



ADVENT MIDDAY COMMUNION

December 20, 2022

Highlands United Methodist Church affirms that nothing can separate anyone from the love of God. We invite all to worship, wonder, and discover God's grace as we aspire to create a safe space for all to participate fully in the life of this community of faith. We are called to shine as a beacon of hope, grace, belonging, and respect for all people. Regardless of age, gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, family, financial status, nationality, physical or mental ability, past or future, there is room for you at Highlands. All are welcome!

Order for Holy Communion

PREACHING – THE REVEREND CAROLYN FOSTER

LITURGIST – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON

CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST – RICHARD PHILLIPS

**Those who are able, please stand. Words in bold are spoken or sung by the congregation.*

PRELUDE

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Chorale Prelude on Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (Text, UMH 216)

Opus 122

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF GUEST PREACHER

*HYMN 216

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

EST IST EIN ROSE

Organ Improvisation: Noel Rawsthorne

*ADVENT PRAYER

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray: Merciful God you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may celebrate aright the commemoration of the nativity, and may await with joy the coming in glory of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*GOSPEL LESSON

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Carolyn Foster

*DOXOLOGY 95

OLD HUNDREDTH

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER 895

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

CLOSING PRAYERS

*BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

ORGAN IMPROVISATION ON A HYMN TUNE

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for lunch following the service.

December 24, 2022 – Christmas Eve Services

2:00 p.m. Children and Family Service of Holy Communion

featuring The Chamber Choir; Tessa Brown, soprano; and Levon Margaryan, violin

4:30 p.m. The Music of Christmas Choral Concert

5:00 p.m. Service of Holy Communion and Candlelighting

featuring The Choir; Dr. Roderick George, tenor;

Levon Margaryan, violin; and Travis Quesenberry, trumpet

December 25, 2022 – Christmas Day

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

– There will be no Sunday School, Atrium, or Nursery. –



WELCOME TO HIGHLANDS! ALL ARE WELCOME



A Reconciling Congregation – rmnetwork.org

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.

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

- If you have been exposed to COVID-19 or exhibit symptoms of illness, please join us for online worship. *Worship services are livestreamed on Facebook, Youtube, and Vimeo. Visit www.highlandsumc.net for more information.*
- Hand sanitizer is available throughout the Sanctuary and church building. Congregants are especially encouraged to sanitize hands prior to receiving Holy Communion.

If you have questions or concerns regarding in-person worship safety protocols, please contact the church office at 205-933-8751.

OFFERING

Cash or Check Giving:

- *Giving envelopes are available in the pew racks. Checks may be made payable to HUMC.*

Electronic Giving:

- *Text GIVE to 205-900-3040. A link will be provided for a simple, quick way to give with one click.*
- *Visit www.highlandsumc.net/giving to give using a debit/credit card or bank account.*

Sustainable Giving:

- *To set up monthly bank drafts, contact financial manager Tyra Johnson-Pirtle at finance@highlandsumc.net.*

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