

# 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](mailto:info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org)

### Vernon/565

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

### Branchville/Newton

Paul Fehrenbacher  
Twice monthly - call for dates  
973-948-5909



307 NJ-94, Vernon, NJ 07462  
(973) 764-7506  
[Highlandsbiblechurch.org](http://Highlandsbiblechurch.org)  
[Info@highlandsbiblechurch.org](mailto:Info@highlandsbiblechurch.org)

**For Prayer Needs - Send Email To:**  
[PrayerChain@HighlandsBibleChurch.org](mailto:PrayerChain@HighlandsBibleChurch.org)

January 23, 2022

# 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!**
- **Annual Member Meeting - TONIGHT, 5pm!**
- Monday Night Care Group - 7pm in sanctuary
- Ladies Bible Study - Tuesdays at 9am in sanctuary - see Pam Fehrenbacher for more info.
- Men's Bible Study - 7am Wednesdays - Sussex Diner
- MidWeek Study - 7pm Wednesdays - Upstairs Loffice
- Sunday Afternoon Care Group - Next Meeting, February 13th
- Men's Breakfast - Saturday, February 12th, 8am @ Leuzarder's
- Next Steps Class - Sunday, February 20th, 5pm

## finances



General Offering - Dec 2021	\$ 33,041.62
Nehemiah Fund	\$ 384,481.43
Designated Gifts - Dec 2021	\$ 290.70
YTD General Offering thru Dec 2021	\$ 285,206.85
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](http://www.HighlandsBibleChurch.org/Resources/Give)*

*Have you considered giving to the Nehemiah Fund for the next chapter of Highlands? Please select the "Nehemiah Fund" option at online giving or write "Nehemiah Fund" in the check memo line. Questions? [info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org](mailto:info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org) or see Chris Deming.*

# worship guide

**January 23, 2022**

Welcome to worship! Our sermon passage today is from Matthew 16:13-20. As you prepare your heart for worship in song, in His Word, and in the fellowship of the saints, please consider:

## COMPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURE

“Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest.”

Revelation 1:12–13 ESV

## CONSIDER - DISCUSS - PRAY

- What words come to mind when you think of Jesus? How would you describe who he is to you?
- What ways does God use to reveal his truth to people?
- How does v18 give us encouragement in 2022 America?
- Read Ephesians 2:19-20. What further details do we learn about the local church?
- Are there any other passages on the church that come to mind? [Maybe like Ephesians 3:10; 5:23; 1 Timothy 3:1-7]
- What can happen when Jesus is not the center of the church?
- NEXT WEEK’S PASSAGE: Matthew 16:21-28

## SING

Hallelujah! What a Savior | O Great God |  
Yet Not I But Christ Through Me | Jesus, Thank You |

# sermon notes

**January 23, 2022**

## MATTHEW 16:13-20

*Who Do You Say that I Am?*

1. Going Deep in Caesarea Philipi [16:13-17; 1 Corinthians 2:12-13]

**God reveals the truth about himself to his people.**

2. Which Rock? [16:18]

**The church will advance by the proclamation of the gospel.**

3. Binding and Loosing [16:19-20]

**Access to the church is granted or denied based on the belief of the gospel.**

**Big Idea: Jesus must be the center of his church.**