

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Far too often, O God, we desire to look wise in the eyes of the world. We have not spoken truth with our hearts. We have said and done hurtful things to our friends. We have forgotten our true identity, wandering into ways that are not yours. We have lost the path of true worship, focusing on form and words rather than deeds. We have forgotten what true discipleship is. And because of this, you have a quarrel with us. Forgive us and help us live into becoming the people you have created and called us to be: people of justice and love and truth and humility, and yes, even foolishness. May we be fools for Christ, embracing our true identity, even in the face of the world's scorn and derision. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE WORD

WORDS WITH OUR YOUNG CHURCH Jen Jammer

OLD TESTAMENT Micah 6:1-8

ANTHEM I See the Morning Break Pote
(Jennifer Butler, Elaine Bryant Hayes, Miriam Walker)

GOSPEL READING Matthew 5:1-12

MESSAGE Citizen of Heaven, week 3: Kingdom Values
Rev. Chip Stapleton

†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.

RESPONSE

OFFERING
OFFERTORY Blest Are They Haas/Joncas
(Don Gaylord, guitar; Bill Hardwick, soloist)

†DOXOLOGY #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. Amen.”**

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

†HYMN #357 O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

†BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE Ours the Journey Rush

†All who are able, please stand



~~~PASTORAL CONCERNS~~~

*We ask that you keep our home-bound in your thoughts and prayers.*

P.W. and Martha Jessup Steve & Orion Gaynos  
Jean Robinson Madie Rae Locklear  
Lisa Hitt ("Grandma" to the Guy Family)  
(daughter of Gayle McDonald) Lib Yarborough  
Charlotte Ingram Bill Johnson  
June Marie Smith Betty Graham  
Doris & John English Hope Campbell  
Violet McNeill Mike Byerly (SIL to Shirley Olund)  
Randy Gainer Bill Owen

Please let us know if you have concerns that you think the church should know about. Please limit to close-extended family. We will put their names (and relation to you if you desire) in the email update. The names will be removed after a few weeks unless requested otherwise. Kelli 910-401-0928 or kellilu@gmail.com

**Worship Leaders**

Rev. Chip Stapleton, Senior Minister  
Pam Langston, Dir. of Music Ministries  
Jen Jammer, Dir. of Children's Ministry  
Chris Jackson, Dir. of Youth Ministry

**YOUTH INFORMATION**

**SENIOR RETREAT - March 24-26**

Cost: \$200 (but don't let that stop you) - Calling all High School Seniors  
Join Us for a weekend of service, reflection, and fun! Contact Chris to  
reserve your spot no later than **this Sunday! (January 29)**

**SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP - 6pm every Sunday**

This Week: **WALMART NIGHT!!** - January 29 6pm  
A crazy run to our 2nd favorite Super Store (we all love some Target), full  
of laughs and harsh judgement of your friends. - BRING \$10

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**Appalachia Service Project Interest Meeting  
February 5 5:00pm**

Old pro who doesn't want to imagine a year without ASP?  
Excited to go for the first time? On the fence?  
*It's time for THE experience...*

This year we plan to serve at ASP the week of June 18-24.  
Join us at a meeting next Sunday to find out more!

**Notes on Today's Music...**

**Opening Hymn:** In the Sermon on the Mount, the sixth beatitude is: Blessed are the pure in heart. What better way to begin worship today than to join in singing "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!" It was originally a much longer hymn of 11 stanzas created for the processional at an English choir festival in 1865. **Anthem:** "I See the Morning Breaking" by Allen Pote is a beautiful composition that sets the scene for the Sermon on the Mount. The picturesque text of the first verse "I see the morning breaking through the valleys and the hills" will be sung by altos Jennifer Butler, Miriam Walker, and Elaine Bryant Hayes.

**Offertory:** "Blest Are They" (1985) paraphrases Matthew 5:1-12 and was published in the 2013 Presbyterian Hymnal as well as 35 others. It is one of the most notable con-gregational settings of this scripture. Thanks to guitarist Don Gaylord and soloist Bill Hardwick who will offer this song together to the glory of God.

**Closing Hymn:** "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" is a well-loved hymn of discipleship from the 1800's that has been translated for hymnals in French Creole, German, Korean, Spanish, and Welsh. May we all take with us the hope offered in its words:

*O Master, let me walk with Thee in lowly paths of service free...  
In peace that only Thou canst give, with Thee, O Master, let me live.*

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL**

**Wednesday, February 1st, 2023**

**Due to weather last week and having to cancel Wednesday night activities/dinner, we will be offering the same meal for this week..**

Menu: *Pork Loin, Sweet Potatoes, Collard Greens, Salad Bar, Dessert*  
Make your reservations now! Call 401-0928 or kellilu@gmail.com



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S MISSION DAY

Monday, February 27th - 9:30am - Fellowship Hall - Light refreshments

The following items are needed to help the Presbyterian Women have a successful Mission Day. Please place donations in the baskets found in the lobby outside the elevator. Thank you for your generosity.

**Circle 3** - Will be making fleece blankets

**Circle 4 - Stanton House and Circle 5 - Urban Ministry**

Hygiene Kits: \*Wash cloths \*Antibacterial Soap \*Emery Boards \*Shampoo (travel size) \*Kleenex (travel size) \*Band-aids \*Toothbrushes \*Toothpaste (travel size) \*Laundry Det. PODS (6 in zip-lock) \*Socks \*Granola Bars

**Circle 6 - Veteran's Administration**

\*Reading Glasses - any strength but must be all plastic (no metal frames)  
\*Body Wash (full and travel size) \*Chapstick \*Deodorant \*Shaving Cream \*Lotion (full and travel size) \*Razors (double and triple bladed)  
\*Toothbrushes (individually wrapped) \*Toothpaste (full and travel sized)

**Circle 8 - OperationInAsMuch**

\*Powdered Laundry Detergent (measure out in 1/2 cups into zip-lock bags)  
Cleaning Supplies: \*Windex \*Magic Erasers \*Bucket \*Gloves \*55 Gallon Trash Bags \*Paper Towels \*Any other kind of cleaning supply  
Non-perishable Brown Bag Lunches: \*Fruit Cups \*Plastic Spoons \*Pop Top Can Foods \*Granola Bars \*Chips \*Cheese/cracker packs \*Packaged Sweets  
\*Water Bottles \*Brown Paper Bags  
Copy Paper

## Congregational Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and the Corporation will take place Sunday, February 5th at 10:30am in the Sanctuary.

The purposes of the meeting are as follows:

- \* Elect Officers for the Congregational Nominating Committee
- \* Present budget for information and interpretation
  - \* Statistical Report
  - \* Annual Reports

## HPC Session Highlights

January 24, 2023

- \*Approved Ralph Spivey as chair of the Personnel Committee
- \*Approved Jane Barnes as chair of the Pastoral Care Committee
- \*Approved Avery Cameron as chair of the Second Mile Worship Committee
- \*Approved wedding of Glenn Cameron and Christian Barkman to take place in the sanctuary of Highland on July 8, 2023
- \*Approved wedding of Savannah Bailey and Colt Powell to take place in the sanctuary of Highland on April 22, 2023
- \*Approved Annual Congregational Meeting to take place on Sunday, February 5, 2023, at 10:30am in the sanctuary
- \*Approved a proposal by the Finance Committee that would pay off the mortgage debt in full by the end of the first quarter of 2023
- \*Approved the budget for 2023 as presented by the Finance Committee
- \*Approved the 2022 Statistical Report for PCUSA as presented by the clerk
- \*Concurred with Rev. Chip Stapleton for Chris Jackson to lead the worship service in his absence on February 26
- \*Approved a recommendation from the Communications and Welcoming Committee to reinstate the Passing of the Peace in both worship services
- \*Elected Warren Way as Treasurer of Session and the Corporation for 2023-2024
- \*Approved Suzanne Beekman as second person to sign checks in the treasurer's absence
- \*Elected Keith Tilghman as Assistant Clerk of Session for 2023

Hello Highlanders,

I have rarely been so excited to write to you in an email update. You will be hearing more details about this in the coming weeks, but last night our session voted to authorize the payoff of our mortgage at some point in the first quarter of 2023, using employee retention credit and other session designated funds. Simply put, this is a decision that has been 20 years in the making and is the result of the faithful service and faithful giving of Highland members during that time. Again, there will be more details about how we are going to mark and celebrate this momentous day in the coming weeks, but for now I wanted to share the good news with you and also invite you to participate directly in what God is doing in and through Highland.

As part of this decision the finance committee will also be establishing reserve funds for the following three areas: operating, maintenance, and Highland Learning Center. We are inviting everyone to consider participating in the mortgage payoff with a one-time debt payoff contribution.

While we will be paying off the debt regardless, participation from the congregation at this time will allow us to fully fund those important reserve funds. Additionally, removing the monthly loan payment from the budget allows us to consider how best to supplement our mission and ministry (additional staffing, new projects and programs, etc.) without increasing the overall budget. By completely eliminating the debt, more funds can be allocated directly towards mission, programs, and community outreach.

We are so thankful for God's faithfulness as well as the faithful stewardship of so many on session and on the finance committee, and especially the faithful giving and service of our congregation that has allowed us to get to this point. Again, be on the lookout for more information and join me today in saying a grateful prayer of thanks.

*Sharing God's Love,*

~Chip

JANUARY 29, 2023

11:00am



HIGHLAND  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

*SHARING GOD'S LOVE*

GATHERING MUSIC

**GATHERING**

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRELUDE Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song arr. Carter  
Like the murmur of the dove's song, like the challenge of her flight,  
Like the vigor of the wind's rush, like the new flame's eager might,  
Come, Holy Spirit Come.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: People of God, who do you come to worship?

**All: We come to worship the one true God.**

One: How will you worship?

**All: Not with words alone, but by living lives of justice and love.**

One: What does the Lord require of you?

**All: To do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.**

One: Come, you belong to God.

**All: We come to abide in God's heart, now and forever.**

OPENING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN #145

**Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart**

CALL TO CONFESSION