

**PRELUDE**

Don and Esther Drewry

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INVITATION**

John Hodges-Batzka

**CALL TO WORSHIP\***

God is light, in whom there is no darkness at all.

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

Though the light came into the world to change us,

**we loved darkness rather than the light.**

**Holy Spirit, inhabit this place tonight, Amen.**

**HYMN #626\***

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

**CONFESSION\***

**Most merciful God, We your Church confess that often our spirit has not been that of Christ. Where we have failed to love one another as he loves us, where we have pledged loyalty to him with our lips and then betrayed, deserted, or denied him, forgive us, we pray. And by your Spirit make us faithful in every task, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Here now the good news. While we were yet sinners, Christ suffered and died for us. While the night of this day is dark, we look forward to the light of Easter and the reminder of God’s love for us. This is the good news of Good Friday.

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

How Deep the Father’s Love For Us

Chris Pinelo

**SCRIPTURE**

MARK 15:16-41

**SERMON**

**IN THE SADNESS**

**HYMN #292\***

What Wondrous Love is This

**INTRODUCTION TO THE SOLEMN REPROACHES OF THE CROSS**

**SOLEMN REPROACHES OF THE CROSS**

O my people, O my Church, what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you? I led you forth from the land of Egypt and delivered you by the waters of baptism, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

I led you through the desert forty years and fed you with manna; I brought you through times of persecution and of renewal and gave you my body, the bread of heaven; but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

I made you branches of my vineyard and gave you the water of salvation, but when I was thirsty you gave me vinegar and gall and pierced with a spear the side of your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

I went before you in a pillar of cloud, but you have led me to the judgement hall of Pilate. I brought you to a land of freedom and prosperity, but you have scourged, mocked, and beaten me.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

I gave you a royal scepter, and bestowed the keys to the kingdom, but you have given me a crown of thorns. I raised you on high with great power, but you have hanged me on the cross.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

My peace I gave, which the world cannot give, and washed your feet as a servant, but you draw the sword to strike in my name and seek high places in my kingdom.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

I accepted the cup of suffering and death for your sakes, but you scatter and deny and abandon me. I sent the Spirit of truth to lead you, but you close your hearts to guidance.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

I called you to go and bring forth fruit, but you cast lots for my clothing. I prayed that you all may be one, but you continue to quarrel and divide.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

I grafted you into the tree of my chosen people Israel, but you turned on them with persecution and mass murder. I made you joint heirs with them of my covenants, but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters. I was hungry but you gave me no food, thirsty but you gave me no drink. I was a stranger but you did not welcome me, naked but you did not clothe me, sick and in prison but you did not visit me.

**Holy God, we have not lived up to your sacrifice. But you choose to love us again, and again, and again. Help us to remember your unfailing love, even in the darkness of the cross, as we say the prayer your Son taught us.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION\***

\*Please stand as you are able.



PODCAST

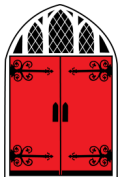
Every week, John Hodges-Batzka takes the Sunday sermon, adds a devotion and announcements about upcoming events to create the **Highland Methodist Podcast**. Check it out! Available Mondays in the app, Apple Podcasts, and Google Play.

### PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAISE REPORTS

- Yogi B—recovering from heart surgery
- Jim C—Stroke, St. E South
- Nancy B—rehab for two brain tumor surgeries, continued treatment
- Nancy H—Cancer, St. E Edgewood
- Recovery for Tim Lohner who suffered from a brain bleed
- Lynn E—continued recovery
- Kathleen—lumpectomy success
- Ed H—Heart surgery 3/13
- Keith W—Knee Surgery
- Anna D—with hospice at the Barrington

**Welcome to Highland United Methodist!** If you're looking for information about our church, you can probably find it and much more at [highlandmethodist.com](http://highlandmethodist.com)

**We welcome all visitors today and kindly request you complete a "Connect Card"** found either in the pew or by



Highland United Methodist Church  
859-441-0587 office@highlandmethodist.com  
www.highlandmethodist.com  
Guest wifi password: HumcLoves

# Highland United Methodist Church

Friday, March 29, 2024 6:30pm

**Good Friday**



### **Grow – Follow – Love**

At Highland United Methodist Church, we are a community of imperfect people who exist to **grow** God's kingdom by **following** the examples of Jesus and **loving** with purpose.

We are deepening our spiritual understanding by embracing diversity, enriching lives, mindfully serving, and bringing joy through music and friendship. As United Methodists, we inclusively welcome everyone and follow the Wesleyan call to do no harm, do good, and love God.