



HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE FEAST OF PENTECOST

MAY 19, 2024

10:30 A.M. SERVICE



Today we celebrate Pentecost, often known as the birthday of the Church. The name Pentecost comes from the Greek for fiftieth day. Its origins relate to the Jewish harvest festival of Shavuot, which commemorates God's giving of the law on Mt. Sinai. Pentecost marks the day when the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples in Jerusalem fifty days after Easter.

Uniquely Highlands

A Summer Sunday School series highlighting some of the unique and meaningful things that make Highlands, Highlands! All youth and adults are invited.

 Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

 Highlands UMC Fellowship Hall



Class Topics and Presenters

- June 9: History of Five Points South - **Marjorie White**
- June 16 & 23: Why We Worship the Way We Do - **Rev. Mikah Hudson**
- June 30: The United Methodist Hymnal - **Kelley Clegg Neal**
- July 21 & 28: Highlands' Organ & Tower Bells - **Rick Phillips**
- August 4: SSSME Photo Scavenger Hunt - **Highlands Youth Group**
- August 18: Compassion Ministries & Volunteer Fair - **Danny Jones**
- August 25: Looking Forward: What's Next in Five Points South - **Steve Alexander**



For more information:

www.highlandsumc.net/sundayschool

ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION

PREACHING – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON

LITURGIST – REGGIE HOLDER

CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST – RICHARD PHILLIPS

VERGER – BRIAN BELLENGER

***Congregation please stand. Words in bold are spoken or sung by the congregation.**

Serving for Altar Guild: Reina McFarlin • Serving as Ushers: Matt Darby, Louis Baxley

Serving as Acolytes & Communion Stewards: Camille Baxley, Polly Dawson, Ann Harper Nash (Atrium Class of 2024)

Serving as Lay Reader: Vance Holder

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of the students, staff, alumni, and friends of Birmingham-Southern College, with love from the Sides and Arnold families.

PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS

Kara Cargile, Chimer

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

PRELUDE

Toccata in C Major
BWV 564

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.

***HYMN 541**

See How Great a Flame Aspires

ARFON (MAJOR)

***COLLECT FOR PURITY**

Let us pray: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires are known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

VENITE

Holy Spirit, Come

The Children's Choir | Mary Elizabeth Neal, Director

*Holy Spirit, come: make my eyes to see, make my ears to hear, make my mouth to speak,
Make my heart to sing and my hands to reach out and touch the world with your love.*

ATRIUM GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Camille Baxley

Polly Dawson

Ann Harper Nash

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Written by Polly Dawson (Atrium Class of 2024)

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Living God, who appreciates all things: we ask that you look over us and protect us so that we can all feel safe and loved. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 2:1-21

May these words reveal Christ to us. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALTER

Psalm 104:24-26, 29-35

Sir Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)

The Choir

Benedic, anima mea

²⁴Man goes forth to his work and to his labor until the evening.

²⁵O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁶Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, creatures both small and great.

²⁹You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

³⁰You hide your face, and they are terrified; you take away their breath, and they die and return to their dust.

³¹You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.

³²May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; may the Lord rejoice in all his works.

³³He looks at the earth and it trembles; he touches the mountains and they smoke.

³⁴I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.

³⁵May these words of mine please him; I will rejoice in the Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 8:22-27

May these words reveal Christ to us. **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Fintan O'Carroll (1922-1981) and Christopher Walker (b. 1947)

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 6/8. The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia!' are written below the notes on both staves.

*GOSPEL LESSON

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Lesson

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881

THE APOSTLES' CREED

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reggie Holder

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Musical Setting: William Mathias (1934-1992)

*INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION & THE PEACE

God in Christ breaks down the walls that make us strangers to ourselves and divide us from one another. We are the body of Christ. Around this table, we enact our faith. The Communion Table is open to all who are in love with God and their neighbor and seek forgiveness and healing in this broken world.

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

GREETINGS AND PARISH NOTICES

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES ANNOUNCEMENT

Mary Elizabeth Neal

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Call to the Paraclete

The Choir

O God, Holy Ghost, sanctifier of the faithful, visit this congregation with thy love and favor;
Enlighten their minds more and more with the light of the everlasting Gospel;
Graft in their hearts, love of the truth; increase in them true religion;
Nourish them with all goodness; and of thy mercy keep them in the same,
O Blessed Spirit, whom with the Father and the Son, we worship and glorify,
One God, world without end. Amen.

Betty Louise Lumby (1926-2020)

Text, Book of Common Prayer

*DOXOLOGY 94

LAST UNS ERFREUEN WITH ALLELUIAS

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain!

...Through your Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

A - men, a - men, a - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER 895

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Jesus Lamb of God

The Choir

*Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
 Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
 Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.*

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Reflecting our conviction that God's grace is for all people, everyone is invited to the Lord's table. Please come forward as directed by the ushers to receive the sacrament. Holy Communion will be served by intinction; clergy will dip the bread into the cup and place in congregants' hands. Gluten-free communion wafers are available upon request. Congregants are welcome to kneel at the chancel rail for prayer before returning to their seats.

COMMUNION HYMN 651

Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire

VENI CREATOR

The Choir and Congregation

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

God of all, we give you thanks and praise that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gates of glory. May we who share Christ's body, live his risen life; we who drink his cup, bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN 547**

O Church of God, United

ELLECOMBE

Verses 1 & 4

Organ Improvisation: Noel Rawsthorne

*BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

The Lord Bless You And Keep You

The Choir

*The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. Amen.*

Peter C. Lutkin (1858-1931)

Text, Numbers 6:24-26

ORGAN IMPROVISATION ON A HYMN TUNE

Highlands UMC Choral Scholars

**Jake Borton – Bill Hairston, Jr. Choral Scholar*

Kara Cargile – Amos Hudson/Highlands United Women in Faith Choral Scholar

Austin Hamilton – Tommy Luther Thompson Choral Scholar

**Lizzie Tagtmeyer – Senior Youth Choral Scholar*

**Denotes 2024 graduates*

JOIN US IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR OUR THIRD SUNDAY POTLUCK AND CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING,
AND VISIT THE RECEPTION FOR OUR ATRIUM GRADUATES ON YOUR WAY THROUGH THE GREETING SPACE.



WELCOME TO HIGHLANDS!

ALL ARE WELCOME



A Reconciling Congregation with the Reconciling Ministries Network – rmnetwork.org

Highlands United Methodist Church is a community of disciples of Christ; a beacon of hope, inviting all to become new persons in Christ to be sent into the world to share the Gospel and to serve our neighbors; and a sanctuary for those in need of God's love and grace.

Highlands United Methodist Church affirms that nothing can separate anyone from the love of God. We invite all to worship, wonder, and discover God's grace as we aspire to create a safe space for all to participate fully in the life of this community of faith. We are called to shine as a beacon of hope, grace, belonging, and respect for all people. Regardless of age, gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, family, financial status, nationality, physical or mental ability, past or future, there is room for you at Highlands.

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

The message of the Hebrew prophets, Jesus, Paul, and the early church was always a message of welcome and inclusion for all. The image of God's kingdom is of something small and insignificant growing into something larger and of great significance. The oppressed, the alien, and the outcast were all welcomed, included, and cared for. In this sense, our faith is built upon the idea of gracious hospitality. Followers of Jesus are not about walls of exclusion but bridges of grace and acceptance. Ours is a faith of invitation, for all to come to know Jesus as the living Christ who overcomes all brokenness, sin, and even death, offering a way to make all things new. This invitation extends to you. If you desire to explore what this means for you, please speak to a member of the clergy after the service or sometime this week. We welcome the opportunity to visit with you.

OFFERING

Cash or Check Giving:

- Giving envelopes are available in the pew racks.
Checks may be made payable to HUMC.

Electronic Giving:

- Text GIVE to 205-900-3040. A link will be provided for a simple, quick way to give with one click.
- Visit www.highlandsumc.net/giving to give using a debit card, credit card, or bank account.

Sustainable Giving:

- To set up automatic monthly bank drafts, contact financial manager Tyra Johnson-Pirtle at finance@highlandsumc.net.



SCAN THE CODE WITH YOUR MOBILE
DEVICE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT'S
HAPPENING AT HIGHLANDS!

Music and lyrics presented in this bulletin are reprinted with permission under CCLI Licensing#1845134. All Rights Reserved.
