



## **Sunday, February 16, 2025**

### **6th Sunday after Epiphany**

He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coastal region around Tyre and Sidon, who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits were cured, and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all.

Looking at his disciples, he said:

"Blessed are you who are poor,  
for yours is the kingdom of God.  
Blessed are you who hunger now,  
for you will be satisfied.  
Blessed are you who weep now,  
for you will laugh.  
Blessed are you when people hate you,  
when they exclude you and insult you  
and reject your name as evil,  
because of the Son of Man.

"Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

"But woe to you who are rich,  
for you have already received your comfort.  
Woe to you who are well fed now,  
for you will go hungry.  
Woe to you who laugh now,  
for you will mourn and weep.  
Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you,  
for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

*Luke 6:17-26 nrsv*

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

**Greeters:** Gale & Tom Whiteworth, Joyce Shaffer, Dianna Bock, Darla & Jack McKim, Joanna Roth, Mary Ellen Cantrell

**Ushers:** Grant Schonour, Henry & Wendy Hershey, Kay Houghton, Linda Kenner, Phyllis Thompson, Donna Kinsey

The white rose recognizes and bears witness to the life and memory of Dorothy "Dot" Bisalski.

## Gathering in God's Name

Chimes

Prelude

Welcome & Ministry Highlights

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

*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.*

Volunteer Ministry Recognition ~ Board of Deacons

Jolene Harrison

Call to Worship

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Leader: Blessed are all people who trust in God!

**People: We come in trust to be grounded in God's love.**

Leader: Blessed are all people who hope in God!

**People: We come in hope, trusting the One who gives us life.**

Leader: Blessed are all people who delight in God's Word!

**People: We come to hear God speak, hoping for healing and joy!**

**All: Let us worship Triune God together!**

\*Opening Hymn #461

"God Is Here!"

*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.*

Call to Confession

Rev. Matt Drumheller

The world tells us we have no need follow God. The truth of scripture and the witness of the faithful is this: God is to be trusted with every secret of our hearts. God takes our brokenness, seeing, knowing and loving us completely, graciously bringing us new life and abundance. Let us pray to the One who longs to forgive us. First in silence and then together, let us tell God who we are and respond to God's words of loving, forgiveness, healing, and wholeness.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Matt Drumheller

**Blessing God, we tell You all that we are afraid to face. Our life choices are so plentiful that we forget ones who are faced only with hunger. We believe so strongly that we are Your favorites, yet we are convinced there are ones who You do not love. Consumed with saving copiously for our futures, we overlook ones who have so little for this very day. Forgive us for believing we are the center of Your world. Overwhelm us with Your living water so we will extend roots deep into Your heart and become people who bless others, even as we have received the gift of new life from Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison #572

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

Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Matt Drumheller

Leader: Blessed are you: for God forgives you and restores you to new life. Rejoice in this day and dance for joy!

**People: Thanks be to God! Our faith is true and our hope is grounded in the promises of the One we can trust not only today, but in every day to come.**

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

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Matt Drumheller

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

Luke 6:17-26 (*nrsv*)

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Message

**"Stand by the Door!"**

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Invitation To The Offering

Connie Hoelscher

Choral Anthem "Sing Out My Soul"

*arr. Mark Hayes*

Prayer of Dedication

Sarah Hostetter

### Responding to God's Word

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Robert Burns

**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 #435

"We All Are One in Mission"

Charge & Benediction

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Organ Postlude

\*PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT

*MUSIC: DR. PAUL THORLAKSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC*

*JONATHAN LEFEVER, ORGANIST*

*A/V, KEN OSBORNE*

## I stand by the door.

I neither go too far in, nor stay too far out, The door is the most important door in the world—  
It is the door through which men walk when they find God.  
There's no use my going way inside and staying there,  
When so many are still outside and they, as much as I, crave to know where the door is.  
And all that so many ever find is only the wall where a door ought to be.  
They creep along the wall like blind men,  
With outstretched, groping hands.  
Feeling for the door, knowing there must be a door,  
Yet they never find it ...  
So I stand by the door.  
The most tremendous thing in the world is for men to find that door—the door to God.  
The most important thing any man can do is to take hold of one of those blind, groping hands,  
And put it on the latch—the latch that only clicks and opens to the man's own touch.  
Men die outside that door, as starving beggars die  
On cold nights in cruel cities in the dead of winter—  
Die for want of what is within their grasp.  
They live, on the other side of it—live because they have not found it,  
Nothing else matters compared to helping them find it,  
And open it, and walk in, and find him ...  
So I stand by the door.  
Go in, great saints, go all the way in, go way down into the cavernous cellars,  
And way up into the spacious attics it is a vast, roomy house, this house where God is.  
Go into the deepest of hidden casements,  
Of withdrawal, of silence, of sainthood.  
Some must inhabit those inner rooms,  
And know the depth and heights of God,  
And call outside to the rest of us how wonderful it is.  
Sometimes I take a deeper look in,  
Sometimes I venture in a little farther;

But my place seems closer to the opening ...  
So I stand by the door.  
There is another reason why I stand there.  
Some people get part way in and become afraid lest God and the zeal of his house devour them;  
For God is so very great and asks all of us.  
And these people feel a cosmic claustrophobia, and want to get out, "Let me out!" they cry.  
And the people way inside only terrify them more.  
Somebody must be by the door to tell them that they  
Are spoiled for the old life, they have seen too much;  
Once taste God, and nothing but God will do any more.  
Somebody must be watching for the frightened  
Who seek to sneak out just where they came in, to tell them how much better it is inside.  
The people too far in do not see how near these are  
To leaving—preoccupied with the wonder of it all.  
Somebody must watch for those who have entered the door,  
But would like to run away. So for them, too,  
I stand by the door.  
I admire the people who go way in.  
But I wish they would not forget how it was before they got in. Then they would be able to help.  
The people who have not yet even found the door, or the people who want to run away again from God.  
You can go in too deeply, and stay in too long, and forget the people outside the door.  
As for me, I shall take my old accustomed place,  
Near enough to God to hear him, and know he is there,  
But not so far from men as not to hear them, and remember they are there, too.  
Where? Outside the door—  
Thousands of them, millions of them.  
But—more important for me—  
One of them, two of them, ten of them,  
Whose hands I am intended to put on the latch.  
So I shall stand by the door and wait  
For those who seek it.  
"I had rather be a door-keeper..."  
So I stand by the door.

*Rev. Dr. Sam M. Shoemaker - Founder of Pittsburgh*

*Experiment in 1955*

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](http://www.HighlandPC.org)

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