

Hope
I will give you rest
Peace all weary
Love
Joy
Rest
Carrying heavy burdens
Faith
Come to me
Praise

HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

JULY 9, 2017

14TH IN ORDINARY TIME

"Some Rest Would Be Nice"

HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."
(Matthew 11:28-30)

Today is the 14th
Sunday of Ordinary
Time.

As we prepare for
worship we'll listen to
a very contemplative
song that is reflective
of today's gospel
lesson called "Find
Rest" by Julie True.

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

"Celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper"

July 9, 2017 – 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"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**

God invites all who are weary to come. Come now with the burdens of work, home, and community. Jesus promises,

I will give you rest.

God invites all who are weary to come. Come now with the burdens of illness, of fear, of hopelessness. Jesus promises,

I will give you rest.

God invites all who are weary to come. Come now with the burdens of anger, of prejudice, of alienation. Jesus promises,

I will give you rest.

God invites all who are weary to come. God invites all who are weary to lay down their burdens. God invites all who are weary to find peace.

We gather to worship our redeeming, welcoming God.

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

"Joyous Creator, you bless us beyond all reason, that we might give all that we have and all we are in service to you. You speak hope to our hearts, that we might hear the cries of your little ones in our midst. Your love is celebrated in all generations.

Servant of the weary, you befriend all the outsiders of every time and place; you lead us by the right way, if we would but follow; you rescue us from our foolish wisdom, carrying us like babies into the kingdom. Your grace is revealed to every generation.

Spirit of rest, you are the goodness from which we draw life; your peace is celebrated through all generations. In Jesus' name we pray the prayer Christ taught 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."

*** - Those who are comfortable will please stand**

***GATHERING HYMN NO. 263 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"**

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

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

And 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)**

When we could delight in God's ways, we seem to wander down the paths of failings and foolishness. When we could dance in joy, we shuffle our feet through despair's dry dust. Let us confess our wayward lives to the One who longs to forgive us, as we pray, saying,

We are sinners, Creator of gentleness, and cannot make good choices. We know what is the right thing to do, yet end up acting in wrong ways. As a nation in search of truth, we far too often fall for the age old rhetoric of mistrust and fear. We know the gentle words a friend needs, yet raise our voices in anger and hurt. We hear you inviting us to crawl up into your gracious lap, but run outside to play with our old friend, evil. Forgive us, Blessor and Blessing of our hearts, and rescue us from our foolish lives. Speak to our aching spirits with your healing hope. Yoke us with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, so we might lead gentle and gracious lives in the days to come. Amen.

**Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us
Christ Have Mercy Upon Us
Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us**

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

God deals faithfully and truly with us. Choosing to forget our mistakes and to forgive our sins, God blesses us with love and hope.

**Blessed, forgiven, healed - we are God's new people,
going out to bring others to the waters of life.**

Thanks be to God. 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, "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise." Written by Walter Chalmers Smith, a pastor of the Free Church of Scotland, in the late 19th century, it is based on 1 Timothy 1:17, which in the King James Version says: "Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen." It tries to express the inexpressible—the nature of God—and so it uses words like this: "In light inaccessible hid from our eyes" — that are mysterious as well as beautiful.

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 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.

Today’s anthem is “The Tree of Life” by K. Lee Scott. Set to Scott’s endearing tune “Shades Mountain” the anthem relates a description of the ‘tree of life’ as being Jesus.

The Tree of Life is a sacred symbol of peace between the nations in many faiths and cultures around the world. In Revelation 22, it is found in the New Heaven and New Earth, where peace will endure forever. Peace is ours through Christ who invites the weary to come and give to him our sickness and our sorrow.

As we respond to God’s Word preached we sing together an absolute favorite of the church

“THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD”

HISTORY LESSON **GENESIS 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67** (NT: p.)
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks Be To God!

ANTHEM **“The Tree of Life ”** K. Lee Scott
“There in God’s garden stands the Tree of Wisdom, whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations; Tree of all knowledge, Tree of all compassion, Tree of all beauty.

It’s name is Jesus, name that says “Our Savior!” There on its branches see the scars of suffering; see where the tendrils of our human selfhood feed on its lifeblood.

Thorns not its own are tangled in its foliage; our greed has starved it, our despite has choked it. Yet, look! It lives! It’s grief has not destroyed it nor fire consumed it.

See how its branches reach to us in welcome; hear what the voice says, “ Come to me, ye weary! Give me your sickness, give me all your sorrow, I will give blessing.”

This is my ending, this my resurrection; into your hands, Lord, I commit my spirit. This have I searched for; now I can possess it. This ground is holy.

All heaven is singing “ Thanks to Christ, whose Passion offers in mercy, healing strength and pardon. Peoples and nations, take it, take it freely!” Amen! My Savior”

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Romans 7:15-25a (NT: p. 157)
*Matthew 11: 25-30 (NT: p. 11)

SERMON **“Some Rest Would Be Nice”**

“SHARING OUR RESPONSE TO GOD”

***HYMN NO. 403** **“What A Friend We Have In Jesus”**

***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 PRAYER AND GIVING

AS WE COME TO PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Responsive)

Holy and Gracious God, we give thanks for all the blessings of this life. For, the degree to which we know freedom and justice, for the leaders of our nations for the those who strive to bring peace into the world, may we know your mercy and act with compassion.

Hear us, Lord of compassion and rest.

We give thanks for family, friends, and those care for us. May we know your love in them, through them. May those we know and love, be safe this day, protected from all trials, comforted in strife, healed in illness of mind, body, or spirit.

Hear us, Lord of compassion and rest.

We give thanks for this earth, the various lands we live in and on, for water, that it may be clean for those who need water, for those struggling with drought, wildfires, forest fires, or an over abundance of water, may they know balance and relief.

Hear us, Lord of compassion and rest.

We give thanks for food, that all may be well fed, that those who are in need, will be satisfied, that those who have plenty will share, that all will filled and nourished.

Hear us, Lord of compassion and rest.

We give thanks for our health, and ask your blessing on those who suffer for any cause. May they be comforted. We give thanks for the gift of Jesus, your love in the world, who comes to share our burdens, that they may be light.

Hear us, Lord of compassion and rest.

We give thanks for hope. Hope for a better more peaceful world. Hope for the alleviation of suffering. Hope for those in the grip of fear. Hope for those struggling with grief. Hope for a time when we will have the courage to lay our burdens down and allow you to give us peace.

Hear us, Lord of compassion and rest.

We give thanks for grace. For grace that saves us, sustains us, and allows us to live free from the burden of worry over the state of our souls.

Hear us, Lord of compassion and rest.

We give thanks to you O God. Creator, redeemer, and comforter of us all.

Hear us, Lord of compassion and rest. Amen.

OUR TITHES AND OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*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.”**

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.

We share our Tithes and Offerings as an active response to God's blessings to us in our living. What we give supports the work and worship of the church including all of our programs, our mission efforts and our sharing of mutual love and affection for one another.

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 'Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life.' Written at the turn of the 19th to the 20th century the hymn was a commentary on life in burgeoning cities. It powerfully speaks of the presence of and action of Christ in the world as we move towards 'the city of God.'

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

"GOD'S PEOPLE SENT INTO THE WORLD"

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

As you leave this place, remember that you may be the only grace someone will meet this week.

We go, to share God's graciousness with all.

Remember you may be the only love someone will encounter this week.

We go, to be the love of Jesus for all.

Remember you may be the only peace someone will find this week.

We go, to share the Spirit of hope and reconciliation with all.

As we go let us leave our burdens with Christ at the door;

To find for ourselves and others a little rest.

***HYMN OF PARTING NO. 408 "Where Cross the Crowded..."**

- 1. Where cross the crowded ways of life, Where sound the cries of race
and clan, Above the noise of selfish strife,
We hear Thy voice, O Son of Man.**
- 2. In haunts of wretchedness and need, On shadowed thresholds
fraught with fears, From paths where hide the lures of greed,
We catch the vision of Thy tears.**
- 3. From tender childhood's helplessness, From human grief and
burdened toil, From famished souls, from sorrow's stress,
Thy heart has never known recoil.**
- 4. The cup of water given for Thee Still holds the freshness of Thy grace;
Yet long these multitudes to see The sweet compassion of Thy face.**
- 5. O Master, from the mountainside, Make haste to heal these hearts of
pain; Among these restless throngs abide, O tread the city's streets again;**
- 6. Till all the world shall learn Thy love, And follow where Thy feet have
trod; Till glorious from Thy heaven above Shall come the city of our God."**

***BENEDICTION**

CHORAL RESPONSE "Lord, Make Us More Holy"

**"Lord, make us more holy, Lord, make us more holy,
Lord, make us more holy, Until we meet again.
Holy, holy, holy, Until we meet again."**

*- If comfortable, please stand

(You are invited across the way for fellowship.)

HIGHLANDS' HIGHLIGHTS
This Week at Highlands
Week of July 9 – July 15, 2017



This Week's Calendar of Events:

Today: 9:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.

Tuesday:

Friday: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School
Worship Service
Mid-High to Massanetta, Virginia
Quilting and Sewing Group
Mid-High Return to Jacksonville

“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! On this 14th Sunday in Ordinary time we hear some words that are fitting for hot July Sundays. Jesus invites us to come to him and to allow him to take our burdens and find some rest. In the summertime many seek the opportunity to 'find some rest.' Jesus invites us today to seek and find some rest – in hm.

LAURA AND THREE MID-HI'S ARE OFF TO MASSANETTA ON TUESDAY. Let's keep Autumn and Tiana Kleppen and Kaitlyn Wolfson in our prayers for traveling mercies and a great conference!

THE CRAFTY LADIES are having their monthly business meeting tomorrow, July 10th. The annual craft show is only 4 months away, so get crafting!

LOGOS, WELLNESS AND ADULT LOGOS ARE TAKING A BREAK UNTIL SEPTEMBER! Watch the bulletin for information this fall. We'll be looking for volunteers to help in our 25th year of Logos at Highlands! Think about joining the fun!

THERE ARE 'SQUARES' OF SHINGLES ABOVE OUR HEADS TODAY! Hammers will soon ring out as we "Raise the Roof!" We are in a short-term capital campaign to help us re-roof the Sanctuary. So far, we have raised over \$14,000 which puts us ever closer to our goal. Please mark your gifts 'Raise the Roof.' The work will no doubt be started as soon as weather permits!

WE REMIND YOU TO 'REMEMBER THE CHURCH' AS YOU GO AND COME THIS SUMMER. If you attend church elsewhere, bring us a bulletin. Thanks to all who faithfully share their pledges in support of the ongoing work of the church.

OTHER ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE

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.

MICAH'S BACKPACK UPDATE: Micah's wonderful volunteers are on a well-deserved break until school starts back in August. Watch the bulletin for more information. **Thanks to the very faithful and dedicated volunteers for a super-great year!**

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. Three 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.

PRAYER CONCERNS AND TODAY'S SERVICE

SPECIAL PRAYERS: PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK: Pat Hummel is in Hospice of NE Florida's residence on Sunbeam Road, Mary Lou McNaughton, Nancy Moewe, JoAn Ewing, Don Hall, Jo and Hoagy Carmichael, Bill Byers, Nancy Hoot, Marilyn Reed, Al and Pat Hummel, Bill Duval, Pat Strader, Cathy Pate's son, Hank Greene, Nancy Taylor, Lenwood Lee (Dr. Dave's Father), Kinzey Reeves, Fay Sweeney (9960 Atrium Way, Unit 18, Jax, FL 32225), Linda Youmans (c/o Teri Grimm, 4206 Harbour Island Dr. 32225), Kit Fink, Kenneth Moon, and Bruce and Annette Marley, Justin Marley (grandson), Louise Keen is residing at Brookdale Southside 9601 Southbrook Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32256 along with Al Hummel. Al's address is 9601 Southbrook Dr., Assisted Living #122, Jacksonville, FL 32256. You can reach Jacob Loerop through his email at Jacob.Loerop@CVN68.navy.mil, Jacob's address is IT3 Jacob Loerop CVN 68 USS Nimitz Unit 100103 Box 1771 FPO AP 96620. Amelia Powell's address is: AT2 Powell, Amelia N., VAQ-140, Unit 200107 Box 142, FPO AP 96601. You can also reach Amelia through her email. Her 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: We are **VERY PLEASED** to announce that **Bev Connell** has agreed to be our **Prayer Ministry Coordinator**. There is sure to be an adjustment period, so please bear with us as we get "our prayers in a row" and get the correct names and emails added to or deleted from the prayer chain. **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: The Beirne Family, Larry Bellmore and Laddie and Nita Birge.

DR. DAVE, SUSAN AND THE FAMILY OF STEVE LEE wish to express to you their great thanks for your prayers, cards, memorials and other considerations in this time of sorrow. They, and we, rest in the assurance of Christ's victory over death and Steve's 'home' in the kingdom.

OUR VOLUNTEERS THIS MORNING ARE: Greeters: Alex and Angie Martin. Children's Church Leader: David Bauerlein. Nursery Attendant: Kim Arreola.