



Sunday, May 12, 2024

Mother's Day

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits--
who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.
As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him
Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul.

Psalms 103:1-5, 11-13, 22 (NRSV)

Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Surely we do not need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you or from you, do we? You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all; and you show that you are a letter of Christ, prepared by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts. Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are competent of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our competence is from God, who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of letter but of spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

2 Corinthians 3:1-6 (NRSV)

- CONNECTING YOU WITH CHRIST AND COMMUNITY -

Greeters: Adam, Amy, Cameron & Addison Kane, Mary Ellen Cantrell, Pam McCartney, Cindy Eidam, Sonteary & Saron Keat

Ushers: Johnny Wood, Robert & Johanna Gingher, Bob & Vickie Kutz

Gathering in God's Name

Chimes

Prelude

Welcome & Ministry Highlights

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Please sign and pass the "Friendship Pad" down the pew.

At the end of the row, pass it back so that we can greet one another by name after the service.

Children & Family Ministries Presentation

Jennifer Weitzel

*Call to Worship

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Leader: We are here to praise God and to receive mercy. We have come in response to God's steadfast love.

People: God is merciful, gracious, and slow to anger. God protects us and allows us to lie down in safety.

All: God equips us to make a difference. God raises us up as followers of Jesus. God calls us to be Christ's love letter to everyone we meet! Let us worship God!

*Hymn #482

"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

Proclaiming God's Word

Call to Confession

Will Massey

We hear the words again and again, "God forgives you and longs to write a letter of love upon our hearts." When we believe this, we trust God enough to speak to us with love, mercy and transformed ways of living. Let us confess to God together in our prayer.

Prayer of Confession

Will Massey

We confess Faithful One, that we don't always follow Your ways. We believe we must do it all by ourselves, rather than trusting in You. We look for the empty seats at the tables with power brokers and celebrities, while You sit down with immigrants and food stamp recipients. We want to have another's letter of recommendation, experience, and credentials, but You desire to give us Your letter of love imprinted upon our hearts. Forgive us and speak tenderly to us of Your love which never ends. Remind us of Your mercy which sees us, knows us and embraces us, and Your faithfulness which will never let us go! Give us new life in Jesus, our Lord and Savior and friend. Amen

Kyrie Eleison 572

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

Assurance of Pardon

Will Massey

Leader: This is the good news of the Gospel! God is reluctant to be angry with us. God refuses to hold a grudge against us.

People: God writes The Word on our hearts – grace, hope, mercy and love! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Passing of the Peace

Will Massey

Leader: As we are forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ Jesus, let us be reconciled to one another. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

* 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.

*At this time, children through 4th grade are invited to attend Sunday School. Teachers are stationed at the main doors of the sanctuary and will walk the children to the children's classrooms in the Narthex.
Parents/Guardians may pick up their children after the service in the classroom.*

Anthem

"The Narrow Way"

by K. Lee Scott

Scripture Readings

Psalm 103:1-5, 11-13, 22
2 Corinthians 3:1-6

Gianna Altdoerffer
Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Message

"You Are Christ's Love Letter"

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Responding to God's Word

*Hymn #374 (verses 1,4)

"Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace"

Special Presentation

Will Massey

Prayers of The People, Lord's Prayer

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

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.

Invitation to the Offering

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Wooden offering boxes are located in the narthex

Going in God's Name

* Closing Hymn #369

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

* Charge and Benediction

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Postlude

*PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT

MUSIC: DR. PAUL THORLAKSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
JONATHAN LEFEVER, ORGANIST

A/V: MARK ANDERSON AND KEN OSBORNE

Please be advised that services are recorded and you may be incidentally captured on video as part of the recording of the service. The back of the right side of the sanctuary as you enter is out of the range of the camera.

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.

Video Recordings of the service 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.