



In the
FOOTSTEPS
of John

January 19, 2020

“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand
and walks among the seven golden lampstands.

I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance.

I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people,
that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not,
and have found them false.

You have persevered
and have endured hardships for my name,
and have not grown weary.

Yet I hold this against you:

You have forsaken the love you had at first.

Consider how far you have fallen!

Repent and do the things you did at first.

If you do not repent, I will come to you
and remove your lampstand from its place.

But you have this in your favor:

You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

To the one who is victorious,
I will give the right to eat from the tree of life,
which is in the paradise of God.”

- *CONNECTING YOU WITH CHRIST AND COMMUNITY* -

Greeters: Sue Savage & Fred Engle, Lois & Kent Hagedorn, Sue & Dick McCarty, Karen & Ron Wotring
Ushers: Grant Shonour, Henry & Wendy Hershey, Bob & Vicki Kutz, Linda Keener, Bev Campbell

Chancel Flowers

Kitty Smoker, in memory of her father and mother, Mrs. & Mrs. Leonard C. Miller

Gathering in God's Name

Chimes

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Roger Rabey

*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.*

Ministry Highlights

Choral Introit

"Awake My Heart"

John Ness Beck

Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 29)

Leader: Give credit to the Lord, O heavenly beings.

Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**People: Give credit to the Lord the glory of his name;
Let us worship the Lord in holy splendor.**

Leader: The voice of the Lord is over the waters.

The God of glory thunders.

People: The voice of the Lord is powerful.

All: The voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

Come, let us worship the Lord.

* Opening Hymn #487

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer of Confession (Silent & Corporate)

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

**Merciful God, in your gracious presence
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.**

**Although Christ is among us as our peace,
we are a people divided against ourselves
as we cling to the values of a broken world.**

**The profit and pleasures we pursue
lay waste the land and pollute the seas.**

**The fears and jealousies that we harbor
set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation.**

**We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,
of intellect and reason,
and have turned them into bonds of oppression.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us;
heal and forgive us.**

**Set us free to serve you in the world
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. 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**

Offertory

"Jesus the Very Thought of Thee"

arr. M. Hayes

*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.**

At this time, children and youth may now go to Sunday school. A teacher is stationed at the main doors of the sanctuary and will walk the children to the Lounge.

Baptism

Jackson Thomas Richardson
Son of Robert & Catherine Richardson

Rev. Dr. Noé Juárez

Scripture Reading

Revelation 2:1-7 & Ephesians 1:15-19 (NIV)

Message

**"Abandoned Love—Ephesus"
2nd in Series: "In the Footsteps of John"**

Rev. Dr. Roger Rabey

Responding to God's Word

*Hymn of Response #359

"More Love to Thee, O Christ"

*Affirmation of Faith (from a Brief Statement of Faith, 1983)

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve...**

**We trust in God,
whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth,
exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.
Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still. Amen.**

**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.**

Going in God's Name

* Closing Hymn

"My Jesus I Love Thee"

* Benediction & 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.**

Rev. Dr. Roger Rabey

*MUSIC: DR. PAUL THORLAKSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND ORGANIST
 HIGHLAND CHANCEL CHOIR, HIGHLAND BRASS, JONATHAN LEFEVER
 A/V: GARRETT KOLEDA*

* PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT

Ephesus – once home to 250,000 people, now visited by over 2 million each year, one of most important architectural sites in Turkey showing antiquity's best example of a classical metropolis.

1. **The Celsus Library** - the most well-known monument in Ephesus (110AD)

2. The **Bouleuterion** - housed meetings of the Council (*boule*), musical performances & contests. (AD 100)

3. **The Great Theatre** - rebuilt under Emperors Domitian (AD 81-96) & Tragan (AD 98-117)

4. **Curetes Street** – one of three main streets of Ephesus with monuments, statues and shops on the sides of the street. It was also an important processional route in the cult of Artemis with decorated temples, fountains, and roman baths.



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.

Sermons from the traditional & contemporary services can be found on the Highland website at www.HighlandPC.org

In the event of an emergency, please refer to the card in the pew racks for evacuation and re-assembly information.