

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John W. Bowling

### CALL TO WORSHIP

This is Advent, and it is not true that creation and the human family are destined to hopelessly face disappointment, dismay and even death –

**This is true: *For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life;***

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, anger and betrayal.

**This is true. *I have come that they may have life, and that abundantly.***

It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word, and that war and destruction rule forever.

**This is true: *Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulders; his name shall be called wonderful counselor, mighty God, the Everlasting, the Prince of peace.***

It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil that seek to rule the world—

**This is true: *To me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and lo I am with you, even until the end of the world.***

Friends, we gather to worship and celebrate these magnificent, wonder-filled truths today. *This* is Advent.

***This is the meaning of the coming of Jesus.***

### WORSHIP WITH SINGING\*

Chris Pinelo, Kaitlin Guenther, Neal Sterrett, Keith Whitehead, Sam Lohner

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Knauer Family

(We hear a word of prophecy from **Isaiah 60:1-2** today. After the candles are lit, the congregation is invited to sing together: *“Oh, tidings of Comfort and joy, comfort and joy. Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.”*)

{Children are now excused to go to Children’s Church}

### TITHES AND OFFERINGS

#### OFFERING MUSIC

#### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1:1-8, 14-15

#### MESSAGE

**Comfort & Joy**  
*The Good News of Christmas*

Rev. John W. Bowling

### WORSHIP WITH SINGING\*

## BENEDICTION\*

### POSTLUDE

\*Please stand as you are able.



**The Giving Tree has returned to Highland Methodist!** This seasonal offering is a chance to go above and beyond your annual commitment and support local ministries. You’ll find the tree in the Welcome Center. Thank you for your consideration!

After a two-year hiatus, Highland Methodist's famous Chili Cookoff returns to kickoff a new year of Wednesday Night Programming! Enter your best batch of chili to share and join us **Wednesday, January 11 at 5:30**. Not a big chili cook? Join in and help us crown the chili champion of Highland Methodist. Sign up in the Welcome Center.



HUMC welcomes you on your healing journey from divorce! DivorceCare was created to help people find hope and healing after divorce or separation.

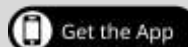
**Meetings will be Wednesdays at 6:30.**

We are hosting the program throughout the holidays, as we know this time of year can be hard and support is needed. **Register online via the HUMC website.** Group members are welcome to attend as they are able. Please contact group leader Tiffany Kosier if childcare is needed. 859-620-8111



Every week, John Hodges-Batzka takes the Sunday sermon, adds a devotion and announcements about upcoming events to create the **Highland Methodist Podcast**. Check it out! Available Mondays in the app, Apple Podcasts, and Google Play.

The easiest way to stay connected and in the loop is to download the HUMC app and turn on notifications. In the app, you can listen to the sermons, set up online giving, register for events and so much more! Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to download the HUMC app!



**PRELUDE** Prelude No.1 J.S. Bach  
*Guest Pianist, Katie Huber*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Rev. John W. Bowling

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**CHORAL ANTHEM** Joy to the World

Anna Grace Philippe	Cora Knauer	JR Brumley
Annalise Revo	Elena Philippe	Kinley Knauer
Ava Suen	Gabby Revo	Lincoln Pinelo
Bella Revo	Georgia Frase	Maddie Brumley
Braxton Revo	Hannon Booth	Myles Greenwood
Carson Suen	Harper Amann	Raleigh Parsons
Cora Amann	Iragi Murasha	Shantal Murasha
	Isaac Frase	

**HYMN #240\*** Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** Carson Suen and Ava Suen

**RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS** Aaron Suen & Jenny Hamblin, Julie Hamblin

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE** Sue Sparks and Ginger Paul

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**ADVENT AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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**MORNING PRAYER**

**HYMN #218** It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

**TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY** I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve arr: Lori Line

**DOXOLOGY\***

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Mark 1:1-8, 14-15

**MESSAGE** **Comfort & Joy** Rev. John W. Bowling  
*The Good News of Christmas*

**HYMN #251\*** Go, Tell it on the Mountain

**BENEDICTION\***

**POSTLUDE** Excerpt from Cello Suite 1: Courante J.S. Bach  
*Noah Huber, Viola*

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## CHILDREN & YOUTH



Every year at Highland United Methodist, we celebrate Jesus' birthday with songs, cake, games, and gifts. We also mark this special day by bringing birthday presents to Jesus to be donated to the Brighton Center. We party today during Sunday School.

Noah Huber is a 10th grade student at Highlands High school. **Today, at 12:30 in the sanctuary, he will be playing Franz Schubert's Arpeggione Sonata, joined by Katie Huber on piano.** The performance will last approximately 25-30 minutes and should be very fun!



**Coffee & Friends** is a casual gathering hosted by Linda and Wayne Wiedenbein in their home. You are invited to join them **at 10am on January 6th** for delicious beverages and great conversation. Contact the church office for location.

Why are there so many Christian denominations? Why are there so many different ways of interpreting the calling Christ has for his church? Join John HB on **Wednesdays at 6:30 starting January 11th** as we explore these questions and hear from their members in their own words with the new **Wednesday Night Study, Branches**. Register online.



### PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAISE REPORTS

- Patricia H, waiting for heart transplant
- Finn S, continued healing
- Adelyn (4th grade), upcoming brain surgery
- Sylvia G, healing
- Bill G, stroke
- Jeff R, brain cancer
- William, mental health issues
- Terri H, cancer
- The Yelton Family



Highland United Methodist Church  
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[www.highlandmethodist.com](http://www.highlandmethodist.com)  
Guest wifi password: HumcLoves

## Highland United Methodist Church

Sunday, December 18, 2022 11:00am

4th Sunday of Advent

COMFORT  
& Joy

11AM Worship  
December 18

Highland United Methodist Church affirms and welcomes people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, ages, nations, and races. We fully include all in the life and ministry of the church as we seek to share God's love in Jesus Christ.