

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
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

January 10, 2021

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 - resumes Jan 6th
- **January prayer meeting - TONIGHT - 6pm [rescheduled]**
- 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 - Dec '20	\$29,598.85
Designated Gifts - Dec '20	\$1,690.50
YTD General Offering thru Dec '20	\$272,612
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

January 10, 2021

Our sermon passage today is from Matthew 3:13-17. As you prepare your heart for worship in song, in His Word, and in the fellowship of the saints, please consider:

COMPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURE

“...you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.”

(Acts 10:37-38 ESV)

CONSIDER - DISCUSS - PRAY

- When you think of “righteousness” what comes to mind? Compare the “church” definition and a more “secular” definition. What are the differences?
- Review 2 Cor 5:21, 1 Peter 3:18, and Romans 8:3-4 one at a time. What things resonate with you? Which words are sweetest and why?
- Consider the work of the Holy Spirit. What other passages can you think of that describe his work? [Ex. John 3:6-7; Gal 5:18, 25...]
- How have you listened to the Spirit’s leading this week? Where do you need to grow in doing that?
- How can we speak hard truths such as “Jesus is the only way to the Father” in gentle and yet compelling ways? Can anyone share an experience where you did this?
- NEXT WEEK’S PASSAGE: Matthew 4:1-11

SING

Because He Lives [Amen] | Grace Unmeasured | Prepared a Place for Me | Yet Not I, But Christ Through Me | O Great God

sermon notes

January 10, 2021

MATTHEW 3:13-17

The Baptism of Jesus

1. Let It Be So. [3:13-15; John 1:29; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 3:18; Romans 8:3-4]

God the Son fulfilled our righteousness by becoming sin for us.

2. Heavens Opening. [3:16; John 14:25-26]

God the Spirit empowers Christian ministry.

3. The Highest Endorsement [3:17; John 14:6]

God the Father declares Jesus is way to salvation.

Verse 1

**I believe in the Son
I believe in the Risen One.
I believe I overcome
By the power of His blood.**

Chorus

**Amen, amen,
I'm alive I'm alive
Because He lives.
Amen, amen,
Let my song
join the one that never ends
Because He lives.**

Verse 2

**I was dead in the grave,
I was covered in sin and shame.
I heard mercy call my name
He rolled the stone away!**

Chorus

Bridge

**Because He lives
I can face tomorrow.
Because He lives
Ev'ry fear is gone.
I know He holds my life
My future in His hand.**

Chorus

Verse 1

**Grace unmeasured vast and free
That knew me from eternity
That called me out before my birth
To bring You glory on this earth**

**Grace amazing pure and deep
That saw me in my misery
That took my curse and owned my blame
So I could bear Your righteous name**

Chorus 1

**Grace paid for my sins
And brought me to life
Grace clothes me with power
To do what is right**

**Grace will lead me to heaven
Where I'll see Your face
And never cease
To thank You for Your grace**

Verse 2

**Grace abounding strong and true
That makes me long to be like You
That turns me from my selfish pride
To love the cross on which You died**

**Grace unending all my days
You'll give me strength to run this race
And when my years on earth are through
The praise will all belong to You**

Chorus 1

Verse 1

**Mystery of mysteries
That God would make for me
A place within His family
Though once His enemy**

**The Judge of every sinner
Sent Christ to Calvary
To prepare a place for me**

Chorus 1

**Blessed be blessed be
My God and Savior
You've shown me favor
You prepared a place for me**

Verse 2

**Judgment should be given
For this guilt upon my head
But the Father of all glory
Crushed His Son instead**

**Now I've been adopted
For God made this to be
You prepared a place for me**

Chorus 1

**Blessed be blessed be
My God and Savior
You've shown me favor
You prepared a place for me**

Verse 3

**Father in the moment
When Your Son
Shall split the skies
And myriads of angels**

**Acclaim Him with their cries
By grace I will be able
To join the jubilee
You prepared a place for me**

Chorus 1

**Blessed be blessed be
My God and Savior
You've shown me favor
You prepared a place for me**

Chorus 1

**Blessed be blessed be
My God and Savior
You've shown me favor
You prepared a place for me**

Verse 1

**What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom
My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace**

**To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine
Yet not I but through Christ in me**

Verse 2

**The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side the Saviour he will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need his power is displayed**

**To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley he will lead
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome
Yet not I but through Christ in me**

Verse 3

**No fate I dread I know I am forgiven
The future sure the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And he was raised to overthrow the grave**

**To this I hold my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free
Yet not I but through Christ in me**

Verse 4

**With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For he has said that he will bring me home
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne**

**To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to him
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me**

Ending

**When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me**

Verse 1

**O great God of highest heav'n
Occupy my lowly heart
Own it all and reign supreme
Conquer ev'ry rebel pow'r**

**Let no vice or sin remain
That resists Your holy war
You have loved and purchased me
Make me Yours forever more**

Verse 2

**I was blinded by my sin
Had no ears to hear Your voice
Did not know Your love within
Had no taste for heaven's joys**

**Then Your Spirit gave me life
Opened up Your word to me
Through the gospel of Your Son
Gave me endless hope and peace**

Verse 3

**Help me now to live a life
That's dependent on Your grace
Keep my heart and guard my soul
From the evils that I face**

**You are worthy to be praised
With my ev'ry thought and deed
O great God of highest heav'n
Glorify Your Name through me**

**You are worthy to be praised
With my ev'ry thought and deed
O great God of highest heav'n
Glorify Your Name through me**