

**The LOGOS is
the Way
the Truth
the Life
and the JOY!**

***HIGHLANDS UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH***

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

MAY 14, 2017

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"The LOGOS Way"

HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy." (1 Peter 2: 9-10)

Today is the 5th Sunday in the Season of Easter. We welcome the leadership of J.O.Y. (Jubilant Offerings of Youth) as we also celebrate LOGOS in our worship service.

Music as we prepare for worship is an instrumental version of "Thy Word." LOGOS is THE WORD in the Greek language and it is the spoken power of God and in John 1 a reference to 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.'

After the "Call to Worship" as we sing our Processional Hymn "Come, Sing O Church, In Joy!" we invite all who participate in LOGOS in any way to join procession of children and youth from your seats to the front of the church.

For 24 years LOGOS, our 'mid-week miracle' has welcomed the 'children of God' to an environment of warmth, caring, and concern for the faith development of our children, youth, and those who lead. Through study and play, music and crafts, and a family gathering around the supper table LOGOS has embraced and shared faith with generations of God's children.

HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

May 17, 2017 – 5TH Sunday of Easter/J.O.Y. Sunday

"WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP"

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 & SHARING LIFE IN THE CHURCH

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Come and follow the living way;

How do we know the way?

Come and hear the truth;

How do we know the truth?

Come and experience life;

How do we know how to live?

Jesus, who is the living WORD, the LOGOS, says,

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life." Let us follow!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 430 "Come, Sing O Church In JOY"

(All LOGOS participants are invited to join in the processional!)

"Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!

**In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now
and praise the Lord!**

Long years have come and gone, And still God reigns supreme,

Empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!

**In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now
and praise the Lord!**

Let courage be our friend, Let wisdom be our guide,

As we in mission magnify the Crucified!

**In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now
and praise the Lord!**

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long!

**In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now
and praise the Lord!"**

*- If comfortable, please stand

***GATHERING PRAYER OF CELEBRATION (In Unison)**

Risen Christ, you come to us as the LOGOS with creative power;
you live with us and teach us and give yourself for us;
in Easter glory you rise up and then you go before us and
you prepare a place for us, in the home of the Mother-
and-Father of us all. Draw us more deeply into yourself,

through LOGOS read, water splashed, bread broken, wine poured,
so that when our hearts are troubled, we will know you more completely
and in great JOY praise you,
as the way, the truth, and the life.

We thank you God for the good news, the affirmation, and the exercise of our
faith that is LOGOS.

**We, children of God, thank you for the opportunity to learn, to
grow, to play, to be creative, to sing and ring, to share faith
around a table and to be claimed and called as your own.**

God of new life, living LOGOS among us, hear us as we pray Christ's prayer:

**"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."**

***PASSING THE PEACE**

The WORD, God's LOGOS, has come to us and offers us peace.
May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

In recognition of another great year of LOGOS we embrace the JOY and
one another as we celebrate God with us.

God is good! All the time!

Take a moment to greet one another in with a sign of peace!

**(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."**

ANTHEM OF CELEBRATION "SHOUT TO THE LORD"

Zschech/Sherman

Highlands Combined Choirs

**"My Jesus, my Savior, Lord there is none like you.
All of my days, I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength,
Let every breath, all that I am never cease to worship You.
Shout to the Lord all the earth, let us sing.
Power and majesty praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name.
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands;
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand,
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You!"**

With **LOGOS**
gathered our
'GATHERING
PRAYER OF
DEDICATION' is
part of today's
recognition and
celebration of
our **LOGOS**
program. With
our **LOGOS**
leaders and
participants
gathered we
give thanks to
the **WORD** for
LOGOS.

We Pass the
Peace
embracing one
another with the
JOY of being the
church in this
place.

Our Combined
Choirs will share
the Anthem,
"Shout to the
Lord" which is
inspired in part
by the 96th
Psalm: "Shout to
the Lord all the
earth, let us
sing!" "Honor
and majesty are
before Him:
strength and
beauty are in His
sanctuary." -
Psalm 96:6

Today we are led in a 'responsive' Prayer of Confession which reminds us of the call to follow Christ who is The Way. We look for inspiration to overcome our failure to follow God's call to us.

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.

"SEEK FORGIVENESS AND FELLOWSHIP"

*CONFESSION AND PARDON (Unison)

1 Peter reminds us today that the world rejected Christ, the chief cornerstone, the LOGOS, but we are 'chosen' for something better. We readily admit, however, that we often do rejecting of our own as we reject Jesus' call for love, forgiveness, and justice. Let us pray:

Lord Jesus Christ, you show us the way - the risky way which you took. The way which challenges all that is evil and destructive. We confess that too often we choose the easy and non-threatening way which allows evil to triumph and denies people the opportunity to live an abundant life.

Forgive us, Lord, when we lose direction and so fail to follow your way.

Lord Jesus Christ, you speak the word of truth which brings good news to the poor, freedom to those who are oppressed and enslaved, and healing to those whose lives lack wholeness. We confess that too often our minds are swayed by the media's 'truth' which can be so contrary to the gospel.

Forgive us, Lord, when our lives deny the truth of your words and your deeds.

Lord Jesus Christ, you give us the gift of life - emptying yourself of all self-serving power in order to empower others with your beautiful life and selfless love. We confess that we like to use power to further our own purposes, even if it contributes to the powerlessness of others.

Forgive us, Lord, when our desire for power and status is stronger than our desire to make your life visible through us.

Lord Jesus Christ, remind us that...

the landscape of God's grace becomes clearer when we follow your way. The sound of God's voice is easier to hear when our lives speak your truth. The heartbeat of God's love throbs within us when our lives bear witness to your life. Amen.

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

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God loves us so much, God will listen to our cries, our prayers, our hopes, and our dreams. God's promises are for all, those who are right beside us, as well as those who live on the other side of the world.

**What can we give to God for grace? We will lift our hearts to God, giving thanks for the mercy that has been given to us.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

"THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD"

NEW TESTAMENT LESSONS

Acts 7:55-60

(NT: p. 126)

1 Peter 2:2-10

(NT: p. 233)

***John 14:1-14**

(NT: p. 108)

ANTHEM

"I Will Praise You, O Lord"

Patterson

LOGOS Choir

"I will praise you, O Lord with all my heart. In ev'ry song I sing, I will praise you, O Lord with all my heart.
In the things that I do, in the words that I say, I will praise you, O Lord with all my heart.

I will serve you, O Lord with all my heart. In ev'ry thing I do now I will serve you O Lord with all my heart.
In the things that I do, in the words that I say, I will serve you, O Lord with all my heart.

Lord I will sing of your goodness and grace. Lord I will tell of your glory.
Lord I will love you and serve you more each day.
With all my heart, O Lord I give you praise!

I will praise you, O Lord with all my heart. In ev'ry song I sing I will praise you O Lord with all my heart.
In the things that I do, in the words that I say, I will praise you, O Lord with all my heart.

Lord I will serve you, Lord I will praise you, I will praise you with all my heart."

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

INTERLUDE

(All children, ages 3 through 1st grades, 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

"The LOGOS Way"

"SHARING OUR RESPONSE TO GOD"

***HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 364 "I Sing A Song of the Saints of God"**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Jesus, the LOGOS, taught us to speak of hope as the coming of God's kingdom.

**We believe that God is at work in our world,
turning hopeless and evil situations into good.**

**We believe that goodness and justice will triumph in the end,
and that tyranny and oppression cannot last forever.**

**One day all tears will be wiped away; the lamb will lie down with
the lion, and justice will roll down like a mighty stream.**

True peace and true reconciliation are not only desired,
they are assured and guaranteed in Christ who prepares a place for us in
the house of God forever.

This is our faith. This is our hope. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Cornerstone of our living, You have always been our protection and strength.
In You, Lord, we seek refuge; You are indeed our rock and our mighty fortress.

Hear us as we pray today.

Help us take our stones and not throw them at each other out of anger and
frustration and bitterness, but build upon Your cornerstone, Your solid rock,
Your Son Jesus Christ.

Be a rock of refuge for us, a strong fortress to save us.

Our lives and times are in Your hands; deliver us from the hands of our
enemies and persecutors.

**Let Your face shine upon Your servants; preserve us in Your
steadfast love.**

Our LOGOS Choir sings "I Will Praise You, O Lord" for our Anthem today. We welcome these young singers who sing 'In ev'ry song I sing, I will praise you, O Lord with all my heart.' We thank them and their leaders for a wonderful LOGOS year of music.

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.

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.

Please peruse the prayer concerns and requests on the back of our bulletin for new and continuing prayer needs and concerns.

The "Morning Offering" is another way that we respond to God in thanks for God's Word, the LOGOS, 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.

Today's Offertory is shared by our Youth Handbell Choir who are playing "Spring Ring."

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

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

Lord of way, truth and life, with Stephen we cry out "Into Your hand I commit my spirit" -- You have redeemed us, O LORD, our faithful God.

Fill us with Your Holy Spirit, let us gaze into heaven and glimpse Your glory.

God, who promises a place for us, we pray today for those who are suffering in body and in spirit. We pray for those with cancer, for those with broken bones, for those with broken bodies, for those with broken minds. We pray for those imprisoned, both in the body, but also for those imprisoned in their soul.

Free us for joyful obedience. Help us continue Your work here on earth.

Lord of the promise, Eternal LOGOS, help us to believe and ask in your name for the healing of our broken World, for the mending of human hearts, for the enmity that arises in arguments over your Word, so that united in you we might live in the peace and joy you want from us.

Hear our prayers, O Lord, Amen.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS
OFFERTORY "Spring Ring"
Youth Handbell Choir

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

"Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

"GOD'S PEOPLE SENT INTO THE WORLD"

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Jesus says to us, "The one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father."

We go now into the world to be:

**The hands of Christ taking hold of his burden;
The arms of Christ embracing all of his children;
The feet of Christ going to places of need;
The voice of Christ proclaiming welcome, love, hope,
and peace.**

Go, in bold faith, hearing the promise echo in the days to follow:

"I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

We go with Hope built on Jesus' name.

***HYMN OF PARTING NO. 376 "Love, Divine, All Loves, Excelling" (vss. 1-3)**

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE NO. 376 "Love, Divine, All Loves, Excelling" (vss. 4)**

**"Finish, then, Thy new creation; Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise."**

*- If comfortable, please stand



HIGHLANDS' HIGHLIGHTS
 This Week at Highlands
 Week of May 14 – May 20, 2017



This Week's Calendar of Events:

Today:	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service / JOY Sunday
Monday:	9:00 a.m.	Crafty Ladies
Wednesday:	10:00 a.m.	Last Wellness and Adult Logos until September
	4:00 p.m.	Last Logos until September
	7:00 p.m.	Choir 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 5th Sunday in the Season of Easter. It is our final J.O.Y. Sunday for this school year. Today the church is identified as 'a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.' We are the people of "The Way" who follow Christ. For 24 years, we have 'proclaimed God's mighty acts' in and through our **LOGOS** program. Wednesday is the final **LOGOS** for the school year and today we will affirm and recognize all who participate in this amazing, enduring, program of the church.

LOGOS IS COMING TO AN END UNTIL SEPTEMBER! Our theme for our last Logos is "Not goodbye...It's see you later". Please bring your favorite Logos memory to share with everyone. We've having a great time at Logos this year – Come and check us out when we "start-up" again in September! Wellness and Adult Logos would love to have you join them, too!

SUNDAY MAY 21 Is a big day in the life of the church. First, It is Ordination and Installation Sunday here at Highlands. New Session members to be Ordained & Installed are Pete Loerop, Gibson Grimm, and Charles Obedia. Clara Whitaker and Alan Robbins will also be Installed in the Class of 2019. We thank those 'outgoing' Elders in the Class of 2016: Erika Connor, Charles Goodyear, Dennis Kleppen, Tom Sweeney, and posthumously, Jan Johnson. On Monday, May 22 at 6:30 there will be a thanks and welcome dinner prior to the Session meeting.

NEXT, OUR FAMILY PROMISE GUESTS ARE RETURNING: Our Family Promise guest will be at Highlands next week! Have YOU signed up to help? There are many volunteer opportunities! We need YOU to be a part of this excellent program of sharing and caring with those who are homeless in our community. If you have any questions, please see a member of the Mission Committee or call Sue Heckler at 891-6034. Thanks!

ALSO, THE 21TH IS "BLOOD DRIVE" SUNDAY. Please sign up today to give blood next Sunday. Bloodmobile hours have been extended with an earlier start at 7:30 a.m.

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.

THE MEMBER CARE COMMITTEE is looking for additional persons to serve as Shepherds so that this program of our church can be maintained. The responsibility of a shepherd is to keep in touch with and support 5 – 7 families and/or individuals. This is a rewarding way to know your fellow members better and does not require a great deal of time. For information or to volunteer call Nancy Marsh at 645-3108 or 635-7582.

MICAH'S BACKPACK UPDATE: Thanks to generous donations, Micah's pantry is well stocked with oatmeal and granola bars! A need at this time is toothbrushes. Each child receives a toothbrush at the beginning of the school year, before Christmas break and at the end of the school year. We are packing for 41 kids here at HUPC. Also, contributions of little boxes of raisins make a nice change in the snack menu. Thanks for all your help and encouragement!

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. Five 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 in need of 16 X 26-inch hand towels and single pack toothbrushes. (The ones you get from your dentist 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.

FAMILY PROMISE BENEFIT AT THE ALHAMBRA SUNDAY JUNE 25 - Steel Magnolias is about the strength of love and laughter in facing life's challenges. Starring Dawn Wells, Mary Ann of Gilligan's Island. Set in Truvy's beauty salon, where all the ladies who are "anybody" come to have their hair done, these strong southern women draw on the underlying strength—and love. Sunday, June 25 benefits Family Promise of Jacksonville. The show starts at 2:00 pm, doors open at 12:00 pm with the meal being served from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm. Purchase your ticket from Family Promise or a board member and help support homeless families with children. The ticket price of \$55 includes the meal, nonalcoholic beverages, tax, gratuities and a donation to Family Promise. Ticket sales end June 12. For tickets, please call Family Promise at 354-1818 or you can email them at bethmixson@familypromisejax.org

PRAYER CONCERNS AND TODAY'S SERVICE

SPECIAL PRAYERS: PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK: Nancy Moewe, JoAn Ewing, Don Hall, Jo and Hoagy Carmichael, Bill Byers, Nancy Hoot, Marilyn Reed, 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 and Annette Marley, Justin Marley (grandson), Louise Keen is residing at Brookdale Southside, 9601 Southbrook Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32256 along with Al and Pat Hummel. Al and Pat's address is 9601 Southbrook Dr., Apt E315, 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: Please call the church office with your prayer 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: The Williams Family, Vohn and Virginia Williamson and Steve and Donna Wilson.

OUR VOLUNTEERS THIS MORNING ARE: Greeters: Den and Donna Vach. Nursery Attendant: Bev Connell.

THE FLOWERS ON THE COMMUNION TABLE are given to the glory of God in memory of Sharon Porter by Charles and Sherra Grabill.