

leadership

ELDERS

Pastor Mike Ruel
Bob Fieldhouse [Secretary]
Piero DiClemente

Len Baxter [Chairman]
Paul Fehrenbacher [Treasurer]

DEACONS AND STAFF

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

David Baxter
Kerry Westpy
Tom Worts
Laurie Rivera
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
Twice monthly - call for dates
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

March 20, 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!**
- **Member Meeting - TONIGHT - 5pm, bring a dish to share**
- Monday Night Care Group - 7pm in sanctuary
- Ladies Bible Study - Tuesdays at 9am in sanctuary
- Men's Bible Study - 7am Wednesdays - Sussex Diner
- MidWeek Study - 7pm Wednesdays - Upstairs in Loffice
- Spring Ladies Bible Study - starts this Tuesday!
- Compassion Sunday - April 3rd during AM service
- Youth Group - Sunday, April 3rd, 4:30pm downstairs
- Family Care Group - Sunday April 3rd, after service

finances



General Offering - Feb 2022	\$ 22,495.58
Nehemiah Fund	\$ 386,718.17
Designated Gifts - Feb 2022	\$ 1,435.25
YTD General Offering thru Feb 2022	\$ 47,122.19
2022 Budget	\$ 335,511.00

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

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 or see Chris Deming.

worship guide

March 20, 2022

Welcome to worship! Our sermon passage today is from Matthew 19:1-12. As you prepare your heart for worship in song, in His Word, and in the fellowship of the saints, please consider:

COMPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURE

““It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.” — Matthew 5:31–32 ESV

CONSIDER - DISCUSS - PRAY

- What is the prevailing cultural perspective on marriage? Is it valued and honored? What about divorce? Is it rare?
- Review first section - in what other passages can we see the biblical perspective on gender and marriage?
- How does Matthew 18:15-35 relate to marriage conflict and reconciliation? How is the gospel key to reconciliation?
- If you are married, in what specific ways can you show our world how you cherish and honor the marriage covenant?
- If you are single, how can God’s word help you balance the hope for a spouse and the potential of remaining single?
- If you are divorced, have you sought forgiveness (if necessary) and healing in the gospel of Jesus?
- NEXT WEEK’S PASSAGE: Matthew 19:13-30

SING

Come Thou Fount, Come Thou King | Only a Holy God | Behold the Lamb | How Deep the Father’s Love for Us | I Will Wait for You
(Psalm 130)

sermon notes

March 20, 2022

MATTHEW 19:1-12

Counter Cultural Jesus

1. Three Layered Truth Bomb [19:1-6; Genesis 1:27; 2:24; Malachi 2:15; Ephesians 5:22-33.]

God’s will is for the union of a man and a woman in marriage to last forever.

2. The Moses Loophole? [19:7-9; Deuteronomy 24:1-4; Matthew 5:31-32]

God’s will does not include divorce, except in very rare circumstances.

3. To Marry or Not? [19:10-12; Psalm 16:4]

God’s will could include singleness and that’s OK.

Big Idea: God defines gender, marriage, and sexuality - not culture.