

One thing you lack

**HIGHLANDS UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

January 28, 2018 – 4th Sunday of Epiphany

“Alligator Arms”
The Rev. Craig Davies

**“You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and
give the money to the poor, and you will have
treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.”**

Today is the 4th Sunday in Epiphany. Epiphany is the season, following Christmastide, in which we are introduced to the light of the world. In Epiphany, we hear of the calling of the disciples and we 'get to know Jesus' before the season of Lent.

Our music as we prepare ourselves, heart, mind, and spirit, for worship is a contemplative version of "Holy, Holy, Holy" from an album, Hymns with Morning Coffee, by The Studio Players. "Holy, Holy, Holy" comes from the Old Testament passage for the day from Isaiah 6.

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 Gathering Hymn, "Morning Has Broken" is a favorite in the life of the church. It has words by English poet Eleanor Farjeon and was set to a traditional Scottish Gaelic tune known as "Bunessan." Her poem achieved international fame when it was included in a Cat Stevens' 1971 album. It became a hit, rising high in the charts in the UK and in the USA.

HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Celebration of Worship

January 21, 2018 – 4th Sunday of Epiphany

"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.)

WELCOME AS WE GATHER & SHARING LIFE IN THE CHURCH

PRELUDE AND BRINGING THE LIGHT

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

We look in the mirror and what do we see?

**We see people who try to be faithful,
even as questions and struggles challenge our faith.**

We look in the mirror and how do we see?

**We see with hearts which are open to God's love,
with lives which seek to trust when all the evidence
tells us not to be so foolish.**

We look in the mirror and who do we see?

**We see Jesus, the One who struggles with
the questions we raise, who models faithfulness
for all who would follow. And who calls us to worship.**

*OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)

"Gracious God, you are the hope of all the earth.

**Everywhere we turn, you are there,
loving your creation in the midst of all our struggles.
You have given us hearts that question suffering
and minds that resist easy answers.**

**Be with us now as we ponder the mysteries of
existence and the part you have called us to play in
your amazing world. In Jesus name who teaches us to
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"**

*HYMN NO. 469

"Morning Has Broken"

* -- Those who are able and comfortable will 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:**

**“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 (Responsively)**

O God you are present in all the moments of our lives – loving and guiding, inviting,

but not forcing us into a fuller relationship with you.

We are in your hands.

Forgive us when we accept only what we see as good.

Have mercy on us when we turn away from what troubles and disturbs us.

**Strengthen us to learn the truth without fear and help us
to recognize your presence in all the hurtful places of our
world.**

Forgive us when we avoid those who need our help, and give us the resources to care about what we cannot understand.

**In the name of our faithful soul companion, Jesus,
help us to meet the troubles in our own lives and in our
world with compassion and mercy. Amen.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Beloved friends, God loves us beyond any deserving. God is present in all the hurtful places of our lives, and gives us the resources to live with what we do not understand. We are forgiven before we even ask. Receive God's forgiveness.

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.”**

“THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD”

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 6:1-8

(OT: p. 635)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be To God!

In our final 'gathering act' we "**Pass the Peace**" as an act of caring, welcome, and mutual love. Please remain standing as we sing "Blest Be The Tie That Binds."

We practice Corporate Confession.

In the Presbyterian and Reformed Tradition. We do not offer individual confession save for that which we offer in our silent prayers. We believe that we are a community of faith and as such share in the sins of all. We are "Called to Confession" as a reminder of our individual and communal sin. Our "Confession and Pardon" gives expression to our desire to know forgiveness. The "Kyrie Eleison" 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. the reading of scripture, the singing of sacred music and the preaching of the Word.

Our anthem for the day is a praise anthem by Michael Sharp called “Praise Canon.” A canon is a musical technique also known as a round in which at least two equal parts are sung over one another. Think “Row, Row, Row Your Boat.”

In response to the Word read there is the ‘preaching of the word for our living today’. This includes words for ‘the young church’ and all who gather.

Our Hymn of Response by Jane Parker Huber who wrote this text in 1981 for the women’s breakfast held when two Presbyterian denominations convened joint General Assemblies in Houston, Texas. The partnership she wrote about was that of women and men in ministry, but the hymn’s meaning has now expanded. It has become an ‘anthem’ calling for unity in the service of Christ’s ‘ministries of grace.’

ANTHEM

“Praise Canon”

**“Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
His love endures forever. From age to age his love remains,
Give thank and praise his name. Who can count the blessings of the Lord?
Who can understand his love and grace?
Who can tell of his wondrous deeds?
Who can fully declare his praise?
Give thanks....”**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSONS

*Mark 10:17-22

(NT: p.46)

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

SERMON

“Alligator Arms”
The Rev. Craig Davies

“RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD”

***HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 343**

”Called As Partners In Christ’s Service”

*** 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 PRAYER AND GIVING

AS WE COME TO PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (responsive)

O God, hear our prayer.

And let our cry come unto you.

Creator God, we give you thanks for this amazing universe and our lives in it, for friends and loved ones, for this community and for the knowledge of your presence in both the good and the bad. We are yours and we come before you today with deep concerns and many questions about our suffering world.

We have so many questions and concerns about...
violence between nations and all who suffer because of it.

We have so many questions and concerns about...
violence within families and all who suffer because of it.

We have so many questions and concerns about...
earthquakes, floods and hurricanes and all who suffer because of them.

We have so many questions and concerns about...
poverty and all who suffer because of it.

We have so many questions and concerns about...
sickness and disease and all who suffer because of them.

We have so many questions and concerns about...
untimely death and all who suffer because of it.

We have so many questions and concerns about...
prejudice and hatred and all who suffer because of them.

We have so many questions and concerns about...
the squandering of the earth's resources and all who suffer because of it.

We feel like you suffer with us, loving God,
you hear our prayers and you let our cries come unto you.

And yet you, Lord, challenge us do more than just ask questions.
 You challenge us to be better than we are.
You look at us and say, "Just one more thing, give it all up and follow me"

With your help we will comfort and be comforted, strengthen and be strengthened, feed and be fed, shelter and be sheltered, listen and be heard, in Christ, with Christ and through Christ we dare to pray,
allow the suffering to cease because we decide to come and follow you.

In our midst, O God, there are those who need your peace. We pray for our brothers and sisters who are ill and looking for health, wholeness and wellness. We pray for those who struggle day to day with ongoing treatments, with difficult decisions to make and with future procedures to be faced.
We pray for comfort and healing.

We pause to pray, hesitantly and with humility for ourselves. For your continued blessings when we have been blessed so deeply, for your continued guidance when we so blithely go our own way, and for your grace which we, although undeserving, cherish. Help us to be more like you, Lamb of God.
In the name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

We, as God's own people, loved by the lamb of God have so very much for which to be thankful. We are blessed in a way to which most of the people of the world cannot relate. With our blessings, we are called by God to follow not simply the idea of Jesus, but the ideal of Jesus. Following Christ means sublimating our agenda for Christ's agenda which is the love and well being of all of God's people. When in our minds, hearts, or actions we acquiesce to the thinking of the world we fail to be true disciples of Jesus. Jesus calls us to follow him and not the winds that would foment isolationism.

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.

Finally, we pray for ourselves that God will keep us ever faithful to the one who comes to us as 'Lamb of God' to take away our sins and promise us eternal life.

THE SHARING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS OFFERTORY

Our response to the preaching of the Word includes our joyful offering of ourselves to God including our financial resources with which the church is enabled to 'practice what we have preached.'

Our Hymn of Parting is by "Here I Am, Lord" written by Dan Schutte in 1981. Its words are based on Isaiah 6:8 and 1 Samuel 3. We'll sing vss. 1-2 and then vs. 3 for our Choral Response.

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

We hope this Service of Worship has given you an opportunity to express your thanks and praise to God, to hear God's Word, to offer something of yourself, and to be challenged to go into the world refreshed and renewed as our 'service' continues in the world.

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

*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

As children of God we know we are loved.

Even with all our questions we know we are accepted.

Let us go forth boldly from this place

to love and serve God in every situation that faces us.

And may the blessing of God –

birth-giver, pain-bearer and life-bringer –

be with us now and always.

*PARTING HYMN NO. 525

"Here I Am, Lord"

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.

All who dwell In deepest sin, My hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night
I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.**

I, the Lord, of snow and rain, I have borne My people's pain.

I have wept for love of them, They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send?

(Refrain)

*BENEDICTION (unison)

*CHORAL RESPONSE

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide Till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send?

(Refrain)

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

HIGHLANDS' HIGHLIGHTS

This Week at Highlands

Week of January 28 – February 3, 2018

This Week's Calendar of Events:

Today:	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Sunday School Worship Service
Tuesday:	9:00 a.m.	Quilting and Sewing Group
Wednesday:	10:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	Wellness (Yoga at 10 and Adult Logos at 11) Logos is celebrating 25 years at HUPC Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thursday:	5:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Packing for Micah's Backpack Handbell Rehearsal
Saturday:	2:00 p.m.	Don't forget to pick up your BBQ by 2:00 p.m.

"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 4th Sunday in the Season of Epiphany. We gladly welcome The Rev. Craig Davies to our pulpit! Ordained for 44+ years, he retired in 2013 after having served the First Presbyterian Church of Inverness, Florida for 20 years. Since moving to Jacksonville he has served the Arlington and Lake Shore churches in Jacksonville and the Memorial church in St. Augustine. He and his wife Marcia have two children and five grandchildren. At present, Craig serves as the chair of the presbytery's Member Preparation and Call Commission. **Welcome to HUPC!** (Dr. Dave and Susan are on vacation this week and will return on Thursday.)

SATURDAY IS OUR ANNUAL 'SUPER SMOKED BUTT SALE.' For the lean price of \$40.00 you can have a perfectly smoked HUPC butt. (We decided to ditch the 'Boston' part for obvious reasons.) Please reserve and pay online or on the sign-up sheet in the Dining Hall. Checks can be made to HUPC and mark them PYC Butts. Butts will be ready for your enjoyment by mid-afternoon or earlier. Thanks for supporting our PYC!

NEXT SUNDAY is "SOUPER Bowl Sunday" and we have been challenged by our PYC to bring 2018 cans to share with ACS and Micah's Backpack. We have a pretty good way to go! Please bring your food items and leave them on or around the table in the Dining Hall! Youth will sort and help distribute them.

NEXT SUNDAY IS ALSO 'FAMILY PROMISE' arrival day. Our guests will arrive in the early afternoon and be with us until Feb. 11. Volunteers are still needed in many areas. Please sign up to assist with this great local mission **TODAY!**

ON NEXT SUNDAY we will also be celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper AND having a congregational meeting for the election of four new Elders for the Sessional Class of 2020. Please be in prayer this week in preparation for coming to the table and participating in the process of choosing our church's leadership. (Your nominating committee, made up of the Sessional Class of 2017 will be a slate of nominees. Any others need to be referred to the moderator prior to the congregational meeting.)

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 back this Wednesday, January 10th. 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 "Souper Bowl Wednesday", and you are invited to bring soup to donate to ACS.

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!

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!!"**

OTHER ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE

THE THOUGHTFUL CHRISTIAN CLASS will study "Separation of Church and State" next Sunday, February 4th. Please join us for this interesting and informative class.

MICAH'S BACKPACK will be packing weekend food for 86 children on Thursday's at 5:30 PM in Harris Hall. Everyone is welcome...We have volunteers from many churches and organizations and all ages...from 4 years old to Great Grandparents! The Micah's "Food of the Month/Fill a Tummy Club" selection for January is Chef Boy-R-Dee Pasta in the 15-ounces can or 7.5-ounces microwaveable bowl. Thanks for your help and support.

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: April 29th, May 27th, July 22nd, September 30th or October 21st. 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. Eight 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: Nancy Moewe, the Ryan Moewe family and Barbara Moon.

OUR VOLUNTEERS THIS MORNING ARE: Greeters: Paul and Sarah Wubben. Children's Church Leader: Jessica Sorrells.

THE FLOWERS ON THE COMMUNION TABLE are given to the glory of God by Richard and Nancy Marsh.