



## **Sunday, September 30, 2018**

Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,”  
for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away,  
and there was no longer any sea.  
I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem,  
coming down out of heaven from God,  
prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.  
And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,  
“Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people,  
and he will dwell with them.  
They will be his people,  
and God himself will be with them and be their God.  
‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
There will be no more death’  
or mourning or crying or pain,  
for the old order of things has passed away.”  
He who was seated on the throne said,  
“I am making everything new!”  
Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

**Revelation 21:5-8 (NIV)**

- *CONNECTING YOU WITH CHRIST AND COMMUNITY* -

**Greeters:**

Peggy Westbrook  
Dianna Bock  
Donna Kiser  
Stu Leeder

**Ushers:**

Michel & Karen Gibeault  
Bob & Vickie Kutz  
Hank & Sue Walker  
Henry & Wendy Hershey

**Gathering in God's Name**

Chimes & Welcome

Rev. Dr. Roger Rabey

Prelude

*"I Can Only Imagine"*

Josh Witmer, Soloist

Call to Worship (Isaiah 65:17-19, 23-25)

Rev. Dr. Noé Juárez

Leader: "See, I will create new heavens and a new earth.  
The former things will not be remembered,  
nor will they come to mind.

**People: But be glad and rejoice forever  
in what I will create,  
and its people a joy.**

Leader: I will rejoice over Jerusalem  
and take delight in my people;  
the sound of weeping and crying  
will be heard in it no more.

**People: They will not labor in vain,  
nor will they bear children doomed to misfortune;  
for they will be a people blessed by the Lord,  
they and their descendants with them.**

Leader: Before they call I will answer;  
while they are still speaking I will hear.

**People: The wolf and the lamb will feed together,  
and the lion will eat straw like the ox,  
and dust will be the serpent's food.**

**All: They will neither harm nor destroy  
on all my holy mountain, "says the Lord.**

\* Opening Hymn

*"How Great is Our God"*

C. Tomlin

**Proclaiming God's Word**

Prayer of Confession (Silent & Corporate)

**Compassionate God, forgive us  
our failure of nerve and loss of vision,  
our shortage of hope and lack of trust,  
our eyes that see not and our ears that hear not,  
our wanting too little and our expecting too much,  
our efforts in middling causes,  
our mediocrity in serving your Kingdom**

**Forgive us, and let the shock of that shake us into new patterns of living. 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!**

*For our combined service today, during the Gloria Patri, we invite the K-3rd graders to either pick up a worship bag from the back and sit with their parents, or join Ms. Laurie at the back of the sanctuary and she will take them out until the end of the sermon. We invite the 4th/5th graders to pick up a worship bag and take it back to their seats. A nursery is provided for birth-preschoolers. Our **Prayground** will reopen next Sunday during our regular services.*

\* Gloria Patri 579

**Glorify 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**

Scripture

Revelation 21:1-5(NIV)

Message

**"For Heaven's Sake!"**

Rev. Dr. Roger Rabey

Hymn of Response #322

*"Spirit of the Living God"*

### **Responding to God's Word**

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

**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.**

Presentation of Offering

Elder, Alison Brown

*Please sign and pass the "**Friendship Pad**" during the Offering and pass it down the pew. At the end of the row, pass it back so that we can greet one another by name after the service.*

Offertory

*"I'm Gonna Sing till the Spirit Moves in My Heart"*

Moses Hogan

\* 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. Roger Rabey

\* Closing Hymn #447

*"Lead On, O King Eternal"*

\* 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

*"Great God of Wonders"*

John Newton

**MUSIC:** HIGHLAND CHANCEL CHOIR, SETH WICKENHEISER, ORGAN SCHOLAR  
DR. PAUL THORLAKSON, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND ORGANIST

**A/V:** JONATHAN LEFEVER

\* PLEASE STAND IF ABLE

**Carson Lecture Cancelled** - We are very sorry that Friday, we had to cancel this year's Carson Lecture with Dr. Brian Blount, President of Union Theological Seminary. The impending death of his mother dictated his being there with family who were flying in this weekend from out of town. We rescheduled his visit for next **May 19, 2019**. Please keep his family and mother, Doris, in your prayers.

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Matthias Gerung (1500-1570)



Modern: New Heaven and New Earth

**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](http://highlandpc.org) under the "Welcome" tab and choose either traditional or contemporary service.