



## ADVENT MIDDAY COMMUNION

December 21, 2021

*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 ELIZABETH COLE GOODRICH

LITURGIST – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON

CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST – RICHARD PHILLIPS

*\*Congregation 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 Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

The Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

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

## THE HOMILY

The Reverend Elizabeth Cole Goodrich

### \*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

## \*VOLUNTARY

*David Kidwell (b. 1968)*

*Voluntary on Two Carols ANTIOCH and THE FIRST NOWELL*

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

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## December 24, 2021 – Christmas Eve Services

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

*3:00 p.m. Tower Bells 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert on the Front Lawn*

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

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

*\*A nursery for children ages 3 and younger will be available.*

## December 26, 2021 – The First Sunday of Christmas

*10:30 a.m. – Service of Lessons and Carols*

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



# WELCOME TO HIGHLANDS!

A RECONCILING CONGREGATION

[www.highlandsumc.net/rmn](http://www.highlandsumc.net/rmn)



*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 & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

- Social distancing and face masks that cover both the mouth and nose are required throughout the building at all times, regardless of your vaccination status.
- Hand sanitizer is available throughout the Sanctuary and church building. Congregants are especially encouraged to sanitize hands prior to receiving Holy Communion.
- As you exit the Sanctuary, please be mindful of social distancing, especially in narrow hallways.
- Restroom facilities are open. Please be mindful of social distancing in restrooms and adjacent corridors.

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

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## 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](http://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](mailto:finance@highlandsumc.net).