

Start the Year Off in Common Life

A new group forming for 2011, gathered
around the book *Common Prayer*

Beginning Wednesday, January 5

We exist to bless the Highland neighborhood with the love of Jesus
through community partnerships

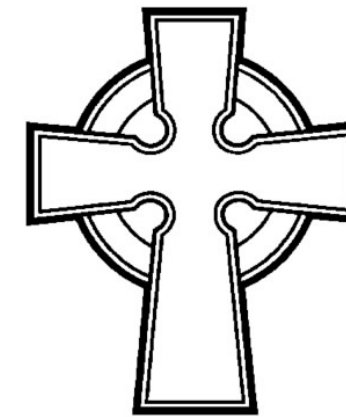
Common Life Prayer Group--Interested in getting to know each other on a deeper level? Interested in ordering your day and our church around prayers said with Christians throughout history and currently around the world? Plan to come this Wednesday at 5:30 PM to learn more about a new contemplative group forming in 2011 around the new book, *Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals*. Each group member will receive a *Common Prayer* book, with a reading for each day as well as prayers for morning, midday and evening. Books are \$10.

Get a Text—To get text messages from the church, text “4highlands” to 25827

Missional Ministry Teams—everyone has the opportunity to make a difference in our neighborhood by serving on a team. To see the full list and to learn how to get connected, pick up a Team Sheet in the Chapel foyer.

www.churchforthehighlands.org

Rev. John Henson, Pastor
Dr. Dan Gibbs, Minister of Music
318-759-0692



Worship

Second Sunday after Christmas

Sunday, January 2, 2010

*Congregation Standing (if you are able)

Prelude
Welcome
Call to Worship
Hymn No. 16 "God Himself is With Us"
Scripture Reading: Psalm 147:12-20
Hymn No. 50 "Blessed Be the Name"
Children's Message
Faith Stories (share what God is doing in your life right now)
Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14
Jesus' Name Medley
 "How Majestic Is Your Name"
 "Praise the Name of Jesus"
 "We Will Glorify"
 "Majesty"
Prayers of the People
Offertory
Doxology: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Old 100th
Message: "Getting Lit Up for New Years"
Prayer of Silence
Communion
Hymn of Response: "Take the Name of Jesus with You"
Opportunities for Service
Benediction
Postlude

*We cannot hold a torch to
light another's path
without brightening our
own.*

Ben Sweetland

*We can easily forgive a
child who is afraid of the
dark; the real tragedy of
life is when men are afraid
of the light.*

Plato

*Darkness cannot drive out
darkness; only light can do
that. Hate cannot drive
out hate; only love can do
that.*

Martin Luther King, Jr.

*When you possess light
within, you see it
externally.*

Anais Nin

Jeremiah 31:7-14

For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.