

leadership

ELDERS

Pastor Mike Ruel

John Lisa [Chairman]
Len Baxter [Treasurer]

DEACONS AND STAFF

Building and Grounds
Fellowship
Benevolence
Technology
Finance
Kingdom Kids
Worship
Operations Manager

Len Baxter
Kerry Westpy
Piero DiClemente
Ray Westpy
TJ Walsh, Chris Deming
Alyssa Myhren
Ron Vreeland
Tina Nause

CARE GROUPS - ZOOM Video/In-Person

CONTACT LEADERS FOR NEW INFO

Vernon

Pastor Mike
Mondays • 7pm - at HBC
info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org

Vernon/565

Len & Doreen Baxter
First Friday monthly
201-230-7372

Branchville/Newton

Ray & Kerry Westpy
1st and 3rd Fridays
862-266-8699

TwentySomethings

Chris & Alyssa Deming
201-819-0327



307 NJ-94, Vernon, NJ 07462
(973) 764-7506
Highlandsbiblechurch.org
Info@highlandsbiblechurch.org

For Prayer Needs - Send Email To:
PrayerChain@HighlandsBibleChurch.org

December 13, 2020

MATTHEW

Truly I Say To You



welcome

our purpose

We are delighted that you joined us today! Our purpose is to glorify God by making and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ. Our ministry vision is to love God with all that we are, and love others as much as we love ourselves.

As you worship with us today, you'll notice how often we reference the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We don't have it all figured out, but we know that God saves sinners through faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus. Please join us as we exalt God by singing about his greatness and as we seek to know more about him from the Bible.

the gospel

You will hear us talk about the gospel a lot. Actually it is the center of everything we do here at Highlands.

1. **God** - the only all-knowing, all-powerful King and Creator of all things. He created us to enjoy and glorify him forever. [Psalm 19:1-2; Romans 1:18-32]
2. **Sin** - Yet, we rejected God, and established ourselves as gods of our lives, separating ourselves from Him, and becoming objects of His wrath. In so doing we also unleashed sin, sickness, death and evil. [Ephesians 2:1-3; Romans 5:12-14]
3. **Christ** - In God's unparalleled mercy and grace, He already had a plan to reconcile us to Himself. The entire Old Testament points to the coming of the Messiah - revealed in the New Testament as Jesus Christ. [John 1; Ephesians 2:4-7; Romans 3:21-26]
4. **Response** - None of this is effective for us unless we respond in two ways: repent/turn from our self control and sin [Mark 1:15], and believe in the gospel [John 3:16-18]. We are then given new life in Christ, forgiven, justified, adopted into God's family, and we persevere in the faith. [1 John 1:9; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Matthew 24:13; Ephesians 4:1]

calendar

- See the Events Page on our website or app for more info!
- Monday Night Care Group - every Monday 7pm at church
- Men's Bible Study - 7am Wednesdays - Zoom
- Christmas Eve Service - 5:00pm
- January prayer meeting - Sunday, January 3, 2021 6pm
- MidWeek Study - Wednesdays @ 6:30pm - resumes January 20th
- Annual Member Meeting - Sunday, January 24, 2021
- Next Steps membership class - Sunday, February 14, 2021

finances

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| General Offering - Nov '20 | \$22,326.41 |
| Designated Gifts - Nov '20 | \$350.50 |
| YTD General Offering thru Nov '20 | \$243,013.39 |
| 2020 Budget | \$322,562.00 |

Thank you so much for your generous gifts to the ministry of the church at Highlands. During this unprecedented time you can still continue to give online at www.HighlandsBibleChurch.org/Resources/Give

Or you can mail a check to Highlands Bible Church, 307 Route 94, Vernon, NJ 07462.

Questions? info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org

worship guide

December 13, 2020

Our sermon passage today is from Matthew 1:18-25. As you prepare your heart for worship in song, in His Word, and in the fellowship of the saints, please consider:

COMPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURE

“And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

(Luke 1:30-33 ESV)

CONSIDER - DISCUSS - PRAY

- Think about the pressure of trials and crisis moments - how do you usually react? Panic? Withdraw? Eventual trusting in God?
- Consider the virgin conception of Jesus - is this a miracle? Do most people believe this? Why is this necessary to the gospel?
- Review the Scriptures from #1 in the sermon outline - which resonates with you the most and why?
- How does John 1:11-13 tell us we become children of God? How is the new spiritual birth [v13] like the birth of Jesus?
- Where do you need to recognize God as Immanuel in your life today?
- NEXT WEEK’S PASSAGE: Matthew 2:1-12

SING

Joy to the World | Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery | He Who is
Mighty | God With Us | Holy is Our God

sermon notes

December 13, 2020

MATTHEW 1:18-25

The Birth of Jesus the Christ

1. A Pregnant Virgin? [1:18; Luke 1:30-38; Hebrews 2:17; Philippians 2:7; Romans 5:12]

The miraculous virgin conception is a non-negotiable

gospel truth:

- **Jesus has to be human.**
- **Jesus has to be sinless.**
- **Jesus has to be God.**

2. Relationship Problems [1:19-21; John 1:11-13]

Jesus came to save His people from sin.

3. Prophecy Fulfilled [1:22-25; Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 53:6]

God is still with us.

Big Idea: Jesus fulfills God’s promise of a Savior.

VERSE 1

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,**

**And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

VERSE 2

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields, and floods, rocks, hills, and plains**

**Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

VERSE 3

**Not more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow**

**Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.**

VERSE 4

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,**

**And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.**

VERSE 1

**Come behold the wondrous mystery
In the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises
Robed in frail humanity**

**In our longing, in our darkness
Now the light of life has come
Look to Christ, who condescended
Took on flesh to ransom us**

VERSE 2

**Come behold the wondrous mystery
He the perfect Son of Man
In His living, in His suffering
Never trace nor stain of sin**

**See the true and better Adam
Come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment
Of the law; in Him we stand**

VERSE 3

**Come behold the wondrous mystery
Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners
Hangs the Lamb in victory**

**See the price of our redemption
See the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory
Grace unmeasured, love untold**

VERSE 4

**Come behold the wondrous mystery
Slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him
Praise the Lord; He is alive!**

**What a foretaste of deliverance
How unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected
As we will be when he comes**

**What a foretaste of deliverance
How unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected
As we will be when he comes**

Verse 1

**Oh the mercy our God has shown
To those who sit in death's shadow
The sun on high pierced the night
Born was the Cornerstone**

Pre-chorus

**Unto us a Son is given
Unto us a Child is born**

Chorus 1

**He Who is mighty
has done a great thing
Taken on flesh
conquered death's sting
Shattered the darkness
and lifted our shame
Holy is His name**

Verse 2

**Oh the freedom our Savior won
The yoke of sin has been broken
Once a slave now by grace
No more condemnation**

Pre-chorus

**Unto us a Son is given
Unto us a Child is born**

Chorus 1

**He Who is mighty
has done a great thing
Taken on flesh
conquered death's sting**

**Shattered the darkness
and lifted our shame
Holy is His name
Holy is His name**

Bridge

**Now my soul magnifies the Lord
I rejoice in the God Who saves
I will trust His unfailing love
I will sing His praises all my days**

**Now my soul magnifies the Lord
I rejoice in the God Who saves
I will trust His unfailing love
I will sing His praises all my days**

Chorus 1

**He Who is mighty
has done a great thing
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Holy is His name
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Chorus 1

**He Who is mighty
has done a great thing
Taken on flesh
conquered death's sting**

**Shattered the darkness
and lifted our shame
Holy is His name
Holy is His name
Holy is His name**

Verse 1

**You've come to bring peace,
To be love, to be nearer to us**

**You've come to bring life
To be light, to shine brighter in us
Oh Emmanuel, God with us**

Verse 1

**You've come to bring peace,
To be love, to be nearer to us**

**You've come to bring life
To be light, to shine brighter in us
Oh Emmanuel, God with us**

Chorus

**Our Deliverer, You are Savior
In Your presence we find our strength**

**Over everything, our redemption
God with us
You are God with us**

Verse 2

**You've come to be hope
To this world
For Your honor and name**

**You've come to take sin,
To bear shame,
And to conquer the grave
Oh Emmanuel, God with us**

Chorus

**Our Deliverer, You are Savior
In Your presence we find our strength**

Over everything, our redemption

God with us

You are God with us

Our Deliverer, You are Savior

In Your presence we find our strength

Over everything, our redemption

God with us

You are God with us

Our Deliverer, You are Savior

In Your presence we find our strength

Over everything, our redemption

God with us

You are God with us

Verse 1

**The death for which all sin demands
The sinless died for guilty man
And though we give our hearts to less
He is our righteousness**

Verse 2

**The Christ who took the sinner's place
Sings the symphony of grace
While Satan's lies of guilt abound
The Savior's love resounds**

Chorus

**Holy, Holy, Holy is our God
Worthy, worthy is Christ the Lamb
All my heart, all my soul
All my life is Yours alone
Holy is our God**

Verse 3

**From heaven's throne above I hear
The voice that silences all fear
It's a declaration of a King
Says "You are mine and you are free"
Yes, we are Yours and we are free!**

Chorus

**Holy, Holy, Holy is our God
Worthy, worthy is Christ the Lamb
All my heart, all my soul
All my life is Yours alone
Holy is our God**

Verse 4

**He will return just as He said
The day the graves give up their dead
And I will bow face to the ground
And sing the sweetest sound**

Chorus 2

**Holy, Holy, Holy is our God
Worthy, worthy is Christ the Lamb
Holy, Holy, Holy is our God
Worthy, worthy is Christ the Lamb**

**Holy, Holy, Holy is our God
Worthy, worthy is Christ the Lamb
All my heart, all my soul
All my life is Yours alone**

**All my heart, all my soul
All my life is Yours alone
Holy is our God**