

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

Highlands

Ken Menzel
Mondays • 7pm

Pastor Mike
2nd and 4th Sundays • 4pm
info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org

Vernon/565

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

Branchville/Newton

Paul Fehrenbacher
3rd Friday Monthly
973-948-5909



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

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

October 31, 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]

kingdom kids

We love kids at Highlands!

Kids will be dismissed to downstairs before the sermon. Please see one of our security team at the check-in desk for more info.

Current Classes: Explorers (0-2)
Discoverers (2-3) and Adventurers (4-Grade 2)

coming up

- **See the Events Page on our website or app for more info!**
- Monday Night Care Group - tomorrow, 7pm upstairs
- Wednesdays: Men's Bible Study - 7am Wednesdays - Sussex Diner
- Ladies Bible Study - Tuesdays, 7pm upstairs
- Sunday Care Group - 2nd and 4th Sundays at 4pm Upstairs
- MidWeek Study - Bible Overview - this Wed at 6:30pm!
- Monthly Prayer Service - Sunday, November 7th - 6pm
- Adirondack Men's Retreat - November 12-13th - see link in Highlands Happenings email newsletter to sign up!
- Member Meeting - Sunday, November 21st at 5pm - DINNER!
- Thanksgiving Eve Service - Wednesday, November 24th at 6:30pm
- Elder Meetings - 2nd Tuesday Monthly - prayers appreciated!

finances

General Offering - Sep 2021	\$ 24,125.94
Designated Gifts - Sep 2021	\$ 410.20
YTD General Offering thru Sep 2021	\$ 205,580.74
2021 Budget	\$ 314,511.00

Thank you so much for your generous gifts to the ministry of the church at Highlands, our giving box is in the back at the welcome table. 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 or see Chris Deming.

worship guide

October 31, 2021

Welcome to worship! Our sermon passage today is from Matthew 13:44-58. As you prepare your heart for worship in song, in His Word, and in the fellowship of the saints, please consider:

COMPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURE

“But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ”

(Philippians 3:7–8 ESV)

CONSIDER - DISCUSS - PRAY

- What does our culture consider valuable? Making it more personal what do YOU consider valuable? Has that changed? Why?
- How can you practically value the Kingdom of God more?
- Look at the verse above, what was Paul giving up to follow Christ? Did he think it was worth it?
- How often do you think of eternity - heaven or hell? How should the reality of both impact your day-to-day?
- Where are you needing God to act and yet not trusting Him to do so in the way he decides is best?
- NEXT WEEK’S PASSAGE: Matthew 14:1-21

SING

Holy, Holy, Holy | Before the Throne of God Above |
O Fount of Love | Christ is Mine Forevermore | O Praise the Name

sermon notes

October 31, 2021

MATTHEW 13:44-58

A Kingdom of Value?

1. Treasures and Pearls [13:44-46; John 1:12; Philippians 3:8]

The Kingdom is worth far more than the cost of discipleship.

2. Nets and a Fiery Furnace. [13:47-52; 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10]

The Kingdom is for those who understand that eternity is at stake.

3. No hometown hero. [13:53-58; 11:6; Mark 6:1-6]

God limits his activity in the face of unbelief.

Big Idea: The kingdom is for those who value it.