

DEPART TO SERVE GOD

*Hymn #332

"Live Into Hope"

*Benediction

*Closing Response

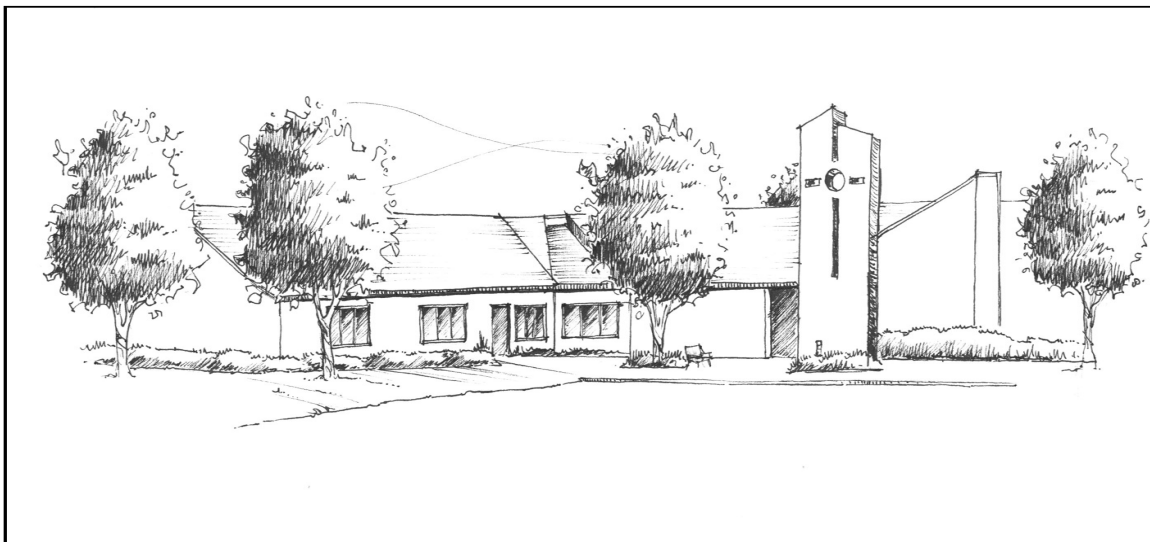
**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
Through this and every coming day,
That in your Spirit strong and true
Our lives may be our gift to you.**

Tune of #335

Postlude

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

Reverend Botts' sermons may be read online at highlands-presbyterian.org.



Highlands Presbyterian Church

February 18, 2018, 10:30 a.m.

1st Sunday in Lent

Thought for the Day: "Imagine what a harmonious world it could be if every single person, both young and old, shared a little of what he is good at doing." (Quincy Jones)

Welcome and Announcements

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: Our souls have stirred with a longing that has brought us here.

All: We fill our lives with many things, but still we can be empty.

One: We know, O God, that only you can feed our deepest hungers.

All: We cry out to you, Lord. Hear our voices. Listen as we pray.

One: Only God has the power to lift us up, to fill us, to redeem us.

All: Trusting in your grace, certain of your love, we worship you.

Opening Prayer

*Hymn #81

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

[Adapted]

1. Lord, who throughout these forty days
For us did fast and pray,
Teach us with you to grieve our sins,
And close by you to stay.
2. As you with Evil did contend,
And did the victory win,
O give us strength in you to fight,
In you to conquer sin.
3. And through these days of penitence,
And through your Passiontide,
Yes, evermore, in life and death,
O Lord, with us abide.

*Please stand as you are able.

4. Abide with us, that so, this life
Of suffering once past,
An Easter of unending joy
We may attain at last!

The children may leave for Sunday School.

Prayer of Confession (spoken and silent)

Lord, we admit to being so shaped by the values of this age that your call on our lives goes unheeded. Transform us so that we are directed by your concern for the unloved and unlovely, and for the weak and powerless. Challenge us to respond to your priorities and not simply those convenient for us. Forgive us, O God, that we might be guided each day by Christ. (We pray our silent prayers of confession.) Amen. **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

One: The good news is that Christ calls us to new life and enables us to begin again. We are never forgotten. God loves us now and always, and welcomes us back in grace. Friends, believe the promise of the Gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

**Our Response*

#345 Adapted

**Dear Lord, Creator good and kind, forgive our foolish ways;
Restore in us a purer mind, in truer lives your service find,
With voices joined in praise.**

**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 25:1-5

Second Reading

Mark 1:9-15

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"The Good News in Brief"

**Hymn #386*

"O for a World"

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

**Our Affirmation of Faith*

Adapted from the Patmos Abbey

We believe that God is in the arid desert, as well as in green pastures; and that hard times are also loving gifts. We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination, and that our path leads to a glory we cannot yet imagine. We believe that, in the church, we are fellow pilgrims on the road; and we are called to love one another, as God loves us. This is our faith which we profess in Jesus the Christ.

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*

Accept now, O God, these offerings we bring here today. Grant that they might be used to take your Word to the lost, your love to those who seek consolation, your care to those in need. Use us and these gifts in your service. 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.