

# leadership

## ELDERS

Pastor Mike Ruel  
Paul Fehrenbacher [Secretary]  
Jeff Lukawski

John Lisa [Chairman]  
Len Baxter [Treasurer]

## DEACONS AND STAFF

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

Len Baxter  
Kerry Westpy  
Jeff Lukawski  
Ray Westpy  
TJ Walsh [Interim]  
Alyssa Myhren, Ally Gunther  
Ron Vreeland  
Tina Nause

## CARE GROUPS - CONTACT LEADERS FOR NEW INFO

**Vernon  
Center/HBC**  
Pastor Mike Ruel  
Mondays • 7pm  
HBC Sanctuary

**Vernon/565**  
Len & Doreen Baxter  
201-230-7372  
First Friday monthly

**Branchville/Newton**  
Ray & Kerry Westpy  
1st and 3rd Fridays  
862-266-8699

**TwentySomethings**  
Chris & Alyssa Deming



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

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



# JOSHUA

Fighting to Believe God's Promise

**APRIL 5, 2020**

# 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 encourage you to worship as a family, however we provide nursery care [infants - 2.5 yrs] if desired. Kids will be dismissed downstairs before the sermon. Please see one of our security team at the check-in desk by the coffee table for more info.

Explorers	Newborn - 2.5 yrs
Discoverers	2.5 yrs - 3 yrs
Adventurers	Pre-K [4yrs] and Kindergarten
Navigators	Grades 1-5

We are always looking for help in Kingdom Kids. See Alyssa Myhren today to find out how you can help!

## weekly

- Need info? Trouble logging in? E-mail [info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org](mailto:info@HighlandsBibleChurch.org)
- See Highlands Happenings email newsletter for meeting links or email us!
- Sundays 9:30am - Livestream Worship Service - Facebook live
- Mondays 7:00pm - ZOOM Small Group
- Tuesdays 7:00pm - Tuesday Night Live with Pastor Mike - Question about Highlands? Questions about Christianity or the Bible? - Facebook live
- Wednesdays - ZOOM Bible Studies - Men 7:00am / Ladies 7:00pm
- Thursdays - Sunday Preview and Prayer with Pastor Mike - Instagram/FB
- Fridays - Women's Ministry Minute with Melanie Ruel - Instagram/FB

## finances

General Offering - March '20	\$21,292.37
Designated Gifts - March '20	\$971.25
YTD General Offering thru March '20	\$64,434.61
YTD Budget	\$322,562.00

**What is our hope in life and death?  
Christ alone, Christ alone.  
What is our only confidence?  
That our souls to him belong.  
Who holds our days within his hand?  
What comes, apart from his command?  
And what will keep us to the end?  
The love of Christ, in which we stand.**

**O sing hallelujah!  
Our hope springs eternal;  
O sing hallelujah!  
Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death.**

**What truth can calm the troubled soul?  
God is good, God is good.  
Where is his grace and goodness known?  
In our great Redeemer's blood.  
Who holds our faith when fears arise?  
Who stands above the stormy trial?  
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh  
Unto the shore, the rock of Christ?**

**Unto the grave, what shall we sing?  
"Christ, he lives; Christ, he lives!"  
And what reward will heaven bring?  
Everlasting life with him.  
There we will rise to meet the Lord,  
Then sin and death will be destroyed,  
And we will feast in endless joy,  
When Christ is ours forevermore.**

*Words and Music by Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Jordan Kauflin, Matt Merker, Matt Papa*

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When I fear my faith will fail  
Christ will hold me fast  
When the tempter would prevail  
He will hold me fast  
I could never keep my hold  
Through life's fearful path  
For my love is often cold  
He must hold me fast

**Chorus:**

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast  
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast

Those He saves are His delight  
Christ will hold me fast  
Precious in His holy sight  
He will hold me fast  
He'll not let my soul be lost  
His promises shall last  
Bought by Him at such a cost  
He will hold me fast

**CHORUS**

For my life He bled and died  
Christ will hold me fast  
Justice has been satisfied  
He will hold me fast  
Raised with Him to endless life  
He will hold me fast  
Till our faith is turned to sight  
When he comes at last

**CHORUS**

*ORIGINAL WORDS VV 1-2 BY ADA HABERSHON NEW WORDS AND MUSIC BY MATT MERKER  
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MUSICSERVICES.ORG)*

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
For I once was lost but now I'm found  
Was blind but now I see

Hallelujah  
Christ is risen from the grave  
Hallelujah  
Christ is risen from the grave

The prodigal is welcomed home  
The sinner now a saint  
For the God who died came back to life  
And everything is changed

Hallelujah  
Christ is risen from the grave  
Hallelujah  
Christ is risen from the grave

Oh death, where is Your sting?  
Oh fear, where is Your power?  
For the mighty King of kings has disarmed you  
Delivered and redeemed  
Eternal life resounds  
Oh praise His name forever

Hallelujah  
Christ is risen from the grave  
Hallelujah  
Christ is risen from the grave  
And all throughout eternity  
Our song will be the same  
Hallelujah  
Christ is risen from the grave

And on the day You call me in  
To Heaven's sweet embrace  
I'll see Your scars, Your open arms

**And the beauty of Your face  
Through tears of joy, I'll lift my voice  
In everlasting praise  
Hallelujah  
Christ is risen from the grave**

**Oh death, where is Your sting?  
Oh fear, where is Your power?  
For the mighty King of kings has disarmed you  
Delivered and redeemed  
Eternal life resounds  
Oh praise His name forever**

**Hallelujah  
Christ is risen from the grave  
Hallelujah  
Christ is risen from the grave  
And all throughout eternity  
Our song will be the same  
Hallelujah  
Christ is risen from the grave**

**Jesus is alive, ooh**

**And all throughout eternity  
Our song will be the same  
Hallelujah  
Christ is risen from the grave**

**And on the day You call me in  
To Heaven's sweet embrace  
I'll see Your scars, Your open arms  
And the beauty of Your face  
Through tears of joy, I'll lift my voice  
In everlasting praise  
Hallelujah  
Christ is risen from the grave**

# worship guide

April 4, 2020

Our passage today is from Joshua 9. As you prepare your heart for worship in song, in His Word, and in the fellowship of the saints, please consider:

## COMPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURE

“Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’ But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.” [Matthew 5:33-37 ESV]

## PRAY/CONSIDER/DISCUSS

- Think about the two main responses to God - fighting him or faith in Him. Did one formerly characterize you? Others you know? Has anything changed?
- In what ways do we tend to still rely on our own strength and wisdom when presented with decisions? Any recent examples?
- How does sin work most often in your life to deceive you?
- Why is integrity important for a Christian? How did Jesus teach it or model it?
- Consider the wrath of God - how can that lead one to salvation? How is that different than a motivation to obey God’s Word?
- How do we initially come to God in truth?
- What about after we are Christians? How can we live lives of truth before him?

## SING

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death | He Will Hold Me Fast |  
Christ is Risen

# sermon notes

April 4, 2020

## JOSHUA 9

*An Obedience-Fueled Victory*

### 1. Posers [9:1-15; Jeremiah 17:9]

Sin seeks to deceive.

### 2. What Was Lost [9:16-21; Matt 5:33-36; Psalm 15:4]

Integrity is costly, but always right.

### 3. What Was THAT About? [9:22-27]

Fear of wrath can lead to salvation.

**Big Idea: God offers true salvation for those who truly come to Him.**