

leadership

ELDERS

Pastor Mike Ruel
Bob Fieldhouse [Secretary]

John Lisa [Chairman]
Len Baxter [Treasurer]

DEACONS AND STAFF

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

David 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
3rd Friday Monthly
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

March 14, 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
- NO MIDWEEK STUDY THIS WEEK!
- Men's Bible Study - 7am Wednesdays - Zoom
- Member Meeting - Sunday, March 21st 6pm
- Ladies Bible Study starts March 23rd! Talk to Melanie Ruel or Doreen Baxter today!
- Good Friday Service - April 2nd at 6:30pm
- Easter Sunday Services - April 4th at 9:30am and 11am - Please register!
- Next Steps Membership Class - Sunday, April 11th 6pm

finances

General Offering - Feb 2021	\$19,525.32
Designated Gifts - Feb 2021	\$892.14
YTD General Offering thru Feb 2021	\$42,224.00
2021 Budget	\$314,511.00

Thank you so much for your generous gifts to the ministry of the church at Highlands. Additionally, you can give anytime 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

March 14, 2021

Our sermon passage today is from Matthew 5:33-37. As you prepare your heart for worship in song, in His Word, and in the fellowship of the saints, please consider:

COMPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURE

“For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.”

(Hebrews 6:16-18 ESV)

CONSIDER - DISCUSS - PRAY

- Have you ever taken an oath? For what? What did it mean to you?
- Why do people in our culture still look down upon those that don't keep their word?
- Why is it critical for Christians to be people of integrity?
- Looks at Hebrews 5:13-20. What additional encouragements can we glean from this passage?
- What are some promises that you need to keep that you haven't as of yet?
- NEXT WEEK'S PASSAGE: Matthew 5:38-41.

SING

O Great God | And Can It Be |
Hallelujah! What a Savior! | Before the Throne of God Above |
Yet Not I But Christ Through Me

sermon notes

March 14, 2021

MATTHEW 5:33-37

Law Exposition #4: Oaths

1. Don't Make Empty Promises [5:33; Leviticus 19:11-12; Exodus 20:7]

Promises have to be kept.

2. It's About the Truth. [5:33-36; Hebrews 6:13-18; Matthew 26:62-64; Jeremiah 17:10]

Don't pretend to have integrity.

3. Just Do What You Say. [5:37; James 5:12]

Big Idea: Christians keep their promises with others because Christ keeps his promise with us.

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**

O Great God

**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**

VERSE 1

**And can it be that I should gain
An int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God shouldst die for me?
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God shouldst die for me?**

VERSE 2

**He left His Father's throne above,
So free, so infinite His grace!
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race!
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For, O my God, it found out me.
Amazing love, how can it be,
That Thou my God shouldst die for me?**

VERSE 3

**Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night.
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray:
I woke—the dungeon flamed with light!
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God shouldst die for me?**

VERSE 4

**No condemnation now I dread:
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown,
through Christ my own.**

VERSE 1

**“Man of sorrows,” what a name
For the Son of God who came
Ruined sinners to reclaim!
Hallelujah! what a Savior!**

VERSE 2

**Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
In my place condemned He stood,
Sealed my pardon with His blood;
Hallelujah! what a Savior!**

Chorus

**Hallelujah!
Praise to the One whose
blood has pardoned me.
Oh what a Savior,
Redeemer and King,
Your love has rescued me**

VERSE 3

**Guilty vile and helpless we;
Spotless Lamb of God was He;
“Full atonement!” can it be?
Hallelujah! what a Savior!**

VERSE 4

**Lifted up was He to die,
“It is finished,” was His cry;
Now in heav’n exalted high,
Hallelujah! what a Savior!**

VERSE 5

**When He comes, our glorious King,
All His ransomed home to bring,
Then a new this song we’ll sing,
Hallelujah! what a Savior!**

Verse 1

**Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me**

**My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart**

Verse 2

**When Satan tempts me to despair,
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there,
Who made an end of all my sin**

**Because the sinless Savior died,
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me,
To look on Him and pardon me**

Verse 3

**Behold Him there the risen Lamb,
My perfect spotless righteousness
The great unchangeable I Am,
The king of glory and of grace**

**One with Himself I cannot die,
My soul is purchased by his blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God,
With Christ my Savior and My God**

**One with Himself I cannot die,
My soul is purchased by his blood
My life is hid with Christ on high**

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**