

*Highlawn
Presbyterian Church*

MAY 8, 2022
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude : “Day by Day”

Alanna Cushing, piano (in the style of Frederic Chopin)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Happy are the people who have learned to worship God.

Happy are those who walk in the divine presence.

In God's name they shall rejoice all the day.

God's righteousness shall bear them up forever.

Let us worship and rejoice!

***Hymn #65 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"**

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

2. Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
Be thou still my strength and shield,
Be thou still my strength and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

Call to Confession

Each one of us has chosen our own ways over God's ways and stand in need of God's forgiveness. Let us confess our sin together and receive God's forgiveness.

Prayer of Confession

O God, you are like a parent who cares for the welfare of the family. We often behave like thoughtless, selfish children. We want the best of everything for ourselves, without considering our brothers and sisters. We are reluctant to invest our time and energy for the benefit of others. Forgive us, O God, and let the family become more important to us. Help us be like Christ, who gave up everything for the sake of the kingdom.
(time for silent reflection and personal confession of sin)

Declaration of Forgiveness

Like a loving parent, God loves us in spite of ourselves. God does not desire our punishment, but our restoration to a right relationship. Friends, believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

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: "A Mother's Love" Boyd Bacon

Scripture: Acts 9:36—43

Sermon: "Who is Tabitha?" **Rev. Sharon Bell**

***Hymn #761 "Called as Partners in Christ's Service"**

1. Called as partners in Christ's service
Called to ministries of grace
We respond with deep commitment
Fresh new lines of faith to trace
May we learn the art of sharing
Side by side and friend with friend
Equal partners in our caring
To fulfil God's chosen end

2. Christ's example, Christ's inspiring
Christ's clear call to work and worth
Let us follow never faltering
Reconciling folk on earth
Men and women richer poorer
All God's people young and old
Blending human skills together
Gracious gifts from God unfold

3. Thus new patterns for Christ's mission
In a small or global sense
Help us bear each other's burdens
Breaking down each wall or fence
Words of comfort words of vision
Words of challenge said with care
Bring new power and strength for action
Make us colleagues free and fair

4. So God grant us for tomorrow
Ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow
With a calm that conquers strife
Make us partners in our living
Our compassion to increase
Messengers of faith thus giving
Hope and confidence and peace

***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. Amen.**

Litany for Mother's Day

Lord, on this day set aside to honor and remember mothers, we give you thanks for our mothers. Thank you for the sacrifices they made in raising us.

We thank you for the women who raised us, who were our mothers in childhood. Whether birth mom, adopted mom, older sister, aunt, grandmother, stepmother or someone else, we thank you for those women who held us and fed us, who cared for us and kissed away our pain. We pray that our lives may reflect the love they showed us, and that they would be pleased to be called our moms.

We pray for older moms whose children are grown.
Grant them joy and satisfaction for a job well done.

We pray for new moms experiencing changes they could not predict.

Grant them rest and peace as they trust you for the future.

We pray for pregnant women who will soon be moms.
Grant them patience and good counsel in the coming months.

We pray for moms who face the demands of single parenthood.

Grant them strength and wisdom.

We pray for foster moms, who raise and love another woman's child as their own.

Grant them understanding, peace, and strength.

We pray for moms who enjoy financial abundance.

Grant them time to share with their families.

We pray for moms who are raising their children in poverty.

Grant them relief and justice.

We pray for step-moms.

Grant them patience and understanding and love.

We pray for moms who are separated from their children.
Grant them faith and hope.

We pray for moms in marriages that are in crisis.
Grant them support and insight.

We pray for moms who have lost children.
Grant them comfort in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

We pray for mothers who have experienced abortion.
Grant them healing and peace.

We pray for moms who gave up their children for adoption.
Grant them peace and confidence as they trust in your providence.

We pray for adoptive mothers.
Grant them joy and gratitude for the gift you have provided.

We pray for girls and women who think about being moms.
Grant them wisdom and discernment.

We pray for women who choose to remain childless.
Grant them joy and fullness in all their relationships.

We pray for women who desperately want, or wanted, to

be moms.

Grant them grace to accept your timing and will.

We pray for all people who have assumed the mother's role in a child's life.

Grant them joy and the appreciation of others.

We pray for those people present who are grieving the loss of their mother in the past year.

Grant them comfort and hope in Christ's resurrection.

Lord, we thank you for the gift of motherhood. We thank you for the many examples of faithful mothers in scripture, like Sarah, Hannah, Elizabeth, and Lois. Hear now the first names of other women who have inspired us by their motherly examples . . .

(Share aloud the first name of a woman who has inspired you.)

We are mindful this day of all these women, and especially Mary the mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, who had the courage in faith to say "yes" to your calling. May these women gathered here today emulate these examples of faith. And may they model for all the rest of us what it means to be your disciple. Bless them on this special day; in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Hymn #39 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]

*Benediction

WEEK AT
A GLANCE

Sun: Youth Mtg 3:00—5:00

Wed: 1:00 Bible Study
with Sharon

Thurs: Women's Circles

