



HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 7, 2018
10:30 A.M. SERVICE



Today we celebrate Epiphany, which falls on January 6 and is the climax of the Christmas season and the twelve days of Christmas. The term *epiphany* is Greek and means “to manifest” or “to show.”

Today’s lesson from Isaiah foretells the light of Christ that will arise over all nations.

In Matthew, the Wise Men also follow a light—a star that guides them to the Christ child, revealing to the world that this small infant is Lord and King.

In John’s Prologue, it is also revealed that Jesus is the eternal Word of God, the Word that is spoken into the darkness of this world, and the light that the darkness cannot overcome.



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 children are welcome to stay in worship, or a nursery is provided for ages 4 and younger. An usher will be happy to direct you there. Children ages 4 to 2nd grade are encouraged to come to the chancel when called to the Children's Moment and may then attend Children's Church or return to be with their family. If you are visiting today or this is your child's first time in Children's Church, we ask that a parent accompany the child downstairs in order to provide emergency contact information and meet our staff.
- † Children's bulletins, books, and crayons are available from the ushers for use in worship.
- † Please pick up a guest welcome bag after worship to learn more about Highlands. 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.
- † Parking is free on Sundays at all metered street spaces near the church, at the Hotel Highland Parking Deck on Magnolia Avenue, and in the Highlands Bar and Grill lot on 11th Avenue South.

ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION

PREACHING – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON
LITURGIST – THE REVEREND DEB WELSH
CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST – RICHARD PHILLIPS
CHILDREN’S MOMENT – REGGIE HOLDER

*Congregation please stand. Words in bold are spoken or sung by the congregation.

Serving for Altar Guild: Leslie Davis, Linda Gaffney

Serving as Ushers: Tim Brennan, Jim Shannon

Serving as Verger: Brian Bellenger

Serving as Communion Servers: Anne Buckley, Dick L'Eplattenier, Lynn L'Eplattenier

Serving as Acolytes: Elizabeth Hargrove, Maggie Hargrove, Sam Jones, Madeline Solomon

Serving as Lay Reader: Anne Buckley

PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS

CALL TO WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

Improvisation of The First Nowell

C.P.P. Burton (1904-1962)

Text, UM Hymnal, page 245

*HYMN IN PROCESSION 245

The First Noel

THE FIRST NOEL

Organ Improvisation: Gerre Hancock

Descant Setting: David Willcocks

*COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray: O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the Peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LAUDA ANIMA

Descant Setting: Richard Phillips



1. Glo - ry be to God in hea - ven, songs of joy and peace we bring, thank ful hearts and voi - ces
2. Lamb of God, who on your shoul - ders bore the load of this world's sin, on - ly Son of God the
3. You, O Son of God, are Ho - ly, You we praise withone ac - cord; none in heav'n or earth is



rais - ing to cre - a - tion's Lord we sing: Lord, we thank you,
Fa - ther, you have brought us peace with - in: Lord, have mer - cy,
like You, on - ly You are Christ the LORD! with the Fa - ther,



Lord, we bless you, glo - ry be to God our King!
Christ, have mer - cy, now your glo - rious reign be - gins.
and the Spir - it, ev - er wor - shipped and a - dored!

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19 (*Sung by The Choir*)

Anglican Chant: Ivor Algernon Atkins (1869-1953)

1. Give the King your justice, O God, * and your righteousness to the King's son;
2. That he may rule your people righteously * and the poor with justice.
3. That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, * and the little hills bring righteousness.
4. He shall defend the needy among the people; * he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
5. He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, * from one generation to another.
6. He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, * like showers that water the earth.
7. In his time shall the righteous flourish; * there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
18. Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, * who alone does wondrous deeds!
19. And blessed be his glorious Name forever! * and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.

EPISTLE LESSON

Ephesians 3:1-12

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Reggie Holder

*SEQUENCE HYMN 254

We Three Kings

KING OF ORIENT

Organ Improvisation: Gerre Hancock

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

*GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

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

HOMILY

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

*THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Reverend Deb Welsh

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Musical Setting: Elise Eslinger (b.1943)

*INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

God in Christ breaks down the walls that make us strangers to ourselves and divide us from one another. We are the body of Christ. Around this table, we enact our faith. The Communion Table is open to all who are in love with God and their neighbor and seek forgiveness and healing in this broken world.

*THE PEACE

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

GREETING AND PARISH NOTICES

THE OFFERTORY

In the Bleak Mid-Winter

The Choir

David Busby, tenor

In the bleak mid-winter frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak mid-winter long ago.
Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign:
In the bleak mid-winter a stable-place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.
Enough for Him, whom cherubim worship night and day, a breastful of milk and a mangerful of hay;
Enough for Him, whom angels fall down before, the ox and ass and camel which adore.
What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb,
If I were a wise man I would do my part, yet what I can I give Him, Give my heart.

Arranged by Harold Darke (1888-1976)

Text, Christina Rossetti

*DOXOLOGY WITH ALLELUIAS 94

*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.**

...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, Ho - ly Ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might. Heav - en and earth are
full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.



...Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



THE LORD'S PRAYER 895

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

The Choir

*King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.*

French Carol Melody

Text, Liturgy of St. James, 4th Century

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

ANTHEM

The Best of Rooms

The Choir

*Christ, He requires still, wheresoe'er He comes; To feed or lodge, to have the best of rooms:
Give Him the choice; grant Him the nobler part; Of all the house: the best of all's the heart.*

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Text, Robert Herrick

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*HYMN 219

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

Organ Improvisation: Noel Rawsthorne

*THE BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

After the retiring procession concludes, you are invited to be seated in the sanctuary until the conclusion of the voluntary.

*RETIRING VOLUNTARY

Grand Choeur in B Flat Major

Theodore Dubois (1837-1924)

*PEALING OF THE TOWER BELLS



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.