

OFFERTORY

Dr. Kit Loong Yee

+DOXOLOGY

Give Thanks

see insert

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Sealing THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BREAKING THE BREAD AND SHARING THE CUP

*If you are unable to come forward,
please remain seated and we will come to you.*

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

**Loving God, thank you for the nourishment we have received at your table.
May we be strengthened and challenged by all who have shared in this meal,
both here and around the world.**

**May we carry in our hearts the life and peace embodied in this bread and
cup, that we might be a message of hope and reconciliation to a desperate
and hurting world.**

**Send your Spirit to strengthen our love for one another and all creation that
your table of hope, reconciliation, and fellowship might be at the center of all
our thoughts and actions. Amen.**

+CLOSING HYMN

The Lord's Prayer

+POSTLUDE

Dr. Kit Loong Yee

"When they had sung a hymn, they went out."

Order for the Worship of God

Highland Presbyterian Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2015

Gathering around THE WORD

PRELUDE

Dr. Kit Loong (Raymond) Yee

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Linda L. Kelly

CENTERING SONG

This Is the Day

See Insert

CALL TO WORSHIP

Doris M. Thompson

In the silence of the stars,
In the quiet of the hills
In the heaving of the sea,
Speak, Lord.

In the stillness of this room,
In the calming of our minds,
In the longing of our hearts,
Speak, Lord.

In the voice of a friend,
In the chatter of a child,
In the words of a stranger,
Speak, Lord.

In the opening of a book,
In the viewing of a film,
In the listening to music,

Speak, Lord, for your servant listens.

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

Bold: all people respond

OPENING PRAYER

**Eternal God, you have called us to members of one body.
Join us with those who in all times and places have praised your name that,
with one heart and mind, we may show the unity of your church
and bring honor to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

+HYMN *Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim* Hymn 477

+CALL TO CONFESSION

+TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of love, you call us to love one another, just as Jesus loved us.
You ordain us to be one with each other, even as the Father and the Son are one.
Yet we are separated from our sisters and brothers.
Our divisions defame your good name. Forgive us in your great mercy.
Baptize us anew with your Spirit of love,
with grace to accept those whom you accept, to love those whom you love,
to forgive one another as you have forgiven us, and to live and work in united
witness through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. Amen.**

+ASSURANCE OF PARDON

As far as the east is from the west, so God removes our sins from us.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

+THE PEACE

The peace of Jesus Christ, our Lord, be with you.

And also with you.

Offer the sign of Christ to one another in word, handshake, hug, or other sign.

Proclaiming THE WORD

SCRIPTURE *Isaiah 56:3-7*

+HYMN *In Christ There is No East or West* Hymn 439

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Pastor Kelly

SCRIPTURE *Acts 8:26-40*

SERMON “BLESSINGS WITHOUT BOUNDARIES”

Responding to THE WORD

+HYMN *There Is a Balm in Gilead* Hymn 394

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ~ *The Love of Christ*

Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come that he should depart from this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. And Jesus said:

A new commandment I give to you that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.”

The one who has my commandments and keeps them is the one who loves me. And the one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and manifest myself to them.”

**The is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his
friends.”**

What shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

**Neither height nor depth, nor any other created thing shall be able to
separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD