

SUNDAY CELEBRATION  
 NOVEMBER 4, 2018  
 24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

FIRST  
 PRESBYTERIAN  
 CHURCH

CHRIST'S CHURCH WITH ITS DOORS OPEN WIDE

11:00 A.M.

Weekly

- 8:30 a.m. **Worship**  
 • Communion each Sunday
- 9:30 a.m. **Church School**
- 11:00 a.m. **Worship**  
 • Communion first Sunday of each month

This church welcomes you no matter who you are, where you come from, or why you are here. We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's place with its doors open wide. If you are passing through, Godspeed; if you are looking for a home, stay here; if you need instruction, learn from us as we learn from you. We invite visitors to join us, but most of all, to return often.

*Dedicated to the Glory of God on September 13, 1885  
 Highlands, North Carolina*

## Gather in God's Name

*Please silence cell phones and quiet your voices, giving our attention to the presence of God in our midst.*

**\*Indicates that those who are able may stand**  
**Childcare is available in the nursery**  
**Large print hymnals available—see usher**

### Ringing of the Church Bell

**Prelude** "O Rest in the Lord" from *Elijah* Felix Mendelssohn  
 arr. James Denton

**Welcome** Emily Wilmarth

### \*Opening Litany

Leader: We are called to love the Lord our God.  
**People: We are called to love with all our heart and soul.**  
 Leader: We are called to love the Lord our God.  
**People: We are called to love with all our mind and strength.**  
 Leader: We are called to love the Lord our God.  
**People: And we are called to love our neighbor as ourselves.**  
 Leader: Come, let us love our God and share God's love in this time of worship!

**\*Processional Hymn #611** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" HYMN TO JOY

### Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

*Holy One, we confess that we have been caught up in the ways of the world. Instead of looking to your commandments as a way to guide our life, we use them to punish and restrict others. Forgive us for our judgments and misconceptions. Forgive us for not working on ourselves, on our own lives. Call us back to Your way of life, a way of love, commitment, respect, and forgiveness. Call us back to a way of life that honors You and creation, and guides us to better love our neighbors as ourselves. In the name of Jesus the Christ, whose very death fulfilled the promise of new life, we pray. (A moment for silent confession) Amen.*

### Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.  
**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

### \*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**

## Proclaim God's Word

**Children's Moment** Curtiss Fussell

**Anthem** "You Will I Love" Kevin Hildebrand  
 Chancel Choir

You will I love, my strength, my tower; You will I love, my hope, my joy;  
 You will I love with all my power, with fervor time cannot destroy.  
 You will I love, O Light divine, so long as life is mine.

You will I love, my life, my Savior, You are my best, my truest friend;  
 You will I love and praise forever, for never shall your kindness end.  
 Your love for me casts out my fear, You are my Savior dear.

I thank You, Jesus, sun from heaven, whose radiance has brought light to me;  
 I thank You, who has richly given all that could make me glad and free.  
 I thank You that my soul is healed with love that You revealed.

Oh, keep me watchful, then, and humble, and never suffer me to stray;  
 Uphold me when my feet would stumble, and keep me faithful to Your way.  
 Fill all my nature with Your light, O Radiance strong and bright!

You will I love, my crown of gladness, You will I love, my God and Lord,  
 Within the darkest depths of sadness, and not for hope of high reward -  
 For Your own sake, O Light divine, so long as life is mine.  
*Johann Scheffler (1624-1677), transl. Catherine Winkworth (1829-1878)*

**Scripture Lesson** Ruth 1:1-18

**Sermon** "A Story of Devotion" Emily Wilmarth

### \*Affirmation of Faith

*To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call.*  
*The Confession of 1967, 9.31*

**\*Gloria Patri** GREATOR EX

*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.*  
*Hymn 581*

## Give Thanks To God

### Celebration of Ministry and Membership

(Please sign and pass the friendship registry pad and then return it so you can know your neighbors in God's household today.)

Moment for Mission: Melvin Meares, *Presbytery of Western North Carolina*

### Prayers of God's People

### Offering Our Gifts for the Work of God's Kingdom

**Offertory** "Come, Thou Fount of Ev'ry Blessing" John Wyeth  
 Jessica McIntyre, *Soprano* arr. Rob Gardner

Come Thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
 Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
 Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;  
 Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I'm come;  
 And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
 Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;  
 He to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
 Let Thy goodness like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:  
 Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
 Here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for Thy courts above.

*Text by Robert Robinson*

**\*Doxology**

OLD HUNDREDETH

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
 Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
 Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

*Hymn 606*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Litany**

Leader: The Lord be with you.  
**People:** *And also with you.*  
 Leader: Lift up your hearts.  
**People:** *We lift them to the Lord.*  
 Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**People:** *It is right to give thanks and praise.*

**Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer**

*(insert)* David Haas

**Words of Institution**

**Communion of the People**

*(We serve gluten free bread & grape juice)*

**Ministry of the Farthest Pew**

**Go in God's Name to Serve**

**\*Hymn #306**

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

DENNIS

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

Fanfare on "Sine Nomine" Ralph Vaughan Williams  
 arr. Michael Helman

**Participating in Today's Service:**

Michael Lancaster, Director of Worship/Music  
 Angie Jenkins, Organist/Music Coordinator

**Today's greeters are:**

Delaine & Steve Mehder and Pam & Bill Peacock

**Please keep in your prayers these members and friends of the congregation:**

Clayton Anderson (Gail Carpenter's brother), Frances Boggess (Sally Copeland's niece), Steve Castellaw, Lou Dwarshuis (Linda Lancaster's cousin), Kat Evans, Marc Good (Frances Hicks' brother), Cecil Hines (Sally Copeland's sister), Makenzie Howard (Pam & Bill Peacock's granddaughter), Linda Lancaster, Mary & Jimmy Langham, Ethan Lassiter (grandson of Marianne & E.G. Lassiter), Elizabeth Mauldin (Bill Mauldin's daughter), Celia McCullough, Terry McMahan, Arnall Page (son of Dr. & Mrs. John Page), Hillrie Quin, Beth Sellers (Anne Sellers' daughter-in-law), Veda & Jimmy Sherard, and Kay Smith.

**Please keep in your prayers these members in the community and beyond:**

Harriette Bauknight, Mike Bobo, Caroline Cook, Jodie Cook, Lyle Cox, Agnes Crowe, Wendy Davis, Rev. Dr. Mark Ford, Steve Forester, Jackson Hall, K.C. Hembree, Jeff James, Donna Kneeland, Cherry Martin, Beth Moore (Wally Patzke's wife), Lil Murphy, Melanie Nix, Eliza Parish, Jim Shearon, Lil Waller, and Woodrow Wilson.

**We welcome guests** who are worshipping with us today.

If you are seeking a church home and would like to follow Jesus Christ through the fellowship of this congregation, we invite you to full or affiliate membership. For more information, please speak with one of the ministers after worship, or call the church office at 828-526-3175.

**CHURCH CALENDAR**

Sunday, Nov. 4	11:00	Morning Worship Service
Monday, Nov. 5	8:00am	Men's Prayer Breakfast —Highlander Room —see announcement
Tuesday, Nov. 6	4:00	Book Club <i>Blackberries in June</i> by Ron Rash —The Ugly Dog Public House —see announcement
	6:00	Community Table Dinner —Community Building
Wednesday, Nov. 7	10:30	<b>Women's Bible Study</b> —Church Library —see announcement
	11:30	HCCDC Children's Church
	3:00	Staff Meeting
	4:00	Handbell Rehearsal
	6:00	Choir Rehearsal
	6:00	<b>Family Table Potluck Dinner</b> —Coleman Hall —see announcement
Thursday, Nov. 8	5:30	<b>Worship Ministry Team Meeting</b> —Westminster Room
	5:30	ESL/GED Dinner & Class —Coleman Hall —see announcements

**Sunday, November 11, 2018**

9:30 Adult Education Class - *Simply Christian* by Tom Wright  
—Library  
11:00 Morning Worship Service  
Sacred Sounds Bell Choir

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Elder for the month of November is Teeter Smith.

**Special thanks to Jessica McIntyre for singing a solo during today's service.**

Jessica is a sophomore Music Education major at Western Carolina University. Her home church is Morganton First Presbyterian Church, where she sang in the choir. Throughout her high school years, Jessica participated in many choirs and also played

numerous leading roles in dinner theatre shows. At WCU, she sings in the Concert Choir, and has also participated in University Chorus. Jessica is serving as an Intern in the Chancel Choir.

**Men's Prayer Group**—The Men's Prayer Group meets every Monday at 8:00 a.m. in the Highlander Room. Meetings begin with devotion and prayer, and are followed by breakfast at a local restaurant. All men of the church are invited to join.

**The Beyond the Walls Book Club** meets every Tuesday, at 4:00 p.m., at The Ugly Dog Public House. We are currently reading *Something Rich and Strange* by Ron Rash. Books are available at Amazon.com. You are invited to join this energetic group as we move our Christian faith Beyond the Walls!

**Women's Bible Study** - We will be studying Session 6: Joy and Healing from our book *Jesus Always, A Joy Filled Life* on Wednesday, November 7th at 10:30 a.m. in the church library. No previous study is necessary and books are available at the study. Please bring a sandwich and something to share for lunch. All ladies of the church and friends are welcome.

**Family Table Potluck Dinner**—All are invited to a Family Table Potluck Dinner on Wednesday, November 7th at 6:00 p.m. in Coleman Hall. Dinner is followed by a brief program. Bring a dish of food to share, as well as a special friend or neighbor.

**Dinner for ESL/GED classes**—FPCH will be providing dinner for the students of the Literacy Council's ESL and GED classes on the first Thursday of each month. If you are interested in signing up on your own or with a team of volunteers to provide food and hospitality to our guests (one time or many times!), please contact Emily at the church office.

**The Food Pantry** is collecting egg cartons. Please recycle your egg cartons by bringing them to the church and placing them in the labeled box located in the Ravenel Room.

**The annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner** will take place at Highlands Recreation Center on Tuesday, November 20th at 6:00 p.m. To-go meals will be offered two ways: pick up and delivery. If you know of someone needing a delivery, please call Kristy Lewis with the following information: name, number of meals, address and phone number. If you need to place someone on the to-go list please call with the name and number of meals. Meals will be delivered approximately 4-4:30 p.m. Take out meals will be available at 5:00 p.m. Kristy Lewis can be reached at [kkltarheel@yahoo.com](mailto:kkltarheel@yahoo.com) or 828-526-3376. Volunteers are also needed. Please call or email Jennifer Regner if you would like to volunteer- [fpchmanager@frontier.com](mailto:fpchmanager@frontier.com) or 828-526-3175. Volunteers are needed to:

- 11:00 – Set Up (20 volunteers)
- 3:30 – Pack To-Go Meals (20 volunteers)
- 3:30 – Dishwashers (3-4 volunteers, needed throughout the evening)
- 4:00 – Deliver Meals (10-15 volunteers)
- 4:00 – Cut & Plate Desserts (3-4 volunteers)
- 5:30 – Serve Meals at Rec Center (unlimited volunteers)
- 6:00 – Help with Tea/Coffee/Ice (2-3 volunteers)
- 7:30 – Clean Up (unlimited volunteers)

**Jackson Hall Fundraiser** - Jackson Hall, a 2016 graduate of Highlands School and a freshman attending ASU, is currently battling cancer and has numerous expenses that have resulted from his fight. A community fundraising event will be held on Saturday, November 17th beginning at 4:00 p.m. at the Highlands Recreation Center. *On the Verandah* Restaurant will be providing food for the event. The event will include live music, silent and live auctions, and a cake walk. The organizers are asking area churches and the community for donations of items to include in the auction and baked goods for the cake walk. Baked items can be dropped off at the Highlands Recreation Center between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. on the day of the event. Please contact Melanie Miller at 828-371-7096 for more information.

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