

This Week at Highland

Sunday, September 29

9:30 Sunday School and Adult Ed
11:00 Sunday Worship
12:00 PresFest Block Party!

Monday, September 30

12:30 Staff Meeting
7:00 Book Club – Memorial Lounge

Tuesday, October 1

9:45 PACT Mobile Food Pantry –
2508 Portland Ave
10:00 STITCH
5:30 Fellowship Committee

Wednesday, October 2

1:00 Ministerial Staff Meeting
4:00 Adult Ed Committee
6:00 Children's Music Ministry
6:30 Church in the World

Thursday, October 3

10:00 STITCH
10:00 We of the World (WOW) – Zoom
1:00 Bridge Club – Memorial Lounge
6:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
8:00 Choir Fellowship – Fellowship Hall

Saturday, October 5

11:00 Fred Holper's Memorial Service &
Reception - Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall

Sunday, October 6

9:30 Sunday School and Adult Ed
11:00 Sunday Worship
12:00 Roots
1:30 Highland Ringers
4:00 Blessing of the Animals – PM Lawn



HIGHLAND
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

People of faith (both Jews and Christians) have been reading the Book of Esther for millennia and reacting in similar ways. Something about this book makes us all take stock of ourselves and wonder what God is up to. Something about this book makes us laugh and cry and thank God all at the same time.

— Bible scholar Carol M. Bechtel

Ministerial Staff

Rev. C. Nolan Huizenga, Pastor and Head of Staff
Rev. Megan McCarty, Associate Pastor for Mission and Membership
Rev. Adrian White, Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults
Amy Bishop, Director of Ministry with Children and Families
Dr. Vini Frizzo, Director of Music Ministries
Dr. Brian Allred, Organist
Rev. Dr. Cynthia Campbell, Parish Associate and Pastor Emerita (2013-2020)



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facebook.com/highlandpres

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost • September 29, 2024 • 11:00am

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome and Announcements Megan McCarty

Prelude - Salut d'amour Edward Elgar
Julia Cash, violin and Alice Cash, piano

† Gathering Words Tom Owen

We will walk this day with you, O God, and you will walk with us,
gathering us into a community to pray for one another in all things.
We will walk this day with you, O Christ, and you will walk with us,
calling us to follow you, helping us to set aside all that holds us back.
We will walk this day with you, O Spirit, and you will walk with us,
sending us out, side by side, to serve those cast aside by the world.

† Hymn - God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian (Insert) HYFRYDOL
Our hymn of the month will be sung to the tune HYFRYDOL. Notice how the tune affects the meaning. As we sing, you are invited to substitute the word "faithful" for "pastors" in stanza 2, reflecting the shared ministry of all the people of God.

Prayer of Confession

God, you placed us in the world to be its salt.
We were afraid of committing ourselves.
We did not want to hear what "they" might say,
and our salt dissolved as if in water.
You placed us in the world to be its light.
We were afraid of the shadows, afraid of the poverty.
We did not want to know "difficult" people
and our light slowly faded away.
You placed us in the world to live in community.
You taught us to love, to share in life,
to struggle for bread and for justice,
your truth incarnate in our lives.
May it be so, Lord Jesus.
(silent prayer)
Amen.

† Please rise in body or spirit

Save the Date for our Day of Service - We are doing a new thing! On **Sunday, October 13th**, Highland Presbyterian Church will host a day of service. We will not hold worship in the sanctuary on this day, instead, we will worship with our hands and feet out in the community and around our church. There will be service projects for all ages and all abilities! Some projects include: creating Care Kits for the unhoused, writing letters to new voters about why voting matters, baking cookies for Central Presbyterian's boxed lunches for the unhoused, leading a hymn sing for the residents at the Presbyterian Homes, making crafts with the residents at Eastern Star Homes, packaging school supplies for refugee children at KRM, and SO MUCH MORE! We hope that you will participate in our day of service. Be on the lookout for more information in the October newsletter!

Want to enhance your appreciation of Sunday sermons? Drop in to the Feasting on the Word adult ed class! Each week we study and discuss the scripture passage on which the sermon is based. Brief readings are sent to participants in advance. This fall sermons will have an overarching theme of Unity. Come explore many dimensions of unity in faith each Sunday morning at 9:30 in the Session Room in the Pleune-Mobley Building (entrance on Highland Ave). Contact Kathleen Poole (kathleen.poole@hpcloouisville.org) to be added to the email list.

WINGS Fall Retreat - Oct. 25-27, 2024 - All HPC women are invited to join in a weekend of community, nature and spiritual growth. WINGS member Dale Peterson, PhD, will be our program leader Saturday presenting "Our worth in God's eyes." She is passionate about guiding women through their own discovery about self-esteem and living into gratitude. Other activities will include meal sharing, nature walks, Pilates, quiet/reflection time, Sunday morning worship and college care package assembly. Our retreat will be at Knobs Haven located south of Bardstown, KY in the Sisters of Loretto 800 acre community with historic buildings, ponds, walking trails and a working farm. Cost for accommodations, programming and college care packages is \$125 for both nights or \$82 for one. Please contact Laurie Anderson (laurie2420@gmail.com) or Kathy O'Hearn (kathyreed330@gmail.com) for more information and registration. **Registration deadline: Oct. 11.**

Thanks to everyone who helped WOW help refugee children. Every week WOW provides clothing and toys for 12 to 15 children who arrived at Kentucky Refugee Ministries with very little from home. We still need small toys, clothing and Amazon or Walmart gift cards – or financial donations -- we can use to buy new socks and underwear for each child. If you have things your children have outgrown, please leave them in the WOW bin in the Fellowship Hall or at Linda Raymond Ellison's home, 502-458-7445.

Join us at the Highland Presbyterian Church **Nursery and Weekday School 75th Birthday Party** on **October 10 from 6:00 to 9:00 PM** at Progress Park Airstream Resort & Event Center in Louisville, KY. Let's celebrate this magical program that has touched the lives of so many children and families in our community over the past 75 years. This adults-only evening event will be full of fun, food and fellowship including music and a silent auction. We hope you will join us! Go to the school's website to purchase tickets (hpcweekdayschool.org).

This week, please include the following people in your daily prayers:

Dan Arbough, Shana Funk, Don Seeger, Christina Davis, George Carter, Bill Wolfe, Becky Backert, Mary Bealmear, Rosemary Robertson, Communities of Bellewood & Brooklawn, and members of sibling congregation Grace Hope Presbyterian Church.

Our love and prayers are with Cynthia Campbell upon the death of her husband, Fred Holper.

Our love and prayers are with Don Garton, Kathy Mounce, and their family upon the death of Don's mother Hazel Garton.

Our love and prayers are with Marie Cross and family upon the death of Marie's husband Steve Cross.

Announcements

Thanks to Rick Benn, Dan Bowman, Suzanne Bowman, Alice Cash, Julia Cash, and Kelli Mattingly for help leading music in worship today.

The children's Sunday school classes are studying ways God welcomes us into the world and ways we can welcome each other—those we know and strangers—into our world and church. Please read and receive their words of welcome in your pews. The 3rd, 4th & 5th graders made them just for you. You are all welcome here.

The September Book Club will be on the **30th at 7pm in Memorial Lounge**. We are reading HPC author Pat Owen's latest book of poetry, *Bardo of Becoming*. You may purchase the book at Carmichael's or Amazon. Pat will lead us in the discussion. Any questions contact Patti Pinkley, patti.pinkley@gmail.com. Hope you will join us!

Attention Bridge Players: Highland hosts bridge on the first Thursday of the month at 1:00 pm. If you would like to be included on our player list, please call or email Patti Pinkley at 419.1003 or patti.pinkley@gmail.com. We will meet **October 3 at 1:00pm**.

HPC Pub Night - A group will be gathering **Tuesday, October 8, at 7:00pm** for a beverage and some good conversation at TEN20 Craft Brewery at 1020 E. Washington St. Come join us. No agenda, just conversation in good company. All are welcome. If you would like to be added to the list for announcements about the upcoming HPC pub nights, please email Ralph Bowling at ralbow87@gmail.com.

Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 6 at 4:00pm! We've got a joyful outdoor worship opportunity: Highland will offer a Blessing of the Animals at 4:00pm on Sunday, October 6 on the front lawn of the Pleune-Mobley Building (corner of Cherokee Rd and Highland Ave). It's a chance to thank God for the creatures with whom we share lives, and to highlight God's care for the natural world. Animals on leashes or in carriers are welcome, or you can bring a leash or toy or a photo for a moment of blessing. Invite a friend!

Assurance of God's Grace

Hear this good news:

God loves the world so much that God makes it a livable place.

God loves us so much that God reshapes us into people of faith.

Like a cup of cold water,

forgiveness revives us, restores us, gives us new life.

Thanks be to God, we all are forgiven!

† Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Time with Young Disciples

399 - God Welcomes All

As the Sunday School children explore Christian Hospitality this month, they are learning the hymn "God Welcomes All." Let us gather together, celebrating the completeness of God's love.

Amy Bishop

THEMBA AMEN

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading

James 5:13-20 (page 231)

Hymn 330 - Our Help Is in the Name of God the Lord (Psalm 124)

OLD 124TH

Stanza 1: Jennifer Poff, Karen Crow, Brian Shaw, and Edward Caruthers, soloists; Stanza 2-3: All

Hebrew Scripture Reading

Esther 7:1-10; 9:20-22 (page 448)

Sermon

Nolan Huizenga

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

† Hymn 469 - Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

CHILDREN PRAYING

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. - James 5:13

Invitation to Generosity



Adrian White

Anthem - Hear My Prayer

Moses Hogan

Chancel Choir

† Doxology 717 - For the Life That You Have Given

PLEADING SAVIOR

**For the life that you have given,
for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labor,
with these gifts that are your own:
here we offer, Lord, our praises;
heart and mind and strength we bring;
give us grace to love and serve you,
living what we pray and sing.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Hymn 851 - Come, Bring Your Burdens to God

WOZA NOMTHWALO WAKHO

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 353 - My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

SOLID ROCK

Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth - Psalm 124:8

† Charge and Benediction

Postlude - Festive March

David Lasky

*Permission to reprint and stream the music in this service is obtained from
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Welcome to Highland Presbyterian Church

Welcome to Highland Presbyterian Church! We are so glad you have joined us in worship today. Whether you are visiting for the first time, haven't attended in a long time, or are a long time member, your presence is a gift to us. All are welcome in worship and at the table of communion. We hope your experience is meaningful and relevant among this church community. If you are new here, please sign the red friendship pad and include some contact information so we can make you feel more welcome following the service.

Highland Presbyterian Church is a PC(USA) **More Light** Congregation, a **Matthew 25** Congregation, and an **Earth Care** Congregation. For more information about these commitments, please visit our website at www.hpclouisville.org.

We're committed to inclusivity. The congregation of Highland Presbyterian Church affirms the worth and dignity of all people. We are all created in God's image, and in Christ we are the children of God. Just as Jesus welcomed everyone into his fellowship, including those who traditionally had been marginalized, we welcome all people to our congregation regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, income, or political beliefs. All are invited to worship, serve, and participate fully in the life and ministry of Highland. We strive to fully embrace everyone and acknowledge our humanity even as we fall short of this desire. Living out our Christian calling, we celebrate the presence, gifts, and companionship of all as we experience this journey of faith together.

Large print bulletins (including hymns) and hearing enhancement devices are available. If you would like either, please ask an usher.

Children's bulletins and Bibles for beginning readers are available on the rack at the back of the sanctuary.

Our Nursery is on the second floor — to get there walk through Fellowship Hall and go up the stairs near Memorial Lounge. Children ages 3 and younger are invited (not required!) to enjoy that caring space.

Be a part of Highland Presbyterian Church's Music Ministry! We have a strong spiritual connection with music and would love for you to be a part of the music at Highland. **Children Music Ministry** (4-year-old to 5th grade) meets on Wednesdays at 6pm. **Chancel Choir** rehearses on Thursdays at 6:30pm and **Highland Ringers** (bell choir) on Sundays at 1:30. Do you play an instrument? **HPC Orchestra** is always looking for players. Contact Vini Frizzo if you have any questions. vini.frizzo@hpclouisville.org