

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022  
*14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST*

# *Highlawn*

*Presbyterian Church*



“The Company You Keep”

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

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Prelude    “Christians We Have Met to Worship”**

William Moore            arranged by Mark Hayes

*Alanna Cushing, pianist*

**\*Call to Worship**

The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble!

**Let us sing to God who has done great things.**

The Lord is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.

**Let us sing to God who has done great things.**

Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity;

you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

**Let us sing to God who has done great things.**

Extol the Lord our God; worship at his footstool;

extol the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain.

**Let us sing to God who has done great things.**

**\*Hymn #610 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" vs. 1, 3 & 5**

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of his grace!

3. Christ speaks, and listening to his voice  
new life the dead receive;  
the mournful waken to rejoice;  
the poor in heart believe.

5. To God all glory, praise, and love  
be now and ever given  
by saints below and saints above,  
the Church in earth and heaven.

### **Call to Confession**

Despite our best intentions, we recognize that we miss the mark that God has set for us and stand in need of God's forgiveness.

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Lord, we call you our friend, but most of the time we are incapable of understanding what that really means. It is too complex to fathom that you—our creator and the one who governs the world—might also want to have an intimate relationship with us. It is too absurd to believe that you—the one whom we cannot see—might be our most loyal and faithful companion.**

**As a result, we forget (or claim to forget) that friendship with you is not always easy and requires much from us. It demands that we act on behalf of other people, and it is difficult for us to speak in defense of those people you would protect. Friendship with you requires that we expose our secrets, and it is easier for us to pretend that they are in the dark. If we call you friend, we should take risks for your Kingdom, but most of the time we settle into a lifestyle that is safe and comfortable.**

**In spite of our shortcomings, you were, are, and will be faithful to us. You became human to identify with the life we live, knowing that we will never fully understand you. You gave your life for us even though you knew we would not want to risk ours for your sake, and you continue to walk alongside us even though we often succumb to pressures calling us to walk the opposite direction.**

**Continue to be with us, Lord. Continue calling us to a more faithful relationship with you and the world you created. Grant us forgiveness and freedom from condemnation.**

(time for silent reflection and personal confession of sin)

## **Declaration of Forgiveness**

In compassion and love, Christ forgives us, heals us, restores us and welcomes us. Friends, receive these gifts from God and know that you are forgiven! **Amen!**

## **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 "Peace to You" Lloyd Larson**

**Scripture 1 Sam. 18:1-4; 1 Sam. 19:1-3; 2 Sam. 1:23-27**

**Sermon: Series: "The Company You Keep"**

**"David and Johnathon" Rev. Sharon Bell**

**\*Hymn #475 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"**

1. Come, thou Fount of every 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 God's redeeming love.

2. Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
hither by thy help I've come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.

3. O to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy grace now, like a fetter,  
bind my wandering 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.

**\*Offering**

**Presenting God our tithes and offerings**

**\*Doxology #606**

**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.**

**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.**

**\*Affirmation of Faith—*selections from the PC(USA)***  
*Brief Statement of Faith*

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the  
grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and  
the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one  
triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we  
worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.**

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.**

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Sun, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #465 “What A Friend We Have in Jesus”**

1. What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry  
everything to God in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry  
everything to God in prayer!

2. Have we trials and temptations?

Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged;  
take it to the Lord in prayer!

Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness;  
take it to the Lord in prayer!

3. Are we weak and heavy laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge--  
take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee;  
thou wilt find a solace there.

### **\*Benediction**

*“When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives means the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving much advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a gentle and tender hand. The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement, who can tolerate not knowing, not curing, not healing and face with us the reality of our powerlessness, that is a friend who cares.”*

*Henri Nouwen*

**TODAY after Worship !**



**Please stay and join us  
for lunch!**

*Liturgists*  
September Alice Browning  
October Howard Aulick



**Sundays at 10 am**  
Rev. Sharon Bell—Adults  
Sarah Specht—Middle & Highschool  
Anna Laura Dorey—grades 3rd– 5th-  
Nan Price— pre-school to 2nd gr.

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

Sept 18 Schurman  
Sept 25 **Girl Scouts**  
**Bake Sale!**

Oct 2 Woolcock  
Oct 9 Aulick  
Oct 16 Reynolds  
Oct 23 Baldwin  
Oct 30 Nan  
Nov. 6  
Nov 13  
Nov 20  
Nov 27



***For the Month of September***  
We are collecting change for the shipping of OCC Shoeboxes.  
**September Work Days**  
Thursday September 15  
Wednesday September 21  
Come when you can -Leave when you need to.

