

*\*Doxology*

#591

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.**

*\*Prayer of Dedication*

**We give, O God, because of your generosity to us. We share because Jesus showed that this is your will for us. In faithfulness we would be good stewards of our resources, so they might serve both us and others. Now bless your people and what we bring, for everything is offered to your glory. Amen.**

*Call to Prayer*

*Sharing Our Joys and Concerns*

*Prayers of the People*

*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.**

### **DEPART TO SERVE GOD**

*\*Hymn #343*

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

*\*Benediction*

*\*Closing Response*

#2166

**Christ beside me, Christ before me;  
Christ behind me - King of my heart;  
Christ within me, Christ below me,  
Christ above me – never to part.**

*Postlude*

*Please join us in the Family Room for fellowship and refreshments.*

*Reverend Botts' sermons may be read online at [highlands-presbyterian.org](http://highlands-presbyterian.org).*



## **Highlands Presbyterian Church**

**April 22, 2018, 10:30 a.m.**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**Thought for the Day:** "The miracle is not that we do this work, but that we are happy to do it." (Mother Teresa)

*Welcome and Announcements*

### **GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

*Prelude*

*Call to Worship*

One: The earth is the Lord's

**All: And all the creatures on it.**

One: God has made us in the Divine image

**All: Entrusting the world unto our care.**

One: Praise God for the wonder of each day

**All: And the possibilities of each new hour.**

*Opening Prayer*

*\*Hymn #487 (verses 1, 3, 4)*

"When Morning Lights the Skies"

[Adapted]

1. When morning lights the skies,  
My soul awaking cries:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Alike at work and prayer  
I joyfully declare:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!
3. Let men and women round  
Lift high the faithful sound:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let air and sea and sky  
From depth to height reply:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

4. Be this, while life is mine,  
A song of life divine:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Be this my constant song  
Through all the ages long:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!

*The children may leave for Sunday School.*

*Prayer of Confession (spoken and silent)*

**O God, our hearts are like open books to you, so we confess that we have fallen short of your will. We have eaten our bread, without concern for the hungry. We have warmed ourselves, without thinking of those who are cold. We have professed our faith, without witnessing to those who don't know you. Forgive us, Lord, and make us more aware of what you would have us do.** (We pray our silent prayers of confession.) Amen. **Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon*

One: When we know we have done wrong, when we truly seek release, when we trust that God can make us whole, Jesus assures us, "Your sins are forgiven." Friends, that is our good news today and everyday.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

*\*Our Response*

#276 Adapted

**Great is Your faithfulness! Great is Your faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed my God has provided;  
Great is Your faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

*\*Passing the Peace*

One: Since God has forgiven us in Jesus Christ, let us forgive and greet one another...the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

### **PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

*Prayer for Illumination*

*First Reading*

Psalm 23

*Second Reading*

John 10:11-16

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Sermon*

"Love Above Self"

Rev. Ronald Botts

*Hymn #438*

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

*Reception of New Members:*

Lorie Ellett

Robert Ellett

Jeffrey Ellett

Joan Hartman

Parker Stevens

*Welcome*

*Renunciations and Professions*

*Unison Prayer*

**O God, we praise you for calling us to be a servant people, and for gathering us into the body of Christ. We thank you for choosing to add to our number these sisters and brothers in faith. Together may we live in your Spirit, and so love one another, that we may have in us the spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom we give honor and glory forever. Amen.**

### **GIVE THANKS TO GOD**

\*Our Affirmation of Faith

*from A Brief Statement of Faith (PCUSA)*

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.**

*Bringing Our Gifts*

*Offertory (Sam Garcia)*

"The Swan"

Camille Saint-Saens