

Order for the Worship of God

Highland Presbyterian Church

14th Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2015

*Take these few minutes of quiet to make the transition
between "getting here" and "being here."*

*Silence your thoughts that you might get in touch
with the calm places, the still, deep places in you.*

Relax your body; quiet the inner dialogue of your mind.

Focus on feeling, on being.

Be receptive to your center – your reservoir of inner peace, strength, love.

Be aware of being with others. Feel the spirit of the community.

Gathering around THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING SONG

Holy Ground

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.

**We need not look up to find God, we need only look around:
within our selves,
beyond ourselves,
into the eyes of another.**

**We need not listen for distant thunder to find God, we need only listen to
the music of life,
the words of children,
the questions of the curious,
the rhythm of a heartbeat.**

Let us worship God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.

OPENING PRAYER

**God of love and mercy, in the quiet peace of morning
we gather in this holy place to sing our praise to you
and to be touched by your gentle Spirit.
We offer grateful thanks for the gift of Sabbath rest and renewal.
We pray that through our worship
we may be recreated in your likeness once more.
Let your cleansing Spirit enter our lives,
that we might be transformed
into expressions of beauty that reflect your uncompromising love.
We pray in the name of our Redeemer. Amen.**

+HYMN

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

+CALL TO CONFESSION

Dr. Kit Loong Yee

+TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

Pastor Kelly

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION
see insert

**Christ Jesus,
laser of the living God,
light of this spinning planet,
pierce the clouds of our ignorance,
correct the distortion in our vision,
lance the abscess of our self-interest,
cut away the scar tissue of old hurts,
cauterize the weeping sores of our discontent,
and give us a much-needed faith-lift.**

**We place ourselves in your unshakeable hands
for whatever radical surgery you choose.
Have mercy on us, we pray. Amen.**

+ASSURANCE OF PARDON

+THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

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

Bold: all people respond

And also with you.

Proclaiming THE WORD

RESPONSIVE READING *(based on Psalm 36)*

Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens.

Your faithfulness to the skies.

Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains.

Your justice like the great deep.

O Lord, you preserve both man and beast.

How priceless is your unfailing love!

Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings.

They feast on the abundance of your house;

You give them drink from your river of delights.

For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

Continue your love to those who know you.

Your righteousness to the upright in heart.

Preserve us, O God,

Through your priceless, unfailing, redeeming love.

+HYMN

Amazing Grace

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Malachi 1:1-5; 4:1-3

SERMON

I HAVE LOVED YOU AND I LOVE YOU STILL

Responding to THE WORD

+HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ~ *The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived
by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
died, and was buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose
again, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of
the Father; he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion
of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life
of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

+DOXOLOGY

We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bearing and Following THE WORD into the World

Hymn 280

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine

Pastor + BLESSING

+SENDING SONG

(to the tune of Morning Star)

New life has bloomed here, God's love has warmed us;
Now the world calls us To go spread that love.
God's peace go with you. May it sustain you, And
bring us together To praise God again.

Hymn 306

+POSTLUDE

