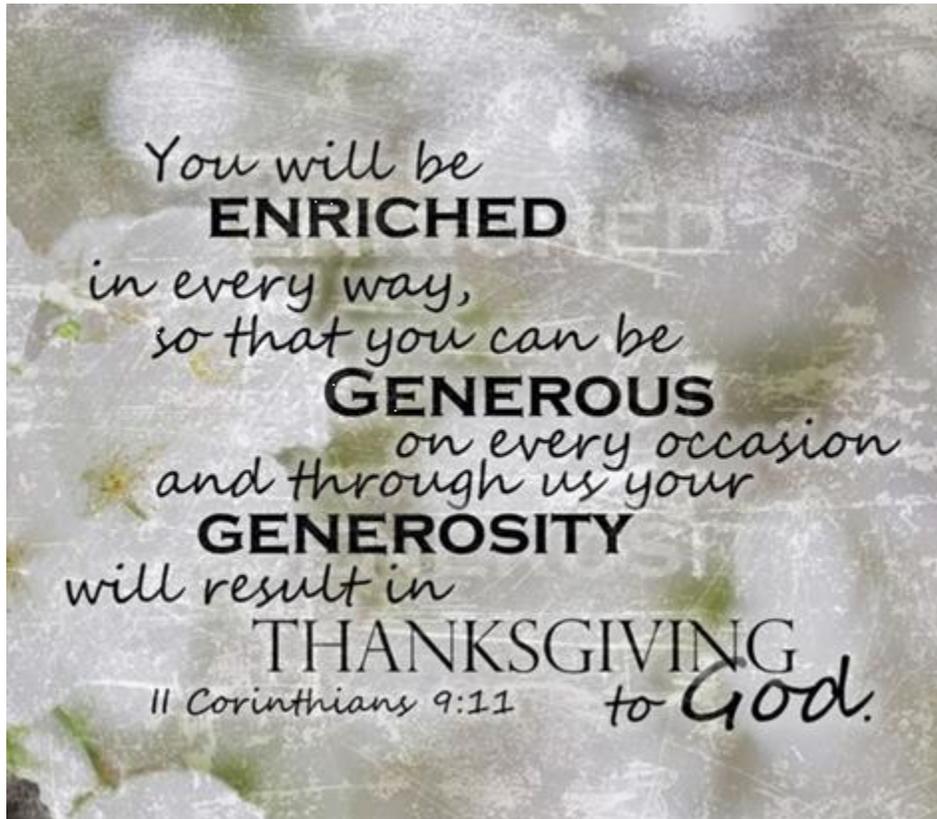


OCTOBER 16, 2022  
*19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST*

# Highlawn

*Presbyterian Church*



*\* Those who wish may stand      \* Words in **Bold** are Congregational Responses*

## **Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude “How Great is Our God”** by Chris Tomlin

*Alanna Cushing, pianist* arranged by Alex Zsolt

*The splendor of a King, clothed in majesty,*

*Let all the Earth rejoice.*

*He wraps himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,*

*And trembles at His voice.*

*How Great is Our God!*

**\*Call to Worship**

We come to worship and praise our God,  
and to learn more about the wonders of our God.

**How great and wonderful is our Compassionate God.**

We come, with ears and hearts open to God,  
ready to discover more of God’s mysteries and miracles.

**How generous and caring is our Unchanging God.**

We gather to share together in our common history,  
and to experience the enrichment which that brings us.

**All praise and honor to God for past and present  
blessings, and for God’s merciful love and grace.**

**\*Hymn #643 "Now Thank We All Our God"**

1. Now thank we all our God  
with heart and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done,  
in whom his world rejoices;  
who from our mothers' arms  
has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

2. O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us,  
to keep us in his grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills  
of this world in the next.

3. All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
the Son and Spirit blest,  
who reign in highest heaven  
the one eternal God,  
whom heaven and earth adore;

for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

### **Call to Confession**

In humility and faith, we confess our sin before God.  
We come in recognition of the ways that we have fallen short of God's standard and eagerly await his promised forgiveness.

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Ever-loving God, who knows the secrets of our hearts even when they are a puzzle to us, we admit to you the problems in our natures.**

**We are seldom satisfied with what we have in life.**

**We long for what others have, though we would soon become bored with it if it were ours.**

**We do not realize our real worth and would like to be admired by others.**

**We often miss the simple gifts of every day because we are searching for what we do not have.**

**Teach us to wait before you in prayer.**

**Open our eyes and ears to the beauty and mystery of what is ours.**

**Give us wholeness in your kingdom, through Jesus**

**Christ our Lord.** (time for silent reflection and personal confession of sin)

**Declaration of Forgiveness**

Friends, believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God!**

**Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Time for Children and The Young-at-Heart**

*Sarah Specht—Director of Christian Education*

**Anthem "Thou Art God"** Traditional Gaelic Melody  
arranged by Marty Parks

**Scripture: 2 Cor. 9:6-15**

**Sermon: "Giving... *Again?*"**

**Rev. Sharon Bell**

**\*Hymn #644 "Give Thanks, O Christian People"**

1. Give thanks, O Christian people,  
for workers of our day  
who heed the call to service and make it their life's way  
to go to feed the hungry, to tend to those in need,  
to work for equal justice, till all God's folk are freed.

2. Give thanks, O Christian people,  
for leaders of our years  
who live to share with others our joy when Christ appears,  
to teach the ones who seek light,  
to guide the faltering feet,  
to lead the followers forward our living Lord to meet.

3. Give thanks, O Christian people,  
for all who love the Lord,  
who live each day believing in God's eternal Word:  
to share Christ's love in living,  
to witness with each deed,  
to use the talents given to plant the gospel seed.

4. Give thanks, O Christian people,  
for life in fellowship  
with all who trust our Savior their serving to equip:  
to ease another's burdens,  
to cope in joy and stress,

to magnify God's message  
and Christ's great love confess.

**\*Offering**

**Presenting God our tithes and offerings**

**\*Doxology Hymn #609**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God, all creatures high and low.**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise God, in Jesus fully known:**

**Creator, Word, and Spirit one.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Prayer of Thanks for the offering by God's people**

**Sharing Concerns and Joys**

Please wait for one of the ushers to hand you a microphone so that all may be able to hear your prayer request. If you are joining by Zoom or Facebook— please send your prayer requests to the office at:  
office@highlawnpc.org

## **Pastoral Prayer/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.**

## **Litany of Affirmation**

Every day we journey on this earth is a day in which we  
make choices:

left or right, up or down, in or out, yes or no?

Some choices are simple, and some are very complex,  
but one choice informs all the others:

Who will be our God?

Who will we trust to see us through this journey?

**Who has been with us from before the beginning,  
bringing us into existence?**

**Who has loved us and blessed us and sent us on our way?**

**Who has pointed us toward the path and posted the signs we need to find our way?**

**Who has been at our side when the road has been smooth and gently curving?**

**Who has kept with us through hairpin turns and construction zones and potholes and detours?**

**Who will celebrate with us when we complete our course and seek the comfort of eternity?**

Only One. The One and Only.

**Holy One. The One and Holy.**

Will you choose this day to stay faithful to the One who is faithful to us?

**Count us in.**

Will you choose this day to place your whole trust in the One who is trustworthy?

**Count us in.**

Will you choose this day to commit your talents and your resources to the One who first endowed them?

**Count us in.**

Will you choose this day to love the One who loved us first?

**Count us in.**

Praying together,

**We devote ourselves to you by renewing the covenant—**

**the promise you made to humanity so long ago.**

**Because you are our God, we will be your people.**

**Enlarge our faithfulness, our trust, our commitment, and our love so that we may graciously uphold our side of the deal.**

**Help us always to recognize your presence and your blessings throughout our journey.**

**Keep us in your care.**

**Amen.**

**\*Hymn #691 "Lord, When I Came into This Life"**

1. Lord, when I came into this life  
you called me by my name;  
today I come, commit myself,  
responding to your claim.

2. Within the circle of the faith,  
as member of your cast,  
I take my place with all the saints  
of future, present, past.

3. In all the tensions of my life,  
between my faith and doubt,  
let your great Spirit give me hope,  
sustain me, lead me out.

4. So help me in my unbelief  
and let my life be true:  
feet firmly planted on the earth,  
my sights set high on you.

### **\*Benediction**

**Congregational Meeting  
today following Worship**  
for the purpose of electing the  
Nominating Committee.

Carla Lapelle

Jim Musgrave

Joanne Yingling

Tim Dorey

Max Specht

### *Open to All Picnic*

**Today! 1 - 4 pm at Ritter Park.**

Food will be served as long as it lasts,  
face-painting for the kids and other activities!

Currently collecting  
donations for  
postage.



Volunteers are needed to provide donuts or refreshments after the Worship Service for the following dates:

Oct 16 Reynolds  
Oct 23 Baldwin  
Oct 30 Nan  
Nov 6 Caltrider  
Nov 13 Lowe  
Nov 20 Curtis  
Nov 27

### Liturgists

October Howard Aulick  
November Amy Browning-Hatfield

### Sunday School at 10 am

Rev. Sharon Bell—Adults  
Sarah Specht—Middle & HS  
Anna Laura Dorey—gr 3rd–5th  
Nan Price—pre-school to

We would love to have you as a member of our Church Family!

If you are interested in joining HPC, please contact  
Pastor Sharon for more information.

304-522-1676



### Connect with God's Creation at the Bluestone Fall Getaway

**Oct. 21-23; register by Oct. 19**

"Connecting with God's Creation" is the theme of this intergenerational retreat designed for all ages to explore and discover connections with God's creation and each other. Time will be spent engaging in activities and conversations that present the importance of all of our connections – with God, one another, and the world we live in. The hope is that all will leave this experience with closer connections and an understanding of how we are caretakers of God's creation.

Registrations are due this week!

If interested, please call Sarah Specht 304-522-1676

### The "Great Pumpkin" Drive!

The Youth will be joining Ukirk students to carve pumpkins on Oct. 31st.

Can you donate a pumpkin for the youth? Or a donation for the purchase of a pumpkin!



See Sarah for more information