



SUNDAY CELEBRATION
 NOVEMBER 11, 2018
25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
 11:00 A.M.
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 CHRIST'S CHURCH WITH ITS DOORS OPEN WIDE

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

Today we ring the bell in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day.

Prelude "For All the Saints" Ralph Vaughan Williams
 Sacred Sounds Bell Choir arr. Jacob Weber

Welcome Curtis Fussell

***Opening Litany**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good!
People: *The steadfast love of the Lord endures forever.*
 Leader: Let the redeemed give praise to the Lord.
People: *It is the Lord who has brought joy and hope to our lives.*
 Leader: The Almighty is our Redeemer, full of steadfast love to us.
People: *O Lord, blessed be your name among us.*
From Psalm 107

***Processional Hymn #39** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" FAITHFULNESS

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, events in our lives can leave us feeling empty. We admit that we are capable of suffering discouragement. Forgive us when we let life ruin the hope that you have created in us to enjoy and share. Lead us to trust that you will guide us to live in the hope that you are with us, no matter what life hands us. And, that you will give us the wisdom and strength to persevere as followers of Jesus Christ. (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 Emily Wilmarth

Anthem "Author of Faith, Eternal Word" Howard Helvey
 Chancel Choir

Author of faith, eternal Word, whose Spirit breathes the active flame;
 faith, like its finisher and Lord, today as yesterday the same.

To thee our humble hearts aspire, and ask the gift unspeakable;
 increase in us the kindled fire, in us the work of faith fulfill.

By faith we know thee strong to save; save us, a present Savior thou!
 Whate'er we hope, by faith we have, future and past subsisting now.

To him that in thy name believes eternal life with thee is given;
 into himself he all receives, pardon, and holiness, and heaven.

The things unknown to feeble sense, unseen by reason's glimmering ray,
 with strong commanding evidence their heavenly origin display.

Faith lends its realizing light, the clouds disperse, the shadows fly,
 th' invisible appears in sight, and God is seen by mortal eye.
Paraphrase of Hebrews 11 by Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Scripture Lesson Ruth 3:1-11

Sermon "Naomi, Ruth, Boaz, and Us" Curtis Fussell

***Affirmation of Faith**

Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in people for redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited earthly progress with the kingdom of God, nor does it despair in the face of disappointments and defeats. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial earthly achievements to the final triumph by God.

The Confession of 1967

***Gloria Patri** GREATOREX

*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.)

Prayers of God's People and the Lord's Prayer

*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.*

Offering Our Gifts for the Work of God's Kingdom

Offertory "Chapel Bells" John Dare

***Doxology**

OLD HUNDRETH

*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**

Go in God's Name to Serve

***Hymn #37**

"Let All Things Now Living"

ASH GROVE

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude** "Voluntary in D minor" Charles H. Rinck

Participating in Today's Service:

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

Today's greeters are:

Deborah McKnight, Pam & Bill Peacock and Teeter Smith

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Doris T. Hedges and Louise S. Dann
by their children, Dick Grier and Gerri Tulley.*

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

Clayton Anderson (Gail Carpenter's brother), Frances Bogges (Sally Copeland's niece), Steve Castellaw, Nancy & Rock Curlee upon the death of Allan Preyer III (Rock's brother-in-law), 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), Bill Lowe (Jimmy Lowe's brother), 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 Foster, 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.

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CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, Nov. 11 11:00 Morning Worship Service
Monday, Nov. 12 8:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast
—Highlander Room
—see announcement
4:30 Session Meeting
—Westminster Room
Tuesday, Nov. 13 4:00 Book Club *Chemistry*
by Ron Rash
—The Ugly Dog Public House
—see announcement
6:00 Community Table Dinner
—Community Building
Wednesday, Nov. 14 11:30 HCCDC Children's Church
3:00 Staff Meeting
4:00 Handbell Rehearsal
6:00 Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, Nov. 15 5:30 ESL/GED Dinner & Class
—Coleman Hall
—see announcements
7:00 **Women's Horizon Bible Study**
—Fisher Home
—see announcement
Friday, Nov. 16 4:00 Wedding Rehearsal
Saturday, Nov. 17 1:00 Wedding

Sunday, November 18, 2018

9:30 Adult Education Class - *Simply Christian* by Tom Wright
—Library
11:00 Morning Worship Service
Joy Hatcher, *Soprano*

Thanksgiving Luncheon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder for the month of November is Teeter Smith.

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!

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.

Women's Horizon Bible Study—All ladies of the church are invited Thursday, November 15, at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the third lesson of the Horizons Bible study, *God with Us in Our Discouragement*. This year we are meeting in the Fisher home at 351 Cheney Lane.

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.

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.

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 or 828-526-3376. Volunteers are also needed. Please call or email Jennifer Regner if you would like to volunteer- 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)

The Hanging of the Greens will take place on Friday, Nov. 30th. Please come and join us at the church at 10:00 a.m. to transform the sanctuary for the Christmas holidays. The sweet fellowship and delicious smell of fresh cut greens is a wonderful way to start the season.

The Episcopal Church of the Incarnation will host **A Food Pantries Christmas** on Saturday, Dec. 1st from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. After the Highlands Christmas parade, attendees can enjoy a barbecue lunch for \$10, with all proceeds benefiting the Highlands Emergency Council Food Pantry and the Highlands Food Pantry. Tickets will be available for purchase in the Ravenel Room on Sunday November 25th after the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

Annual Christmas Carol Sing- At 1 p.m. on Saturday, December 1, following the town Christmas Parade, please join us for our annual Christmas Carol Sing which will take place in the church sanctuary. If you enjoy singing familiar Christmas carols, you will definitely want to make this a part of your Christmas tradition.

Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet Concert - At 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 1, the Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet will present a Christmas Concert in the First Presbyterian Church sanctuary. Please make plans to attend. You won't want to miss this delightful concert!

Curtis and Emily will facilitate an **Advent Study** each Sunday during the 9:30 a.m. Adult Education hour leading up to Christmas. The meetings will be held in the church library starting Sunday, December 2nd with the last class on Sunday, December 23rd. Walter Brueggemann's book, *Names for the Messiah* will be the focus of the study. Books will be available in the church office starting the last week in November. All are invited to attend.

The Highlands Community Christian Chorale Christmas Concert will take place at Highlands United Methodist Church at 5 p.m. on both Saturday, December 8th and Sunday, December 9th. A reception will follow the Sunday performance. Everyone is cordially invited to attend this free concert.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Christmas Giving: Look for the *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance* (PDA) Christmas Giving Forms in the Ravenel Room and the Narthex. You can honor loved ones through a donation to PDA. Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church—and designate for *Christmas Offering*. Names will be published in the Christmas Eve bulletin.