



HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

MARCH 19, 2017

3RD OF LENT

"We All Need Water"

HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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"Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." Jon 4:13-14

Today is the 3rd Sunday in the season of Lent. Today is all about acceptance and tolerance. Lent is 40 days, not counting Sundays, beginning with Ash Wednesday and continue through Saturday night of Holy Week. Speaking of Holy Week, have you marked your calendars for the evens of April 9 – 16?

Music as we prepare for a song "I Be Your Water." The songwriter, **Bernice Johnson Reagon** is a song leader, composer, scholar, and social activist. In 1973 she founded the all-black female *a cappella* ensemble Sweet Honey in the Rock, based in Washington, D.C. Reagon, realized the power of collective singing to unify the disparate groups who began to work together in the 1964 Freedom Summer protests in the South. "After a song," Reagon recalled, "the differences between us were not so great. Somehow, making a song required an expression of that which was common to us all.... This music was like an instrument, like holding a tool in your hand."¹

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 two hymns in one." How Firm A Foundation" and "The Water God Gives Us."

HIGHLANDS UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Celebration of Worship

March 19, 2017 – 3rd of Lent

"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 & SHARING LIFE IN THE CHURCH

PRELUDE AND BRINGING THE LIGHT

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

In the driest desert, God provided a rock that held a fountain for those who thirst.

Come, let us worship, and bow down.

In a helpless world, at the right time, God sent Jesus to die for the ungodly.

Come, let us worship, and bow down.

In a place of quarrelling, God provides an answer that holds life for those who hope.

Come, let us worship, and bow down.

In a place of wonder, God provided living water, for those who met there.

Come, let us worship, and bow down.

In this place of gathering, God provides the grace that surrounds those who wait.

Come, let us worship, and bow down.

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

"May this be a place of meeting with you, O God, and may you speak to us in living words, quench our thirst with living water, and hold us all with living love as we 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 "How Firm a Foundation/The Water God Gives Us"

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

*If comfortable, please stand

“The water God gives us in wondrous supply, Is water that’s living and never runs dry. For everyone drinks and is thirsty again, But God’s living water gives life without end.

Then just like that woman who went to the well, We hear you, O Christ, and the truth that you tell. You know who we are and you know what we’ve been; You know us and love us in spite of our sin.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow; For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless, And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

The gift that you give is the greatest of wealth; You give living water! You give us yourself! May we, like that woman, go back where we live And tell those we know of the life that you give.”

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes; That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

***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 "

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Unison)**

Walking the dog, reading a bedtime story, recycling newspapers - in every moment, in every place, God is there. As we continue in this season of Lent, we gather to ask God’s forgiveness. We are like restless, complaining wanderers needing reassurance. We are thirsty for God’s presence. We are offered living water, let us drink freely. Let us pray:

God of eternity, you know how often we travel down the rocky roads of doubt and fear. We pester others with our worries; we hurl bitter words at those we love. We have chances to offer ourselves in service, but only give our contempt to those in need. We could share the living waters with the world, but want to store it in jars for safe-keeping. Fountain of Grace, you turn towards us, to meet us wherever we are. You break open our rock-hard sin, so we might be made whole. In Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, our thirst for hope and joy is quenched.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us!

Christ, Have Mercy Upon Us!

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us!

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.

The “Kyrie Eleison” is a three phrase prayer seeking the mercy (eleison) of the “Kyrie,” which is the latin word for “Lord.” The prayer is simultaneously a petition and a prayer of thanksgiving; an acknowledgment of what God has done, what God is doing, and what God will continue to do.

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.

Our anthem for the day is "Come, Ye Sinners Poor and Needy," which dates to 1759. It is a song of 'invitation.' The second verse carries the theme for the day, "Come, Ye Thirsty...," reminds us that the grace of God is found in Christ, the living water.

Our "Hymn of Response," is "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" which continues the theme in the second verse, "See, the streams of living waters, Springing from eternal love, well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove. Who can faint while such a river Ever flows their thirst to assuage? Grace, which like the Lord the giver, Never fails from age to age."

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

And God says: I am listening to you. Now hear my words to you.

I am the water of life, come to me all who are thirsty and you will drink of the living waters and never be thirsty again. You are forgiven.

Thanks Be To God.

"THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD"

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 17:1-7

(OT: p.)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be To God.

ANTHEM

"Come, Ye Sinners Poor and Needy"

"Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, Weak and wounded, sick and sore;

Jesus ready stands to save you, Full of pity, love and power.

Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome, God's free bounty glorify;

True belief and true repentance, Every grace that brings you nigh.

I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms;

In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms."

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Romans 5:1-11

(NT: p.)

*John 4:1-30, 40-42

(NT: p.)

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

INTERLUDE

(All children, ages 4 through 2nd 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 #207.)

SERMON

"We All Need Water"

"SHARING OUR RESPONSE TO GOD"

***HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 446 "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostles' Creed)**

"I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen. "

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (responsive)

When we were determined to remain at war with you,
you sent the Prince of Peace.

When our relationship with you was lying in pieces on the floor,
you offered the broken Bread to restore us to wholeness.

When petty pride stiffens our necks so much we cannot bow down in
your holy presence,
you massage our souls with grace's tender touch.

All: We worship you in joy, God, our God.

When our ears become stuffed with our selves,
you open them with songs of grateful praise.

When our mouths overflow with rich, sweet 'whine,'
you wash them out with living waters of hope.

When all we can say is 'Give me! Give me!'
you challenge us to submit to servant hood.

All: We worship you in sprit, Jesus, Water Giver.

When our souls are empty,
you fill them with living water.

When we are reluctant to follow Jesus,
you steer us in the right direction.

When we are tempted to boast,
your whispers of grace silence us.

All: We worship you in truth, Comforter of our hearts.

When we are lost in loneliness, stifled by convention, crying out in pain,
you come to us again and again.

When we are in need of renewal for our bodies and our spirits,
you break open the flood gates of your grace.

All: Giver of life we offer our prayers to you. Amen.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*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

Like the people in the wilderness we have had our thirst quenched;
God is among us.

In Christ we are justifies and find peace;
God is calling us.

Like the woman at the well we are filled;
God sends us forth to tell the good news!



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, 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.)

Our Hymn of Parting is "Spirit" which reminds us that now, as always, the Spirit of God is at work blowing across the waters, enabling God's people to be and do God's people and God's will.

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

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

***HYMN OF PARTING NO. 319 "Spirit"**

Refrain:

**Spirit, spirit of gentleness, Blow through the wilderness,
calling and free,
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, Stir me from placidness,
Wind, wind on the sea.**

**1. You moved on the waters, You called to the deep,
Then You coaxed up the mountains From the valleys of sleep,
And over the eons You called to each thing,
"Awake from your slumbers And rise on your wings."
(Refrain)**

**2. You swept through the desert, You stung with the sand,
And You gifted your people With a law and a land,
And when they were blinded With their idols and lies,
Then You spoke through Your prophets To open their eyes.
(Refrain)**

**3. You sang in a stable, You cried from a hill,
Then You whispered in silence When the whole world was still,
And down in the city You called once again
When You blew through Your people On the rush of the wind.
(Refrain)**

**4. You call from tomorrow, You break ancient schemes,
From the bondage of sorrow The captives dream dreams;
Our women see visions, Our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions Your people arise.
(Refrain)**

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

**"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





HIGHLANDS' HIGHLIGHTS
 This Week at Highlands
 Week of March 19 – March 25, 2017



This Week's Calendar of Events:

Today:	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship/ JOY Sunday
	5:00 p.m.	Pot Luck Dinner @ Arlington Presbyterian
Monday:	9:00 a.m.	Crafty Ladies
	7:00 p.m.	Session Meeting
Tuesday:	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Soup and Study
Wednesday:	10:00 a.m.	Wellness Series (No "afternoon" Logos this week)
		(Yoga at 10 a.m. & Adult Logos at 11 a.m.)
Thursday:	7:30 p.m.	Handbell Rehearsal
Friday:	9:00 a.m.	Quilting and Sewing Group
Next Sunday:	11:15 a.m.	Congregational Meeting after Worship Service

"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 3rd Sunday in the Season of Lent and the theme for the day is 'living water.' We, for the most part, take water and its role in our living somewhat for granted. Even though it is vital for life. The people of Israel clamor for water in the wilderness and Jesus offers the 'woman at the well' living water. Today we wish to drink deeply of the grace that is God's water in this Word.

We are invited to come today at 5 p.m. at Arlington Presbyterian Church (1351 Sprinkle Dr.) to an "Interfaith" covered dish supper. APC's pastor Joe Medearis and his congregation are seeking to open a dialogue between people of varied backgrounds in order for us to recognize that our similarities far outweigh our differences. Please consider bringing a covered dish and joining the fellowship.

TAKE UP YOUR CROSS! CARRY A NAIL: Jesus invites us to take up our crosses and follow him. As a Lenten reminder to follow Jesus on this journey to Holy Week and Easter we invite you to wear a simple cross during the season. You may have your cross from last year, but if you do not have a cross to wear please take a 'cross' from the basket and wear it or carry it during these Lenten days. We are also providing a 'nail' if you would like to carry one during Lent as a symbol of Jesus' sacrifice. When we come on Good Friday night we will use our crosses and nails as a part of our Good Friday "Tenebrae" observance.

OUR LENTEN 'SOUP AND STUDY' WILL CONTINUE on Tuesday at 7 p.m. Please join us as we study, "Returning Home: Lent in Conversation With Other Faiths."

LOGOS IS ON SPRING BREAK THIS WEEK BUT WELLNESS AND ADULT CHOIR WILL MEET. Wellness and Adult Logos begin at 10 a.m. Choir is at 7 p.m.

WE WILL HAVE A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NEXT SUNDAY for the purpose of electing Elders to the Class of 2019 and to hear a report from the Session on the 2017 Budget.

LIVING STEWARDSHIP FINANCIAL REPORT:	MONTH -FEB.	YEAR-TO-DATE-FEB
Operating Income	\$23,033	\$54,651
Operating Expense	\$23,509	\$50,821
Net Favorable (Unfavorable)	(\$476)	\$ 4,207

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER TO HELP PREPARE THE WEEKLY DEPOSIT. Training is provided and it would only require a little bit of your time on Sunday or Monday each week. If you are interested, please call the church office at 641-9622.

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.

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!

IF YOU ARE NOT ALREADY INVOLVED IN AN ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS you are invited to attend the next quarterly series of classes at 9:00 a.m. in the Dining Hall. The topic "The Weapons of Non-Violence" will be continued next week. We would love to see you at this or any of the wonderful Sunday Classes we offer!

OTHER ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE

CALL ALL EGG HUNTERS! Our Annual Egg Hunt will be Sunday, April 9th following fellowship. We hope that all children ages birth to 5th grade will join us for the fun! In order to make this a memorable Highlands activity, we are collecting donations to fill our eggs. Both candy and non-candy items (stickers, stamps, etc.) can be placed in the large tub labeled "Egg Hunt" in the Dining Hall. If you'd also like to donate plastic eggs, those would be greatly appreciated as well.

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. Fifteen 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 **desperate need** of 16 X 26-inch hand towels. They also need nail clippers but no nail files now. 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: JoAn Ewing, Don Hall (Mayo Hospital), Jo Carmichael, Bill Byers, Nancy Hoot, Marilyn Reed, Al Hummel, Bill Duval, Pat Strader, Cathy Pate's son, Hank Greene, Rufus Taylor's brother, Earl Fouraker, 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), 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: Diane Sibila, Lyle and Jan Sim and Abbie Skipper.

OUR VOLUNTEERS THIS MORNING ARE: Greeter: Lidia Knouse. Children's Church Leader: Chad Sambito. Nursery Attendant: Jennifer Terrell.

THE FLOWERS ON THE COMMUNION TABLE are given to the glory of God by Barbara Moon in loving memory of John Moon.