



Sunday, October 20, 2024

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

Genesis 2:1-3 NRSV

“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery;
“Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

Exodus 20: 2, 8-11 (NRSV)

- Highland, A Place to be Seen, Known, and Loved -

Greeters: Kathy & Doug Hengst, Sue & Jim Hess, Sandy & Tom Johnson, Pam McCartney

Ushers: Grant Schonour, Bob & Vickie Kutz, Kay Houghton, Bill DeLong, Lois Snyder, Anita Heller

The white roses recognize and bear witness to the life and memory of Patricia Smith and Albert Knouse

The Chancel Flowers are Presented By:
Judy & Bruce Schmoyer, in memory of October birthdays

Gathering in God's Name

Chimes

Prelude

Welcome & Ministry Highlights

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

*Please sign and pass the "Friendship Pad" down the pew.
At the end of the row, pass it back so that we can greet one another by name after the service.*

*Call to Worship

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Leader: In the beginning God created all things,

People: And God saw that they were good.

Leader: Once all had been created, God rested,

People: And God saw that resting was also good.

Leader: This rest was to be a blessing of blessings.

People: In moments of rest open our eyes to see your presence, our souls to sense your presence, and our hearts to love your presence.

*Opening Hymn # 171

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Children's Dismissal to Sunday School

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

At this time, children 5th grade and under are invited to attend Sunday School. Teachers are stationed at the main doors of the sanctuary and will walk the children to the children's classrooms in the Narthex. Parents/Guardians may pick up their children after the service in the classroom.

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

Merciful God, we come to you knowing that we are in need of forgiveness and grace. You told us to work six days and rest one, yet we work seven and rest none. You call us to leave room for neighbors to glean, but time is money so we use every waking minute for earning, winning, and bartering. We say we wish there were more hours in the day, yet if we had them we would use them also. Forgive us Lord. Empower us to be the disciples you called us to be. Empower us to seek your Holy days, so that in you we would be renewed. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison 572

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

Leader: Hear the good news! God has redeemed you and called you by name; you are mine. By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

Leader: As we are forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ Jesus, let us be reconciled to one another. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

* Gloria Patri 579

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.

Proclaiming God's Word

Scripture Reading

Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20: 2, 8-11

Message

"A Flexible Heart Vs. An Inflexible Ritual "

Sarah Hostetter

Responding to God's Word

Invitation to the Offering

Diana Ludwig

Offertory

"It Is Well With My Soul"

arr. Robert Sterling

Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Lord's Prayer

Rev. Ken Osborne

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.

Going in God's Name

* Closing Hymn #543

"Abide With Me"

* Charge and Benediction

Sarah Hostetter

*Choral Benediction

"A Gaelic Blessing"

by John Rutter

Postlude

*PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT

MUSIC: DR. PAUL THORLAKSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

JONATHAN LEFEVER, ORGANIST

A-V TEAM:

Prayer Pathways



“Loving God, gather me now to be with you as you are with me. Soothe my tiredness; quiet my fretfulness; curb my aimlessness; relieve my compulsiveness; let me be easy for a moment. Oh Lord, release me from the fears and guilts which grip me so tightly; from the expectations and opinions which I do tightly grip. Help me to be open to receiving what you give, to risk something genuinely new, and to learning something refreshingly different. O God, gather me, to be with you, as you are with me”. -Annie F. Downes

CENTERING PRAYER

“With the help of God, I shall become myself.” Soren Kierkegaard

1. Choose a sacred word from scripture or a reading...
2. Sit, comfortably, with eyes closed, and relax. Quiet your thoughts and ask God to enter in.
3. Let your sacred word be present as a symbol of your intention to be in God's presence. Focus on your word but try to keep it unspoken.
4. When you feel your mind drifting, return to your sacred word to be used as an anchor.
5. Remain in silence with eyes closed. Try this for 10-20 minutes.

WALKING PRAYERS

This prayer allows you to focus on God while being in nature. It is sometimes a whole-body experience, because each of your senses are being activated.

1. Find a spot that can be contemplative and peaceful. Start your walk by stating or thinking, “Quiet the mind, open the heart.”
2. Begin walking slowly, concentrating on your breaths and the environment around you.
3. What do you smell, what do you see, touch the soil, or sand, or grass around you.
4. Watch how the trees move, think about what God is revealing with all of these attributes of nature.
5. When your mind begins to wander to daily chores or lists, focus back on God's creation. Maybe start with smell.
6. What is one thing that you noticed about God? What is God doing in your life right now? How has God been present to you in this time? Focus on these questions for the remainder of your prayer time.

PRAYER OF EXAMEN

We are asking God to help us notice the consolations in our day and the desolations that have happened for us in the day. Consolation is whatever helps us to connect with ourselves, others, and God. Desolation is whatever disconnects us.

- Possible questions to ask:*
1. For what moment today am I most grateful?
 2. For what moment today am I least grateful?
 3. When did I give and receive love most today?
 4. When did I give and receive love least today?
 5. When did I feel most alive today?
 6. When did I most feel life draining out of me today?
 7. When today did I have the greatest sense of belonging to myself, others, and God?
 8. When did I have the least sense of belonging?
 9. When was I happiest today?
 10. When was I saddest today?



Pray as You Go- Spotify



Tiny Theologians- Spotify

Please be advised that services are recorded and you may be incidentally captured on video as part of the recording of the service. The back of the right side of the sanctuary as you enter is out of the range of the camera.

A description of the stained Chancel window can be found in the front of the hymnal.

FM sound devices are available. Please ask an usher for your own personal receiver.

Cell Phones should be silenced during the worship service.

Video Recordings of the service can be found on the Highland website at www.HighlandPC.org

In the event of an emergency, please refer to the card in the pew racks for evacuation and re-assembly information.