

Today is the 6th Sunday in "Ordinary Time."
Ordinary Time is called "ordinary" not because it is common but simply because the weeks of **Ordinary Time** are numbered. The Latin word "ordinalis," which refers to numbers in a series, stems from the Latin word ordo, from which we get the English word order. "Ordinary Time" marks the Sundays of the Church year which are not in special 'seasons' or single 'special days.'

We welcome the leadership of J.O.Y. (Jubilant Offerings of Youth).

Music as we prepare for worship is an orchestral version of "Don't Worry Be Happy" Psalm 119:1 says, "Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD." That's the key to happiness.

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 opening Hymn is a classic! John Wesley was a Methodist and prolific hymn writer. This hymn was originally in 18 verses. The verses in our Hymnal, as in most, are the 7th through the 11th of the original. Wesley wrote this 18-stanza hymn as a celebration of his conversion experience. It is one of the most sung and loved across the whole of the church today.

HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Celebration of Worship

February 12, 2017 -- 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time

"ENTER WITH REVERENCE TO WORSHIP GOD"

MUSIC AND TIME OF PREPARATION

(Take this opportunity to pause for a moment and pray for God's presence among us today, our worship leaders, those who worship with you and for yourself.)

CHIMING THE HOUR

WELCOME AS WE GATHER & SHARE LIFE IN THE CHURCH

PRELUDE AND BRINGING THE LIGHT

"Festive Praise"

J.O.Y. Handbell Choir

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Happy are the faithful.

We want to be happy!

Happy are those who share praise with a heart of pure love.

Happy are those who know God's love, and live with joy.

Then, gathered together, let's be faithful.

Happy to be here in God's house.

Happy are those who walk in God's ways.

Blessed are those who observe God's commandments.

Faithful are those whose eyes are fixed on righteousness.

Joyful are those whose hearts are filled with praise.

Come, let us love the Lord our God.

We come to worship the One who leads us in the ways of life.

*GATHERING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

Come, Holy One: teach us your ways, lead us in your paths, guide us on our journey. Speak to us your words of life, for you offer us direction and wholeness when we hear your voice and follow. You bless us with your love, shower us with your grace, and help us grow in faith. We seek you, O God, with all our hearts. Be near us this day we pray, in Jesus' name, "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. 466 "O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing"

*If comfortable, please stand

*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 (Responsively)

God's word promises happiness and blessing to us when we walk in God's ways and seek to follow God's guide for our living. We know right from wrong. We can readily see the consequences of our actions. And yet, we continue to walk away from the life God offers us. Let us seek that way in prayer:

Loving God, you call us to walk in your ways, observe your commandments, and love you as you have loved us.

**You offer us a community of abundant blessing,
with rich soil to promote dynamic growth.**

Yet we often turn away from you to satisfy our own wants and desires.

**We forsake the way of love and forgiveness,
giving in to petty jealousies and quarreling,
and surrendering our lofty ideals to our baser
inclinations. Forgive us, O God.**

When we flee from your embrace, draw us into community with you and with one another.

**Shower us with the cleansing waters of humility,
that we may reclaim our purpose and find nourishment
and growth in labors of love to bring your kingdom in
our midst. Amen.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God is alive and at work nurturing our growth, nourishing our needs, and reconciling us to one another. God hears the confessions of our hearts and forgives generously, sharing love with all who follow in God's ways. It is through God's amazing grace that we are forgiven. And all God's children respond:

Thanks be to God!

*GLORY TO GOD (STF 2033)

**“Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
To God be glory forever! To God be glory forever!
Alleluia, Amen! Alleluia, Amen!
Alleluia, Amen! Alleluia, Amen!
Alleluia, Amen! Alleluia, Amen!”**

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 prayers for the day are often guided by the words of scripture we will be reading in worship. Today's scripture reminds us of God's command to live according to the 'statutes and ordinances' or 'laws' which will lead to a good and happy life. In Matthew Jesus speaks pointedly about the opposite truth – the destructive power of our sin.

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 worshiping 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 so happy to welcome the Highlands Precious Gifts Preschool Singers and their families to our worship today, as they share "What A Mighty God We Serve!"

Our LOGOS choir will share an "Epiphany" anthem entitled "May My Light Shine." The season of Epiphany is all about the coming of the light into the world and our challenge to live in and reflect that light. "May I shine so others see. May my light shine," is a perfect expression of the hope of Epiphany.

Our "Hymn of Response," "Jesu, Jesu" is by Tom Colvin, a Church of Scotland missionary in Malawi and Ghana. He wrote this text in 1963 while he was attending a lay-training course in evangelism. New converts had brought a folk melody to this meeting, which they thought might be appropriate for a text about Christian love. Colvin explained his writing of the text as follows: "Sitting there in the moonlight, I felt it simply had to be about black and white, rich and poor. I was ashamed of the wasteful affluence of my people but proud of the Gospel that transforms us into servants of one another. It is only when we who are rich learn to have the humility of the slave towards the poor of the world that we shall be able to learn from them; they have so much to teach us and share with us."

"THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD"

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

(OT: p.186)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be To God!

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

(NT: p. 67)

*Matthew 5:21-37

(NT: p. 4)

SPECIAL MUSIC "What A Mighty God We Serve"

Highlands Precious Gifts Preschool Singers

*"What a mighty God we serve, What a mighty God we serve
The angels bow before Him Heaven and earth adore Him
What a mighty God we serve."*

"May My Light Shine"

LOGOS Choir

"May my light shine Like the star of Bethlehem.

May the world see God's love through me.

May my light shine for my Jesus and My King

May I shine so others see.

Star of wonder, star of light Shining down for all to see.

Star of wonder, star of light, Shine your light through me.

May my light shine Like the star of Bethlehem.

May the world see God's love through me.

May my light shine For my Jesus and my King

May I shine so others see.

Star of wonder star of light, May I keep my eyes on you.

Star of wonder, star of light, Shine in all I do.

May my light shine Like the star of Bethlehem

May the world see God's love through me

May my light shine for my Jesus and my King,

May I shine so others see. May my light shine,

Like the star of Bethlehem."

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 #205.)

SERMON

"It's Not That Difficult?"

"SHARING OUR RESPONSE TO GOD"

***HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 367 "Jesu, Jesu"**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 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

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** (*responsive*)

Send your Spirit upon us, O God.

Help us to be your faithful servants.

We pray, loving God, that we might be a people

**who pause to give you thanks for things great and small,
in moments of grandeur and in ordinary moments each day.**

Send your Spirit upon us, O God.

Help us to be your faithful servants.

We pray that we might be a people

**who celebrate diversity and difference
within our community, and in the world around us.
Help us to learn from you and with one another.**

Send your Spirit upon us, O God.

Help us to be your faithful servants.

We pray that we might be a people

**who appreciate the wonders of your world,
and see the goodness in your creation.
Help us to appreciate the gifts of each person,
the value of each part of your world.**

Send your Spirit upon us, O God.

Help us to be your faithful servants.

We pray for the good of your world, of our world.

**For leaders of nations and communities,
of churches and schools,
for those who teach and those who learn.
Make us all leaders, using our gifts for justice and
righteousness in your name.**

Send your Spirit upon us, O God.

Help us to be your faithful servants.

We pray for all who mourn today, may their losses be consoled.

**For those who are in pain,
For those whose bodies are staving off illness,
For those called to serve in all levels of life.**

We 'say what we believe' as another corporate act in the Presbyterian Church. Our declaration of faith is part of our response to the Word as it is preached and heard. Today we are using the Ecumenical version of The Apostles' Creed, which is one of the oldest faith statements of the church.

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.)

Today's Offertory Anthem is "Laudamus Te" which is Latin for "we praise you," is shared with us this morning by our J.O.Y. Choir.

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.

Send your Spirit upon us, O God.

**Help us to be people who see, display, and share your glory.
Help us to be your faithful servants. Amen.**

**THE MORNING OFFERING
OFFERTORY**

"Laudamus Te"

Sleeth

" We praise Thee, Lord, this joyful day. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we magnify Thy name. Laudamus, Laudamus, Thy majesty proclaim. Unto Thee all glory be, now and for eternity. Heav'n and earth are full of Thee, Holy, Holy One in Three."

J.O.Y Choir

***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**

Choose life! Choose God!

We will live in God's love!

God's way is good!

We will hold fast to God!

God invites us to be alive.

Happy and faithful we go to love and serve the Lord!

***HYMN OF PARTING NO. NO. 372 "Lord I Want..."**

**Lord, I want to be a Christian In-a my heart, in-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian
In-a my heart. In-a my heart, In-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian In-a my heart.**

Lord, I want to be more loving ...

Lord, I want to be more holy ...

Lord, I want to be like Jesus ...

***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 February 12 – February 18, 2017

This Week's Calendar of Events:

Today:	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship / JOY Sunday
	1:00 p.m.	Family Promise guests depart
Monday:	9:00 a.m.	Crafty Ladies
	7:00 p.m.	Crafty Ladies – Evening Group
Wednesday:	10:00 a.m.	Wellness Series
		(Yoga at 10 a.m. & Adult Logos at 11 a.m.)
	4:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Logos
	7:15 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday:	7:30 p.m.	Handbell Rehearsal
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

TODAY IS the 6th Sunday in "Ordinary Time." Ordinary Time is called "ordinary" not because it is common but simply because the weeks of **Ordinary Time** are numbered. The Latin word "ordinalis," which refers to numbers in a series, stems from the Latin word ordo, from which we get the English word order. "Ordinary Time" marks the Sundays of the Church year which are not in special 'seasons' or single 'special days.'

We welcome J.O.Y. (Jubilant Offerings of Youth) and our LOGOS Choir to the leadership of our worship today. We also want to thank and welcome our Highlands Precious Gifts Preschool Singers and their families today.

THANKS FOR ANOTHER EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF YOUR SUPPORT FOR OUR YOUTH! The 'SuperHero' Spaghetti Supper netted over \$3,800! and you purchased over \$1,700 BBQ Boston Butts for your Super Bowl events. Thank you for loving our youth, we are well on our way to paying for our trip "up the mountain" to Montreat, NC.

TALK ABOUT A SUPER "SOUPER" SUNDAY!!! Last week we collected \$277.00 in cash and 676 pounds of food for ACS (Arlington Community Services).

THE CRAFTY LADIES (EVENING GROUP) IS BACK! Their first meeting of 2017 will be tomorrow - Monday, February 13th at 7:00 p.m. Bring your ideas for the craft show 2017 to share. Everyone is welcome to join either (or both) groups!!

LOGOS AND WELLNESS ARE ON WEDNESDAY OF THIS WEEK. Our LOGOS theme for the day is "Love is in the Air". You are invited to wear pink or red. Come and check out the fun we're having on Wednesdays! Wellness and Adult Logos begin at 10 a.m.

HIGHLANDS PRECIOUS GIFTS PRESCHOOL WILL BE ENROLLING for the Fall 2017 school year on Monday, February 13th for HUPC members and current students and Wednesday, February 15th 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

EVERY SUNDAY AFTER WORSHIP OUR FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE AND FRIENDS DO AN EXCELLENT JOB of keeping the coffee, juice and the plates full of goodies ready for us to enjoy. Let's show our appreciation by making a \$\$ donation in the basket and/or by bringing some baked goods to share, store bought is ok. Would you like to be a part of the Fellowship Team? Speak to Dene Ritter. Thanks!

OTHER ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE

OUR FAMILY PROMISE GUESTS TRAVEL TO THEIR NEXT "HOME" TODAY. Thanks to those who helped host our families! Your efforts on behalf of Family Promise mean that our families have a safe transition from home to no home and back to home! Please be in prayer for these folks; our folks as they feed, host and stay; and those who are homeless everywhere.

MICAH'S VOLUNTEERS ARE PACKING, PACKING, PACKING!!! 52 kids!!! We never thought we would need more instant oatmeal or granola bars, but we are low. Your support and encouragement is wonderful.

THANKS AGAIN for all your support for the **Highlands Baby Shower Mission Project**. Our goal was 20 gift bags and we were recently able to meet that goal. We are already working on our next twenty gift bags, can you help? Thanks Again!!!

ARLINGTON COMMUNITY SERVICES: ACS needs the following items: toothpaste – **critical need**, powdered milk, canned milk, canned pasta, pasta sauce, canned meat, canned tomatoes, canned potatoes, peanut butter, jelly- HUPC's specialty, and toilet tissue. Fifty-Seven jars of jelly were collected this week. Every grocery order going out of ACS has a jar of HUPC jelly!

YOUR MISSION COMMITTEE IS LOOKING for a few items for the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance kits. They are collecting nail clippers (no metal files or emery boards), bars of soap (bath size in wrapper), and toothbrushes (singles in original package). With the help of the youth, fifty packages were recently sent to the Presbyterian Mission Agency. 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.**

THE FOLLOWING DATES ARE STILL AVAILABLE ON THE FLOWER CHART: February 26 and April 30.

PRAYER CONCERNS AND TODAY'S SERVICE

SPECIAL PRAYERS: PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK: JoAn Ewing, Don Hall, Jo Carmichael, Bill Byers, Nancy Hoot, Marilyn Reed, Jan Johnson, Al Hummel, Bill Duval, Pat Strader, Cathy Pate's son, Hank Greene, Rufus Taylor's brother, Fay Sweeney (9960 Atrium Way, Unit 529, 32225), Linda Youmans (c/o Teri Grimm, 4206 Harbour Island Dr. 32225), Kit Fink, Kenneth Moon, and Bruce Marley, Justin Marley (grandson), Randy R. and his family, Louise Keen is now residing at Brookdale Southside (9601 Southbrook Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32256). Jacob Loerop's email is jloerop50@comcast.net. Jacob's address is IT3 Loerop, Jacob CVN 68 USS Nimitz Unit 100103 Box 1751 FPO AP 96620. Joey Guckenberger's email address is joeybsa@yahoo.com. Joey's address is ETSN Guckenberger, Joseph, CVN 71 USS Theodore Roosevelt, Unit 100250 Box 2078, FPO Appreciate 96632-5020. Amelia Powell's address is: AT2 Powell, Amelia N., VAQ-140, Unit 200107 Box 142, FPO AP 96601. Amelia's email address is: amelia.powell@cvw7.navy.mil.

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

MEMBER CARE: Nancy Moewe is our Prayer Ministry Contact. Nancy's information is: Email: nmoewe48@gmail.com. Her cell phone number is 904-707-8064. Email requests can be sent directly to Nancy, but please also call her or the church office if it is an emergency request. As always, prayer requests can be made as well by completing the gray slips in the church pews, calling the church office, using the church website (hupcjax.org under "Contact Us") or by notifying your Shepherd.

FAMILIES WE ARE PRAYING FOR THIS WEEK: Dene and Connie Ritter, Jennifer Ritter and Ben Ritter.

OUR VOLUNTEERS THIS MORNING ARE: Greeter: Helen Middaugh. Children's Church Leader: David Bauerlein

THE FLOWERS ON THE COMMUNION TABLE are given to the Glory of God by John and Inge Forchtner in celebration of Lidia and Wilhelm Kuehn.