



Sunday, September 22, 2024

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

“How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

“How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

“You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

- Highland, A Place to be Seen, Known, and Loved -

Greeters: Joan Alexander, Peggy & Dean Ehrhart, Trixi Ray, Glenda Burross

Ushers: Randy Heller, Anita Heller, bill Delong, Bev Campbell, Howard McIntyre

The white rose recognizes and bears witness to the life and memory of Eleanor Taylor

The Chancel Flowers are Presented By:

Larry and Anita Ewing, in honor of their granddaughter Mackenzie Smith Bitterman's birthday
Jane Hartin, in loving memory of her mother Ann Wardlow

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.*

Minute for Mission

Juan Calvino School

Dick Entz

*Call to Worship

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Leader: Friends, let us worship God today, for God is great!

People: God has blessed us with life, with faith, and with community.

Leader: Let us worship God today, for God is good!

People: God forgives us, and encourages us, and loves us.

Leader: Let us worship God today!

People: Because we are God's people.

*Opening Hymn #478

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

Children's Dismissal to Sunday School

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

*At this time, children 5th grade and under 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.*

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

Merciful God, we come before you in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not. We are timid and fearful to follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers, preferring old habits to risky change. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to be born again into the life of Christ, trusting that you have included us by grace in the family of faith. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison 572

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

Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

Leader: Friends, God is for us and not against us! For that very reason, God sent the Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Friends believe the good news of the Gospel!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

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.

Proclaiming God's Word

Scripture Reading

John 3:1-17

Rev. Matt Drumheller

Message

"Seeds and Sprouts: A New Season of Discipleship and Fellowship "

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Responding to God's Word

Invitation to the Offering

Betty Price

Offertory

"Devotion"

arr. J. Ness Beck

Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Prayers of the People, Lord's Prayer

Rev. Matt Drumheller

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

"See, Know and Love"

lyrics: Rev. Matt Drumheller

* Charge and Benediction

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Postlude

*PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT

MUSIC: DR. PAUL THORLAKSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

JONATHAN LEFEVER, ORGANIST

A/V: JERRY ROTHACKER, GUS BEAULIEU

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.