



Sunday, September 13, 2026

While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there. A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, “What is this babbler trying to say?” Others remarked, “He seems to be advocating foreign gods.” They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection. Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean.” (All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.)

Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: “People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

“The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’

- Acts 17:16-28 (NIV)

Highland: A Place to be Seen, Known, & Loved

Greeters: Emily & Nic Krebs, Alison & Ron Bolt, Denny Davish, Lois Miller

Ushers: Fred Brown, Bev Campbell, Howard McIntyre, Donna Kinsey, Bill Kendall, Sandy Cross, Joan Alexander

Welcome Center: Linda Edwards & Pat Edwards

The chancel flowers are presented by:

Tom & Sharon Kennedy — In memory of their parents

Marjorie Mann — In memory of William Mann

Gathering in God's Name

Chimes

Prelude

Welcome & Ministry Highlights

Rev. Matt Drumheller

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*Call to Worship

Rev. Matt Drumheller

Leader: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;

People: Let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Leader: Let us come before him with thanksgiving

People: And extol him with music and song.

*Hymn #455

All Creatures of Our God and King

Silent Prayer of Confession

Sarah Hostetter

Prayer of Confession

Sarah Hostetter

Gracious God, we confess that we take good things and make them ultimate things, looking to them for the identity, security, and joy that only you can give. We confess that our hearts are prone to wander, placing our trust in our success, relationships, possessions, comfort, or the approval of others rather than in you. Forgive us for the ways we have worshiped created things instead of the Creator. Turn our hearts again toward you. By your grace, teach us to love every good gift rightly, receiving it with gratitude while loving you above all else. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison #572

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

Assurance of Pardon

Sarah Hostetter

Leader: Hear the good news: the God who created us and knows our wandering hearts does not abandon us, but calls us back to God's self through Christ. In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven, our hearts are made new, and we are free to love God above all else. Amen.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*Passing of the Peace

Sarah Hostetter

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.**

Children's Blessing

Sarah Hostetter

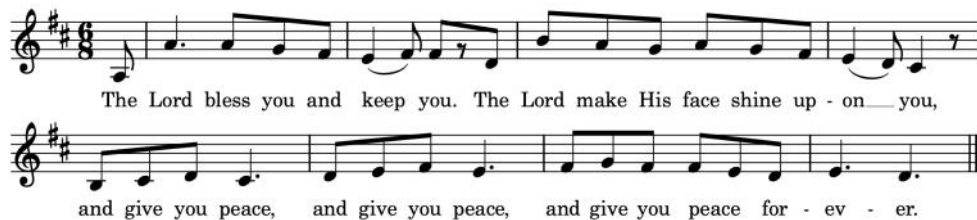
Leader: God be with you here.

People: God be with you there.

At this time, children are invited to attend Sunday School:

Ages 0 to 4: Nursery A | Kindergarten - 4th Grade: Nursery B

Barocha



Proclaiming God's Word

Scripture Reading

Acts 17:16-28

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Sermon

"The Human Heart: An Idol Factory"

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Responding to God's Word

Invitation to the Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

Offertory Anthem

Creation Hymn
Craig Courtney

Prayers of the People and the 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

*Hymn #356

Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing

Instructions for Rally Day Festivities

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Postlude

**Please stand in body or spirit*



Music

Dr. Jeff Martin, Director of Music Ministry

A/V

Jerry Rothacker

Prayer List

Pastor on Call

September 13 - 20

Sarah Hostetter

In Memory

The family of Peggy Wible

The family of Mary Pierce

The family of Polly Brooks

The family of Guy Thompson

In Prayer

Iris Indig

LCDR John Powers, MD, U.S. Navy

Daniel Droz

(Hoerner's son-in-law)

Robert Kutz

Judah Hess (friend of Joanna Roth)

John Wolfe

June Good (mom of Doug Good)

Joanne Markley

Doris Ramsdell (sister of Lee Heisey)

Phyllis Miller

The Hood family

If you or a family member are in the hospital and would like a visit from a pastor or hospital visitor, please contact the church office.

View Our Online Services

Worship services are livestreamed at 10 am on Sunday mornings. To view our online services, visit us at www.youtube.com/HighlandPresbyterian, or:

- Go to www.youtube.com and search **Highland Presbyterian Church**.
- Click the photo of Highland that appears at the top of the search results.
- On this page, you will find all of our weekly services by date.

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.

Giving

To give, you can:

- Mail your contributions to the church office.
- Go to www.highlandpc.org and select the "Give Now" button in the upper right-hand corner. The website will walk you through how to give using your credit or debit card.
- Scan the QR code and it will take you to the online giving page of our website.



If you have general questions, please contact the church office at 717-569-2651.

- 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.
- **Cellphones** should be silenced during the worship service.

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