

# LEADERSHIP

LOVING GOD AND LOVING PEOPLE

## ELDERS

Mike Ruel, **PASTOR**  
John Lisa, **SECRETARY**

Paul Fehrenbacher, **CHAIRMAN**  
Bob Fieldhouse, **TREASURER**  
Piero DiClemente

## DEACONS AND STAFF

Kerry Westpy, **FELLOWSHIP**  
Tom Worts, **BENEVOLENCE**  
Laurie Rivera, **CARING**  
Tina Nause, **OPERATIONS  
MANAGER**

Cyndi Hochstaedt, **KINGDOM KIDS**  
Ron Vreeland, **WORSHIP**  
Brad Wilson, **FINANCE**  
David Baxter, **BUILDING & GROUNDS**  
Ray Westpy, **TECHNOLOGY**

## CARE GROUPS

**WHERE:** Highlands Bible Church  
**WHEN:** Mondays at 7PM  
**HOSTED BY:** Ken Menzel

**WHERE:** Highlands Bible Church  
**WHEN:** 2nd & 4th Sundays at 4pm  
**HOSTED BY:** Pastor Mike Ruel

**WHERE:** Vernon/565  
**WHEN:** First Friday, Monthly  
**HOSTED BY:** The Baxters  
**CALL:** 201-230-7372

**WHERE:** Highlands Bible Church  
**WHEN:** Varies  
**HOSTED BY:** Brad & Taylor Wilson  
**CALL:** 973-600-0826 [Brad]  
Family Friendly Group!

## SOCIAL MEDIA

**FACEBOOK:** HighlandsBibleNJ

**INSTAGRAM:**

HighlandsBibleChurch

**TWITTER:** @HighlandsBible

**YOUTUBE:** Highlands Bible Church



For Prayer Needs, Please Email Us at  
[PrayerChain@HighlandsBibleChurch.org](mailto:PrayerChain@HighlandsBibleChurch.org)  
General e-mail: [info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org](mailto:info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org)  
[www.HighlandsBibleChurch.org](http://www.HighlandsBibleChurch.org) | 973-764-7506  
307 NJ-94, Vernon Township, NJ 07462



SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

# OUR PURPOSE

MAKING AND MATURING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

We are delighted that you joined us today! Our ministry vision is to love God with all that we are, and love others as much as we love ourselves.

# CONNECT WITH US!



Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. Please scan the QR code above to fill out a Connect Card and keep up to date on all our news and events.

# THE GOSPEL

THE CENTER OF EVERYTHING WE DO AT HIGHLANDS

**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]

**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]

**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]

**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-Kindergarten) and Navigators (1st-3rd grade). Infant nursery care is available for the full service, see Check-In Team!

# HIGHLANDS HAPPENINGS

EVENTS, CARE GROUPS, AND MORE



**TODAY: MEMBER MEETING & CHURCH PICNIC AFTER SERVICE!**

**MONDAY 7PM** - Youth Group

**MONDAY 7PM** - Care Group in Sanctuary

**TUESDAY LADIES BIBLE STUDY:** 9am at church childcare avail

**TUESDAY NIGHT LADIES BIBLE STUDY:** 7pm at church

**WED MORNING MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** - 7am @ Sussex Sit n Chat

**WED NIGHT MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** -7:30pm in Loffice

**MOM'S BIBLE STUDY** - 9:30am Friday at Kim Bennett's house

**PARENTING SEMINAR** - Sat, Oct 21st - Register online today!

**ELDER MEETINGS:** 2nd Tuesday Monthly - Prayers Appreciated!

# FINANCES

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIVING



<b>GENERAL OFFERING</b> , August 2023	\$21,360.26
<b>NEHEMIAH FUND</b> , To Date	\$382,368.54
<b>BENEVOLENCE</b> , To Date	\$20,998.91
<b>CEAF</b> , To Date	\$7,833.30
<b>YTD GENERAL OFFERING</b>	\$199,242.67
<b>2023 BUDGET</b>	\$350,670.00

Our giving box is in the back at the welcome table. You can also give anytime online at [www.HighlandsBibleChurch.org](http://www.HighlandsBibleChurch.org)

Questions? Email us at [info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org](mailto:info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org)!

# WORSHIP GUIDE

September 17, 2023

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP!** Today our sermon passage is **Romans 9:1-23**. As you prepare your heart for worship this morning, please consider reading and prayerfully reflecting on the following:



## SCRIPTURE READINGS

- Call to Worship: Psalm 29:1-4
- Old Testament Reading: Exodus 22:12-23
- Sermon Passage Reading: : Romans 9:1-23
- Benediction: Romans 15:5-7



## CONSIDER - DISCUSS - PRAY

- Look at the compassion of Paul in Romans 9:1-5. What in those verses resonates with you and why?
- What aspects of the doctrine of unconditional election are hard for us to accept? Why? What is encouraging about it?
- What are some of the dangers with a position of “conditional election?” Who does that put the emphasis on? What does that do to our view of God?
- How does your evangelism and prayer life need to change in light of the truth of this doctrine?
- Next Week’s Passage: Romans 9:29-33



## SING

Before the Throne of God Above | Grace Unmeasured | He Will Hold Me Fast | O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer | The Goodness of Jesus

# SERMON NOTES

Romans 9:1-23 | Unconditional Election

1. Abraham and Israel [9:1-13; Genesis 18:10; 21:12; 18:10, 14; 25:23; Malachi 1:2-5; Romans 8:29]

God chose some for salvation.

2. Moses and Pharaoh [9:14-23; Exodus 33:19; 9:16]

God chose some for judgment.

Big Idea: God’s glory is displayed by electing some to salvation and some to judgment.