
that Jesus saves!**

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE “May the God of Hope”**

**“May the God of hope go with us every day,
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope to every land and race.**

**Praying, let us work for peace, Singing, share our joy with all,
Working for a world that's new, Faithful when we hear Christ's call.”**

**- if comfortable, please stand*



HIGHLANDS' HIGHLIGHTS
 This Week at Highlands
 Week of August 13 – August 19, 2017



This Week's Calendar of Events:

Today:	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Sunday School Worship Service – Back to School Sunday
Monday:	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Crafty Ladies Crafty Ladies Evening Group
Friday:	9:00 a.m.	Quilting and Sewing Group

“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

WELCOME ONE ANOTHER...AS CHRIST HAS WELCOMED YOU! Today is the 19th Sunday in Ordinary time. We continue to hear today how God meets us, embraces us and challenges us within the stories of our lives.

WE ARE BACK – ALMOST! WE ARE KICKING OFF OUR WELLNESS PROGRAMS ON WED, SEPTEMBER 6TH. Our Wellness Program will begin with seated yoga at 10:00 am and Adult Logos will follow around 11:00 am. Seated yoga can easily be adapted to anyone's physical interest and we are looking forward to John Smith's usual presentation making Bible study amusing and informative. **And**, since Sept. 6th is the first Wednesday in the month we will have **LUNCH BUNCH**, too. Everyone is invited to join us for Lunch Bunch which is very social and FUN! Even if you don't join the excitement at Adult Logos, (you really should consider joining) we look forward to another superb year and hope to see you at Lunch Bunch. Namaste' and God Bless.



OUR AFTERNOON LOGOS ALSO KICKS-OFF OUR 25TH YEAR AT HIGHLANDS ON SEPTEMBER 6TH!

We will be looking for volunteers to help in this extraordinary program! We will need teachers, table-parents, cooks and cleaners. Please consider spending a few hours on Wednesdays with some pretty awesome kids (and adults).

SIGN UP TODAY FOR OUR NEXT BLOOD DRIVE COMING UP ON AUGUST 27.

OUR FAMILY PROMISE GUESTS WILL BE ARRIVING NEXT MONTH (September 10 – 17), and there will be many opportunities to volunteer. Your time (as few as 2 hours) will help 3 homeless families get back on their feet and into their own home. If you are willing to volunteer to help give these families a “leg up”, please stop by the Family Promise table this Sunday and see what volunteer opportunities are available.

MICAH'S BACK PACK begins packing again on August 17. The ‘food list’ is on the back of the insert in today's bulletin. We can use any and all items on the list and we, of course, gladly accept financial contributions. Make sure you mark your checks, “Micah's.” Set up team and packers will resume this great program as school gets started! Want to help? Call Bonnie or come on the 17th at 5:15 p.m. Thanks!

OTHER ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE

PRESCHOOL OPPORTUNITY!! HIGHLANDS PRECIOUS GIFTS PRESCHOOL!! We are currently accepting applications for a Preschool Teacher Position and Assistant Teacher position to work closely with Michele Loerop, Director and the staff to continue providing excellence in quality child care for the surrounding community.

ACS NEEDS MALE VOLUNTEERS! Able bodied men able to lift 30-40 lbs to work 9am - 12pm, only 3 hours a day are needed in order for ACS to be open. Even if you are willing to work 'occasionally' or 'on call' please speak with Debbie Woods at (904)503-8496. Thanks!

HIGHLANDS PRECIOUS GIFTS PRESCHOOL IS ENROLLING for the Fall 2017 school year 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. Stop by for a tour and meet the staff anytime Monday through Friday, 7:00am to 6:00pm. Tell your family, friends and neighbors about our great pre-school.

A SPECIAL THANK-YOU to Sally and Sigrid for the beautiful handmade baby quilts and blankets. They send a wonderful message to the challenged newborns and families in Jacksonville. They are used by the Little Miracles office at the University of Florida Hospital here in Jacksonville. (formerly known as Shands) They make gift bags for those in need. Our mission to fight poverty in our own community is important. Another wonderful way Highlands is The Church! Many Thanks!! Mission Committee.

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. Eight jars of jelly were collected this week. Every grocery order going out of ACS has a jar of HUPC jelly!

YOUR MISSION COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP. We are looking for a few items for the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance kits. We are in need of 16 X 26-inch hand towels and single pack toothbrushes. (The one your dentist gives you would be great). Thanks for your continued love and support of this very basic and much needed program.

THANKS FOR YOUR EXCELLENT SUPPORT OF HAITI!!! 30 sponsored children mean sustaining care for the children and staff of the Grace of Mercy orphanage in Haiti. Please remember your monthly pledge and **BE SURE YOUR CHECKS ARE MARKED "SPONSOR FOR HAITI CHILDREN"** to ensure the money goes into the right account. (Anybody have an old car?)

PRAYER CONCERNS AND TODAY'S SERVICE

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

OUR FRIENDS IN CARE FACILITIES: Kit Fink is in Rehab at the Atrium. Al Hummel has gone to Brooks Rehab (Bartram) *At Brookdale Southside:* (9601 Southbrook Dr. 32256), Louise Keen (Clare Bridge); Hank Green (N-122); *At the Atrium (9960 Atrium Way, 32225):* Boyd and Doreen Harris (#528), Doris Ruby (#219); *Others:* Fay Sweeney (Cypress Village, 4600 Middleton Park Circle East # E 10 A, Jacksonville, FL 32224), Linda Youmans (c/o Teri Grimm, 4206 Harbour Island Dr. 32225),

AT HOME: Don Hall, Mary Lou McNaughton, Nancy Moewe, Don Hall, Bill Duval, Jo and Hoagy Carmichael, Nancy Hoot, Kinzey & Betty Reeves, Patty Strader, Marilyn Reed, JoAn Ewing, Bruce and Annette Marley, Gwen Brown, Barbara Ash.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Debbie Douget's dad, Don Seay, Justin Marley (Bruce and Annette's grandson), Kenneth Moon (Barbara's son), Lenwood Lee (Dr. Dave's father), Ashley Parsons (DCE at Orange Park PC), Ed Mallard

IN THE MILITARY: Jacob Loerop (Jacob.Loerop@CVN68.navy.mil), IT3 Jacob Loerop CVN 68 USS Nimitz Unit 100103 Box 1771 FPO AP 96620. Amelia Powell (amelia.powell@cvw7.navy.mil), AT2 Powell, Amelia N., VAQ-140, Unit 200107 Box 142, FPO AP 96601.

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: Phil and Bev Connell, The Conner Family and The DeCastro Family.

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR Kim Plette and her family upon the physical death of her father, Sam Thames.

A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR PAT HUMMEL is scheduled for Saturday, August 26, at 11 a.m.

OUR VOLUNTEERS THIS MORNING ARE: Greeter: Rick Stevenson. Children's Church Leader: Chad Sambito. Nursery Attendant: Kim Arreola.

THE FLOWERS ON THE COMMUNION TABLE are given to the glory of God in memory of Frances Byrne, Susan's mother, by Susan and Dr. Dave.