

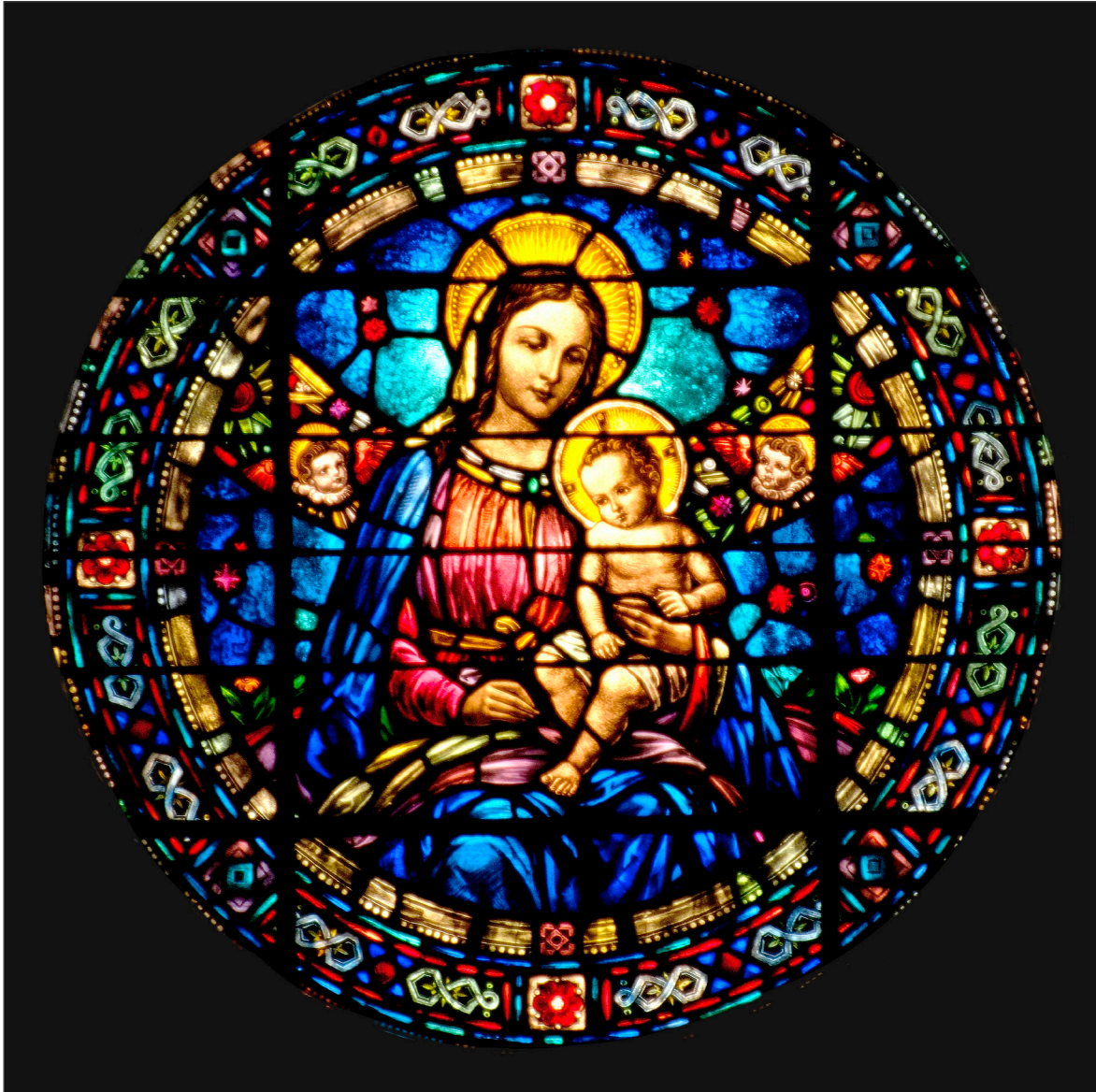


HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 15, 2019

10:30 A.M. SERVICE



Advent is the liturgical season of preparation that begins four Sundays prior to Christmas. It is a season of hope and longing, joyful expectation, and peaceful preparation. During Advent, the paraments – the cloths adorning the altar, lectern, and pulpit, as well as the stoles worn by the clergy – are purple, the royal color of the coming King. The evergreen Advent wreath symbolizes everlasting life amidst a dark, cold winter. Each Sunday, a new candle is lit in anticipation of the birth of the Christ child.



This Advent season, the following are given to the glory of God:

Sanctuary Chrismon Tree: Coke and Kelly Williams

Front Lawn Christmas Tree: The Worship Committee

Sanctuary Advent Wreath: The Hydinger and Arnold families in honor of Jody Stewart and Frank Hix; Joy McPherson & Mark Chambers

Chapel Advent Wreath: Lindsay Dawson & Mary Elizabeth Neal in memory of Paulette Curry

Balcony Wreaths: The Worship Committee; Brian Bellenger in memory of Robert L. Bellenger and in honor of Rick Phillips and The Highlands Choir.

Wreaths in the Chapel: Celia & Jeff Davenport; Carolyn & Jim Delk; Dinah & Joe Hughes; Betsy Mackin; Reina & John McFarlin

Wreaths in the Sanctuary: Anne & Ned Rand in memory of Edward Lewis Rand, Sr. and Christopher Stewart Rand

Wreaths on Exterior Doors: Sara & Phil Amthor; Kathy Burdette; Gayle & Mike Byrne in honor of the marriage of Jody Stewart and Frank Hix; Beth Douthit; Joy McPherson & Mark Chambers; The Hydinger and Arnold families in memory of Jean & Arnold Drennen; Leisha Harris & Vance Holder in memory of Wendell Harris and in memory of Harrel and Jackie Holder; Lynn & Dick L'Eplattenier in memory of Abigail; Scott, Anne Mitchell, and Lillie Corinne Welch in memory of Billie Manning and in memory of Gail Parmley

Poinsettias: Stan Hart in honor of his parents, L.S. and Fay Hart; Kirk & Tate Forrester; Cinda York; Cynthia Brennan in honor of Frances Owens; Tyra Johnson Pirtle in memory of Thomas Neal Johnson; Glenn Mask in memory of Bradford and Margaret Kidd

Garland over High Altar: The laity of Highlands in honor of Reggie Holder's 30th Christmas serving Highlands United Methodist Church

Throughout the season of Advent, the Sanctuary and church building will be adorned with garlands, wreaths, poinsettias, and altar flowers. More is added each week, so that as we approach Christmas, we will experience increasing beauty in our worship spaces. We wish to offer special thanks to Glenn Mask for his gifts and talents during the season to bring this beauty to life.

If you have not yet paid for Advent greenery, you may do so by leaving a check in the offering plate today during worship. Please include "Advent greenery" in the memo line.

ORDER FOR MORNING WORSHIP

PREACHING – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON

LITURGISTS – THE REVEREND DEB WELSH & THE REVEREND HENRY GIBSON

CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST – RICHARD PHILLIPS

CHILDREN'S MOMENT – REGGIE HOLDER

*Congregation please stand.

Words in bold are spoken or sung by the congregation.

Serving as Altar Guild: Lynn L'Eplattenier • *Serving as Ushers:* Dave Davis, Porter Fell

Serving as Acolytes: Emmalynne Hudson, Gradie Lowery, Cade Smith

Serving as Verger: Brian Bellenger • *Serving as Lay Reader:* Kathleen Lalor

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God in honor of Nancy and Eric Barkemeyer by Nancy and Dan Hill.

PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS

Savannah Busby, Chimer

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Sinfonia
from MESSIAH
The Orchestra

George Frederick Handel (1685-1759)

*HYMN IN PROCESSION 250

Once in Royal David's City
Congregation, Choir, and Orchestra

IRBY
Descant Setting: Sir David Willcocks

*THE INVITATORY & GLORIA PATRI 70

MEINEKE

O Lord, open our lips. And we shall declare your praise.

We praise you, Lord. Your holy name be praised.

*THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. And also with you.

*VENITE

Psalm 95: Come, Sing With Joy to God

DARWALL'S 148TH



Come, sing with joy to God, our Rock and Sa - vior praise; come
The heights and depths of earth are cra - dled in God's hand; the



en - ter in with shouts of joy, your voic - es raise. O might - y
same al - might - y power made moun - tains, sea, and land. Come wor - ship



God, You are the Lord, the God of gods by all a - dored.
God, come kneel and bow be - fore the Lord our Mak - er now.

GREETING AND PARISH NOTICES

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray: O God, who from the family of your servant David raised up Joseph to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and the spouse of Mary his mother: Give us grace to imitate his uprightness of life and his obedience to your commands; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

PSALM 80:7-15 (Sung by The Choir)

Anglican Chant: Ivor Algernon Atkins (1869-1953)

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

⁸ You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.

⁹ You prepared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.

¹⁰ The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

¹¹ You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea and its branches to the River.

¹² Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

¹³ The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

¹⁴ Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted.

¹⁵ They burn it with fire like rubbish; at the rebuke of your countenance let them perish.

THE LESSON

Isaiah 7:10-16

May these words reveal Christ to us. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

What Sweeter Music

The Choir and Orchestra

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing the birth of this our heavenly King?

Awake the voice! Awake the string!

Dark and dull night fly hence away, and give the honor to this day that sees December turned to May.

Why does the chilling winter's morn smile like a field beset with corn?

Or smell like a meadow newly shorn? Thus on the sudden? Come and see the cause why things thus fragrant be:

Tis he is born, whose quickening birth gives life and lustre, public mirth, to heaven and the under-earth.

We see him come, and know him ours, who, with his sunshine and his showers, turns all the patient ground to flowers.

The darling of the world is come, and fit it is, we find a room to welcome him, to welcome him.

The nobler part of all the house here, is the heart,

Which we will give him; and bequeath this holly, and this ivy wreath,

To do him honor; who's our King, and Lord of all this revelling.

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing the birth of this our heavenly King?

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Text, Abridged from Robert Herrick: A Christmas Carol

CHORAL RESPONSE

Of the Father's Love Begotten

The Choir

*Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he;
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore. Amen.*

13th Century Plainsong, Mode V

Text, Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (b. 348)

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Reggie Holder

Children of all ages are invited to participate. Following the Children's Moment, children age 4 to 3rd grade will be dismissed to Children's Church in the Fellowship Hall; older children will return to sit with their families. If this is your child's first time attending Children's Choir and Children's Church at Highlands, a parent is asked to accompany their child to meet staff and provide contact information.

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Shepherd's Pipe Carol

The Choir and Orchestra

*Going through the hills on a night all starry on the way to Bethlehem,
Far away I heard a shepherd boy piping on the way to Bethlehem.*

*REFRAIN: Angels in the sky brought this message nigh.
Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King is come to bring us peace on earth,
And he's lying cradled there at Bethlehem.*

*Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily on the way to Bethlehem,
Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely on the way to Bethlehem? REFRAIN*

*None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely on the way to Bethlehem;
But a King will hear me play sweet lullabies when I get to Bethlehem.
Angels in the sky came down from on high, hovered over the manger
Where the babe was lying cradled in the arms of his mother Mary, sleeping now at Bethlehem.*

*Where is this new King, shepherd boy piping merrily? Is he there at Bethlehem?
I will find him soon by the star shining brightly in the sky over Bethlehem. REFRAIN*

*May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily, come with you to Bethlehem?
Pay my homage too at the new King's cradle, is it far to Bethlehem? REFRAIN*

John Rutter

Text, John Rutter

*DOXOLOGY WITH ALLELUIAS 94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*SEQUENCE HYMN 240

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Congregation, Choir, and Orchestra

MENDELSSOHN

Descant Setting: Sir David Willcocks

***GOSPEL LESSON**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Lesson

Matthew 1:18-25

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***HYMN 234**

O Come, All Ye Faithful
Congregation, Choir, and Orchestra

ADESTE FIDELES
Descant Setting: Sir David Willcocks

***BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH**

***VOLUNTARY**

Movement III
from Concerto in A Minor

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

***PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS**

The Choir for Highlands United Methodist Church

| <u>Soprano</u> | <u>Alto</u> | <u>Tenor</u> | <u>Bass</u> |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Naomi Archer | Kathy Burdette | Eric Barkemeyer | Brian Bellenger |
| Ellen Buckner | Jeannine Carmichael | David Busby | Larry Brasher |
| Savannah Busby | Sumter Coleman | Reese Bush | Logan Cobb |
| Kara Cargile | Emilee Falcon Cornwell | David Lawshe | Stan Hart |
| Lindsay Dawson | Mary Elizabeth Neal | Josh Rezek | Thomas Head |
| Kim McRae | Suzanne Phillips | | Brett Huffman |
| Elena Moreno | Lee Stayer | | Jack Smith |
| Rachel Satterwhite | | | Scott Welch |
| | | | Goodloe White |

The Orchestra

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Levon Margaryan, violin | Lucina Horner, viola & contractor | Hillary Tidman, flute/piccolo |
| Tara Mueller, violin | Kurt Tseng, viola | Machiko Schlaffer, oboe |
| Yuriko Yasuda, violin | Lauren Peacock, cello | Tariq Masri, bassoon |
| Sodam Lim, violin | Hellen Weberpal, cello | Grant Dalton, timpani |
| | Mark Wilson, bass | |

★ Advent and Christmas at Highlands ★



Artwork by Richard Long

Sunday, December 22, 2019 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. Holy Communion in the Chapel

10:30 a.m. Morning Worship featuring the Children's Christmas Pageant & String Quartet

5:00 p.m. All Is Calm: A Service of Contemplative Prayer for the Longest Night in the Sanctuary

– Chapel will be open for prayer and meditation for one hour following the service. –

Tuesday, December 24, 2019 – Christmas Eve Services

4:15 p.m. Music of Christmas Choral Concert

5:00 p.m. Holy Communion and Candlelight Service

– Nursery available for children age 4 and younger –

10:45 p.m. Music of Christmas – Organ and Violin Preludes

11:00 p.m. Holy Communion and Candlelight Service

Wednesday, December 25, 2019 – Christmas Day

9:00 a.m. Community Ministries Christmas Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall

– Community Ministries will be closed December 26, 2019 – January 1, 2020. –

Sunday, December 29, 2019 – First Sunday of Christmas

10:30 a.m. Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas

– There will be no 8:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School, Nursery, or Children's Church –



WELCOME TO HIGHLANDS!



A RECONCILING CONGREGATION

www.highlandsumc.net/rmn

- † All children are welcome to participate fully in worship. Families are encouraged to sit toward the front so that your children can see and hear all that takes place during worship. Children's bulletins, books, and crayons are available at the Sanctuary entrances for use during worship. A nursery is provided for ages 4 and younger; an usher will be happy to direct you.
- † Children of all ages are invited to participate in the Children's Moment. Following Children's Moment, children will be dismissed to Children's Choir rehearsal. Children ages 4 – 3rd grade may then attend Children's Church in the Fellowship Hall; older children will return to sit with their families. If this is your child's first time attending Children's Church at Highlands, a parent is asked to accompany their child to meet staff and provide contact information.
- † Please visit the hospitality table in the Greeting Space after worship for a small gift and some information about the Highlands family. Feel free to call or email the church with any questions or pastoral care needs. We would love to have the opportunity to visit with you.
- † If you would like to receive updates from Highlands about our upcoming worship services, study opportunities, and events, text HIGHLANDS to 84576, visit www.highlandsumc.net/email, or contact the church office.
- † Parking for visitors and those with limited mobility is available in the lot located directly behind the church building, just off Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd. Parking is free on Sundays at all metered street spaces near the church and at the public parking deck on Magnolia Avenue.
- † Invitation to Christian Discipleship: The message of the Hebrew prophets, Jesus, Paul and the early church was always a message of welcome and inclusion for all. The image of God's kingdom is of something small and insignificant growing into something larger and of great significance. The oppressed, the alien, and the outcast – all were to be welcomed, included, and cared for. In this sense, our faith is built upon the idea of gracious hospitality. Followers of Jesus are not about walls of exclusion but bridges of grace and acceptance. Ours is a faith of invitation, for all to come to know Jesus as the living Christ who overcomes all brokenness, sin, and even death, offering a way to make all things new. This invitation extends to you. If you desire to explore what this means for you, please speak to a member of the clergy after the service or contact us this week. We welcome the opportunity to visit with you.



Vision Statement

*Highlands United Methodist Church is a community of disciples of Christ;
a beacon of hope, inviting all to become new persons in Christ
to be sent into the world to share the Gospel and to serve our neighbors;
and a sanctuary for those in need of God's love and grace.*

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