



Sunday, April 22, 2018

This is how we've come to understand and experience love: Christ sacrificed his life for us. This is why we ought to live sacrificially for our fellow believers, and not just be out for ourselves. If you see some brother or sister in need and have the means to do something about it but turn a cold shoulder and do nothing, what happens to God's love? It disappears. And you made it disappear.

My dear children, let's not just talk about love; let's practice real love. This is the only way we'll know we're living truly, living in God's reality. It's also the way to shut down debilitating self-criticism, even when there is something to it. For God is greater than our worried hearts and knows more about us than we do ourselves.

And friends, once that's taken care of and we're no longer accusing or condemning ourselves, we're bold and free before God! We're able to stretch our hands out and receive what we asked for because we're doing what he said, doing what pleases him. Again, this is God's command: to believe in his personally named Son, Jesus Christ. He told us to love each other, in line with the original command. As we keep his commands, we live deeply and surely in him, and he lives in us. And this is how we experience his deep and abiding presence in us: by the Spirit he gave us.

Greeters:

Betsy, Grant, Dean, & Quinn Schonour
Allison, Jeff, Miles, Emerson, & Hutchins Brown
Sandy & Gary Cross
Joyce Shaffer

Ushers:

Roland Shugarts
Rita Simmers
Crispina Giliberti
Gine Lancaster
Scott & Sara Shank

The Chancel flowers are presented by:

Jerry & Carla Rothaker, in memory of Carla's Father, James T. Craft, Jr.

Gathering in God's Name

Chimes & Welcome

Prelude

Andante (from Symphony No. 6)

Mendelssohn

Call to Worship

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Leader: God puts gladness in our hearts and minds.

We will lie down in safety and sleep in peace.

People: We are God's children now. What we will be has not yet been revealed.

Leader: God has set apart all who are faithful. Our Creator hears us when we call.

People: We are here to remember Jesus Christ.

We want to be like the One who lived by love.

All: We trust God whose children we are.

We look forward to what God will reveal to us.

* Opening Hymn 464

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer of Confession

We are disturbed and distracted, O God by the evil that surrounds us.

It is hard for us to be surrounded by people who bully us,

abuse others,

folks who cheat or profit at another's expense.

Sometimes we feel like victims.

Sometimes we judge others without knowing what they are going through.

Yet we admit that we do not always abide in Your love.

We do not always treat others as we want to be treated.

We sin when we turn from others who are not like us,

who think differently from us,

or hold values different from our own.

Forgive us. We seek the wholeness You offer and the abiding grace You give.

Amen.

Kyrie Eleison 572

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

* Gloria Patri 579

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

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen

Baptism of Oliver Oneal Pritchett
Son of Joseph Pritchett & Stephanie Shaw

Rev. Dr. Noé Juárez

Baptism Hymn 498

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

Scripture

1 John 3:16-24

Message

"Living in God's Reality"

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Responding to God's Word

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Noé Juárez

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 372

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Presentation of Offering

Rev. Dr. Noé Juárez

Offertory

How Lovely are the Messengers
(from *Elijah*)

Mendelssohn

How Lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace!

To all the nations is gone forth the sounds of their words. (Romans 10:15, 18)

* Doxology 592 (inclusive)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Going in God's Name

Ministry Highlights & Greeting

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Recognition of Jo Hall and John Chege

* Closing Hymn 461 *God is Here!*

* Benediction and Congregational Response

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings; I see glory in each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

Postlude

Fugue in C Major (from Sonata II)

Mendelssohn

MUSIC: HIGHLAND CHANCEL CHOIR, KEVIN L. ESTES, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST

A/V: JONATHAN LEFEVER

* PLEASE STAND IF ABLE



A description of the stained Chancel window can be found in the front of the hymnal
FM sound devices are available. Please ask an usher for your own personal receiver.

Cell phones should be silenced during the worship service.

Nursery is available during all worship services.

After the service, please recycle this page in the receptacles labeled "Paper Only" located in the Narthex.

MESSAGES: Each week the sermons from the traditional & contemporary services
can be found on the Highland website.

If you missed a week but would still like to connect with Highland on the message
Visit highlandpc.org under the "Welcome" tab and choose either traditional or contemporary service.