

4. O Jesus, you have promised  
 To all who follow you  
 That where you are in glory  
 There shall your servant be;  
 And, Jesus, I have promised  
 To serve you to the end;  
 O give me grace to follow,  
 My Master and my friend.

*\*Benediction*

*\*Closing Response*

**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.**

#2166

*Postlude*

"Offertorio"

Zippoli

*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

August 12, 2018, 10:30 a.m.  
 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**Thought for the Day:** "Vision is the art of seeing things invisible."  
 (Leo Tolstoy)

*Welcome and Announcements*

### GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

*Prelude*

"Prelude on Wondrous Love"

Young

*Call to Worship*

One: As silently as a dove descending,

**All: God's Spirit comes descending upon our hearts.**

One: As brightly as a flame burning in the night,

**All: God's Spirit comes to kindle new love in us.**

One: As comforting as the presence of a friend,

**All: God's Spirit comes to us and brings us peace.**

*Opening Prayer*

*\*Hymn #274*

"O God of Earth and Space"

*Prayer of Confession (spoken and silent)*

**O God, we often forget the needs within us and around us. We do not pray as regularly as we ought, or reflect on the words of Scripture. We think about our own pleasures, and neglect the concerns of others. We enjoy the bounty of our food, without remembering the hungry. Forgive us, Lord, and turn us to things of the Spirit, that we may live responsibly in the grace you have shown us.** (We pray our silent prayers of confession.) Amen. **Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon*

One: Christ has shown us that God is more willing to forgive our sins than we are to acknowledge them. God frees us from the restrictions that have bound us so that we might fully live and love. This is good news indeed!

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

*\*Our Response*

#555 Adapted

**Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,  
 Who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;  
 Who, from our youthful days, has blessed us on our way  
 With countless mercies shown, and still does so today.**

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

*\*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**

*Vacation Bible School Review and Volunteer Appreciation*

*Prayer for Illumination*

*First Reading* Exodus 5:1-5

*Second Reading* Luke 5:12-16

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Sermon* "Stepping Back to Step Ahead" Rev. Ronald Botts

*Hymn #417* "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

**GIVE THANKS TO GOD**

*\*Our Affirmation of Faith* from A Brief Statement of Faith (PCUSA)

**We trust in Jesus Christ—fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

*Bringing Our Gifts*

*Offertory*

*\*Doxology* #554 Adapted

**Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
To God our Creator triumphantly raise!  
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
The songs of our hearts are now lifted as praise.**

*\*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 #388*

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

[Adapted]

1. O Jesus, I have promised  
To serve you to the end;  
Be now forever near me,  
My Master and my friend;  
I shall not fear the conflict  
If you are by my side,  
Nor wander from the pathway  
If you will be my guide.
2. O let me feel you near me!  
The world is ever near;  
I see the sights that dazzle,  
The tempting sounds I hear;  
My foes are ever near me,  
Around me and within;  
But, Jesus, draw now closer  
And keep my soul from sin.
3. O let me hear you speaking  
In accents clear and still,  
Above the storms of passion,  
The mutters of self-will;  
O speak to reassure me,  
To hasten or control;  
O speak, and make me listen,  
O guardian of my soul.