



**HIGHLANDS UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 11, 2018

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD SUNDAY

"Following...Into the Mystery"

HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**"Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son,
the Beloved; listen to him!" (Mark 9:7)**

HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

February 11, 2018 – Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday

“WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP”

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. We pray, seeking God’s presence among us as we worship.)

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AND SHARING LIFE IN THE CHURCH

PRELUDE AND BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus says to us, “Follow Me.”

Up this mountain?! We can’t miss this!

It is easy to stand here in the valley of our comfort.

Here, we know what to expect and what is expected of us.

Christ calls us to the mountain top to receive a new vision.

Are we prepared for that?

Jesus calls us to 'rise up' to new heights. We should all be --

Very Lofty Heights!

Place your hope and trust in Christ, for He is your guide.

Let us open our hearts to Christ, ready for the vision he places before us.

Come to the mountaintop and worship!

*GATHERING PRAYER (Unison)

"O Holy One, on mountaintops and valley floors you reveal to us the light of your love. Our hearts desire is to bask in the amazing glory of the divine presence. With each encounter we are changed and transformed. Help us, O Holy One, to live our lives as a reflection of divine glory. May we walk among our brothers and sister as a blessing, bearing light into dark places, hope to displace despair, and love that casts out hate. Our world is hurting, and we need the followers of Jesus to follow more closely. Maybe then we will hear your voice speaking to us and saying, ... “listen to my Child, the Beloved!” Even now may we pray with him, "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."

* HYMN NO. 150

“Come, Christians, Join To Sing”

***Please stand if you are comfortable doing so**

Today is
Transfiguration
Sunday and JOY
Sunday.
Transfiguration
Sunday is the final
Sunday of Epiphany
and the Sunday
before Ash
Wednesday and the
beginning of Lent.
We welcome the
leadership of J.O.Y.
(Jubilant Offerings of
Youth), our LOGOS
and HPGP Choirs.

Music as we prepare
for worship is
“Transfiguration” by
David Fitzgerald who
was a founding
member of “Iona.”
Iona is
a progressive Celtic
rock band from the
United Kingdom.
Transfiguration is
about an eruption of
light in the world that
we call Jesus.

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” and
“Gathering Prayer”
set the ‘tone’ and
give focus to our
worship themes for
the day. Our goal is
to see and
experience the light
of Christ in our
world and in this
place.

Our opening Hymn
is a call for all of us
to join hearts and
voices in praise of
God. “Come,
Christians, join to
sing - - Alleluia!
Amen.”

***PASSING THE PEACE**

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 (Responsive)**

Gathered on a mountaintop, in awe of the presence of pure Spirit, we try to make sense of all of our living. Sin veils our eyes when we need most desperately to see. Let us pray:

Lord Jesus Christ, through the freedom of your Spirit, we can relate to you with unveiled faces -- radiating your glory and your love not only through our words and our deeds, but through our expression and our disposition. We confess, however, that our attitudes can conceal rather than reveal you.

If we conceal your love because our eyes are veiled through prejudice and intolerance, forgive us, Lord.

If we conceal your glory by reflecting our self-centeredness, and
if we conceal your truth through our lack of credible witness, forgive us, Lord.

If we conceal your justice through our failure to empower those who are powerless, and

if we conceal your mercy through hard and unforgiving

attitudes,

forgive us, Lord.

If we conceal your compassion through our indifference to those in need,

and

if we fail to renounce any shameful attitudes of mind and heart so that we reveal your glory in and through all we do and say and are, forgive us, Lord.

This we pray in your name, and in the power and freedom of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God is Spirit, and where the spirit of God is, there is freedom. Know that God’s spirit is in “All of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image...” And - “If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new” The good news therefore is this: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

***THE GLORIA PATRI**

In our final ‘gathering act’ we “**Pass the Peace**” as an act of caring, welcome, and mutual love. Please remain standing as we sing the 1st verse of “God Is Here!”

Our ‘confession’ in the Presbyterian Church is a ‘corporate’ or ‘communal’ statement of our general and specific offenses against God and one another. Our prayer for the day is often guided by the words of scripture we will be reading in worship.

At the close of our prayer we ask for God’s mercy in the “Kyrie Eleison,” which is a choral bridge between our prayers and the “**Assurance of Forgiveness**” which declares our forgiveness.

Finally, we give praise to our triune God for the assurance that we are, by grace, forgiven.

Having confessed our sin and realized God's forgiveness, the church gathered is prepared to hear the Word of God read and proclaimed.

"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.

We are very glad to have our Highlands Precious Gifts and Jr. LOGOS singers with us today. Welcome HPGP families!

Our Hymn of Response is a Hymn for Transfiguration, "We Have Come At Christ's Own Bidding" which is set to the very familiar tune "Hyfrodol."

We 'say what we believe' as another corporate act in the Presbyterian Church. Today we share a 'An Affirmation of Faith for Transfiguration Sunday.

**"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."**

"THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD"

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

2 Kings 2: 1 -14

(OT: p. 332)

The Word of The Lord.

Thanks be to God!

NEW TESTAMENT LESSONS

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

(NT: p. 180)

***Mark 9:2-10**

(NT: p. 44)

SPECIAL MUSIC "Behold Behold" (by Cedarment Kids Action Bible Songs
Highlands Precious Gifts Singers and Jr. LOGOS

"This Little Light of Mine"
LOGOS Choir

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

INTERLUDE

(In the 10 a.m. service, 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

"Following...Into the Mystery"

***HYMN OF RESPONSE "We Have Come At Christ's Own Bidding"**

("Sing the Faith" No. 2103)

**"We have come at Christ's own bidding to this high and holy place,
Where we wait with hope and longing For some token of God's grace.
Here we pray for new assurance That our faith is not in vain,
Searching like those first disciples For a sign both clear and plain.**

**Light breaks in upon our darkness, Splendor bathes the flesh-joined Word,
Moses and Elijah marvel As the heavenly voice is heard.
Eyes and hearts behold with wonder How the Law and Prophets meet:
Christ with garments drenched in brightness, Stands transfigured and
complete.**

**Strengthened by this glimpse of glory, Fearful lest our faith decline,
We like Peter find it tempting To remain and build a shrine.
But true worship gives us courage To proclaim what we profess,
That our daily lives may prove us People of the God we bless."**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FOR TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY (Responsive)**

We believe in an innovative God,
**who does not wait for us to find ourselves
but comes seeking the lost and calling us into a new way--
up the mountain and back to life below.**

We believe in Jesus of Nazareth as God's crucial initiative,
that when he calls us to follow, Christ also gives us the power to become, both in creed and deed, the children of the living God.

We believe in the Spirit by whom Jesus still comes to us,
calling us to follow him into an obedience which is true liberty and to a humble service which is the fruit of holy friendship.

We believe in the church as the fellowship of Christ's people,
called to respect and support one another through joys and tribulations as we travel the road towards the "promised land" of God's future.

Because Christ has called us, in this we truly believe.

On the mountaintop and in the valley below, we belong to God.

BEING THE CHURCH IN PRAYER AND GIVING

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Responsive)**

Great and awesome God, when Moses came from being in your presence, his face shone.

May your glory shine through us, O God.

We pray that others might see your glory in what we say and do – not to make us to look wonderful, but that in our words, our actions, our very living, they might know that our lives are changed for the better, because we are your people.

May your glory shine through us, O God.

We pray that we might tremble in your presence, not out of fear, but by the simple awareness of your goodness. Help us to see you are the holy one, the lover of justice and, like you, may we seek to establish equity and justice through our living.

May your glory shine through us, O God.

Help us to cast aside falseness and deceit, that we might look at ourselves in a mirror, and see your goodness reflected in us. May we experience the true freedom that comes from being in the presence of your Holy Spirit.

May your glory shine through us, O God.

May we be with you on the mountaintop, O God, sharing glimpses of your glory in the midst of our daily lives. Be with us in the valleys, the wilderness and desert of Lent, the journey that leads to the cross and beyond the empty tomb, empowering us for ministry in the name of your beloved Child, your Chosen One, to whom we listen with open hearts and open minds.

May your glory shine through us, O God.

We know, too, Lord, that in the valley in which we live there is pain and pressure, there is sorrow and sadness, there is fear and faith that is tested daily. In silence, we offer prayers for our brothers and sisters, both near and far, who are in need of your comfort, your care, your intervention in their living. Help us, too, Lord, to be your agents of care in the world, to so allow your light to shine through us that others may know your glory and may seek your truth. May your light so shine in the world that the darkness of evil might be dispelled, and true peace be found.

The "Prayers of the People" are intended to draw us closer to God, to one another, and to all of God's children in the world. We offer God praise, we give God thanks, we lift up our brothers and sisters and finally we pray for ourselves.

The "Morning Offering" is another way that we respond to God in thanks for God's Word, Jesus Christ, and for the multitude of God's blessings in our living. We give, of course, to support the church and its mission in the community and in the world, but we also give as a sign and symbol of our recognition that it is God who is the source of all we have and all that we are. (If you give 'electronically' we thank you and encourage you to place one of the 'cards' in the plate as a symbol of that giving.)

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

Thanks to J.O.Y. for leading worship today!

Please join us 'across the way' in the Dining Hall for a time of Fellowship.

May your glory shine through us, O God. Amen.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

"Shine, Jesus, Shine!"

J.O.Y.

Refrain: Shine, Jesus, shine fill this land with the father's glory;
blaze, spirit, blaze. Set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word lord, and let there be light

Lord, the light of your love is shining in the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us; set us free by the truth you now bring us
shine on me, shine on me. Refrain:

Lord, I come to your awesome presence from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness search me, try me, consume all my darkness
shine on me, shine on me. Refrain:

As we gaze on your kingly brightness so our faces display your likeness;
ever changing from glory to glory mirrored here may our lives tell your story
shine on me, shine on me. Refrain:

***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**

Go in the glory of God to be the glory of God, shining in the world.
Take the presence of God with you wherever you go.

We go in joy to serve the Lord!

***HYMN NO. 434**

**"Today We Are All Called to Be"
(vss. 1-3)**

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE**

**"May we in service to our God Act out the living Word,
And walk the road the saints have trod Till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we Give thanks in one accord
To God who calls us all to be Disciples of the Lord."**

***Please stand if you are comfortable doing so**

HIGHLANDS' HIGHLIGHTS

This Week at Highlands

Week of February 11 – February 17, 2018

This Week's Calendar of Events:

Today:	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Sunday School Worship w/J.O.Y. Annual Spaghetti Dinner / Dessert Auction
Monday:	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Crafty Ladies Crafty Ladies – Evening Group
Tuesday:	9:00 a.m.	Quilting and Sewing Group
Wednesday:	10:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:15 ish	Wellness (Yoga at 10 and Adult Logos at 11) Logos is celebrating 25 years at HUPC Pancake Supper Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday:	5:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Packing for Micah's Backpack Handbell Rehearsal

“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 TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY and we are glad to welcome you! Our service is being led by J.O.Y. (Jubilant Offerings of Youth) who will be joined in our worship celebration by our LOGOS Choirs, and by the combined Jr. LOGOS and Highlands Precious Gifts Singers. What a wonderful day of worship as we 'go up the mountain' with Jesus for a true experience of Epiphany. **Transfiguration Sunday is the last Sunday of Epiphany** which means that this Wednesday is "**Ash Wednesday**" and you are invited to an "**Ash Wednesday Service**" including the imposition of ashes at 7:15 p.m. Come early and join us at Logos Supper for pancakes! (Please make a reservation today with the green slips.)

OUR SECOND PYC MONTREAT FUND RAISER IS TONIGHT AT 6 p.m. Join us for a great spaghetti supper, our annual dessert auction and a lot of fun! The **third event** is our annual "Yard Sale" which is March 3 and you may bring your 'offerings' beginning on Sunday, February 25. **Thanks for supporting our youth.**

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!! Not only did we exceed our goal of collecting 2018 cans of food for " **Souper Bowl of Caring**" but, we gathered 1460 pounds of food for ACS and 587 pounds of food for Micah's Backpack for a total of 2,047 pounds of food for hungry families and school children in our neighborhoods. Way to go Highlands – **that's SUPER!!**

OUR 'FAMILY PROMISE' GUESTS move to their next church this afternoon. Thanks to all the volunteers for making this a very successful week! Look for our guests to return this summer. Thanks again!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ELECTED ELDERS TO THE CLASS OF 2020! They are Rebecca Briones, John Morrison, Jennifer Terrell and Julia Wolfson. **A SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION WILL BE A PART OF OUR WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY.**

WELLNESS IN ON WEDNESDAYS: Our program begins with seated yoga at 10:00 a.m. and Adult LOGOS follows 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.

WE'RE CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF LOGOS AT HUPC!! We're having a great time at logos – learning a little and laughing a lot; children of all ages are welcome to come and join us! The theme for this week is "Fat Tuesday on Ash Wednesday", and you are invited to wear Mardi Gras attire.

THANKS! Once again, the people of HUPC have responded to Christ's call. We have reached and also surpassed our goal of sponsoring 30 children in Haiti this year. It's a good thing because there are some new children who have recently arrived. Once again, thanks, for providing food, clothing, medical care, shelter, schooling and a better life for these children. On behalf of Grace of Mercy Outreach Ministries, Inc. and the children in Haiti – THANKS AND GOD BLESS HUPC!

OTHER ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE

HEY HIGHLANDS?! HOW WAS THAT CUP OF COFFEE? How about that brownie? Oh, you had some fruit and a cookie too? Your Fellowship Committee and friends loves providing but could use some help. How about a contribution that's financial or from your oven? Want to help, speak to your Sunday morning servers. And most of all, say, "**THANKS!!**"

HIGHLANDS PRECIOUS GIFTS PRESCHOOL WILL BE ENROLLING for the Fall 2018 school year on Monday, February 12th for HUPC members and Tuesday, February 20th will begin Open Enrollment - 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

THE THOUGHTFUL CHRISTIAN CLASS studies many different topics and looks forward to lively conversation. Please join us for this interesting and informative class. On February 18th they will study "Humility", presented by Kendall Starkweather.

WE HAVE SEVERAL MISCELLANEOUS SERVING TRAYS, BOWLS AND LIDS on a table in the fellowship hall. Please stop by and see if anything belongs to you.

HIGHLAND'S BABY SHOWER: In December, your donations of 20 blankets and 42 outfits became much appreciated gifts for 20 newborns here in Jacksonville. Your love and care for these precious babies is a blessing to their families and friends. Many thanks from your Highlands Mission Committee – for more information contact Susan Lee at 887-4661

THERE ARE STILL SOME OPEN DATES on the flower calendar for 2018. Please take a moment to see if you would like to provide flowers for the following dates: July 22nd or September 30th Thanks!

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. Many jars of jelly were collected this week. Every grocery order going out of ACS has a jar of HUPC jelly. **Don't forget your jelly next Sunday!**

UPDATE FROM YOUR MISSION COMMITTEE. We need 15 more 16 X 26-inch hand towels, and especially fingernail clippers without files or tweezers in order to have another "batch" of kits ready to go. Thanks for your help!

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 into the right account.

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: *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: Kit Fink, Don Hall, Jo and Hoagy Carmichael, Nancy Hoot, Kinzey Reeves, Patty Strader, Marilyn Reed, JoAn Ewing, Bruce and Annette Marley, Gwen Brown, Barbara Ash and Carolyn Starkweather.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: 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: Sam Morrison, Jim Moss and Debra Nord.

OUR VOLUNTEERS THIS MORNING ARE: Greeters: Victor and Kim Arreola. Children's Church Leader: Erika Conner.

THE FLOWERS ON THE COMMUNION TABLE are given to the glory of God by Ben and Sandi Whitfield.