

# Order for the Worship of

Highland Presbyterian Church

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

*i*

## The Cross of Christ

The Cross of Christ  
Upon your brow  
The Cross of Christ  
Protect you now

|                                                                               |                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The Cross of Christ<br>Upon your mind<br>The Cross of Christ<br>Make you kind | The Cross of Christ<br>Upon your head<br>The Cross of Christ<br>Save from dread |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

The Cross of Christ  
Upon your face  
The Cross of Christ  
Give you grace

The Cross of Christ  
Upon your heart  
The Cross of Christ  
Set you apart

The Cross of Christ  
Upon your soul  
The Cross of Christ  
Keep you whole

HIGHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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*In this season of Lent,  
may our minds be open;  
may our hands be strong;  
may our hearts be gentle;  
may our spirits sing.*

## Gathering around THE WORD

PRELUDE

Dr. Kit Loon

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pas

CENTERING SONG

*Holy Ground*

CALL TO WORSHIP

In this season of Lent, God renews his gracious invitation to us.

**In penitence and faith we are asked once more to journey w  
from baptism in the Jordan to trial in Jerusalem and beyon**

In this season of Lent, God calls us

**To live out the implications of our commitment;  
To survive the wilderness without;  
To face the wild beasts within us;  
To trust in the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit,**

Come in confidence to worship.

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†At this sign, you are invited to rise in body or in spirit.

**Bold: a**

OPENING PRAYER

**Proclaiming THE WORD**

**Living Word, write upon our hearts a new story this day.  
Inscribe indelibly the story of redemption, forgiveness, and transformation.  
Record the hope that will be fulfilled,  
the promises that will be kept, the waiting that is not in vain.  
Enrich us with the words that are spoken, the songs that are sung,  
and the faces of all who worship with us here today.  
Make us, together, one with you – one body, one faith, one vision.**

SCRIPTURE

Numbers 21:4-9

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Amen  
SCRIPTURE

John 3:1-21

+HYMN

*Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

HYMN

“ASKING QUESTIONS IN THE DARK!”

+CALL TO CONFESSION

**Responding to THE WORD**

+TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

+HYMN

*O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – *The Nicene Creed (Ecumenical)*

**Lord Jesus Christ, who in love came to us, who in love embraced us,  
and who in love died for us, give us a strong dose  
of honesty and truthfulness about our true situation before you.  
You came in love, and we rejected your love.  
Yet even when we turned away from you, you did not turn away from us.  
Lord, our only hope in life and in death  
is that you will continue to love us despite our sin.  
Let your light shine into our darkness,  
penetrating every dark corner of our lives,  
shining upon us and within us, so that we might be enlightened  
by the light of your saving, sacrificial love  
and that our night of sin might be  
transformed into your glorious day. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER  
(using “forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us”)

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

+DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Bearing and Following THE WORD into the World**

+ASSURANCE OF PARDON

+HYMN

*There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy*

+THE PEACE

+BENEDICTION

The grace and peace of Christ be with you.

+SENDING SONG

*Amen*

**And also with you.**

+POSTLUDE