

## GATHERING MUSIC

**PRELUDE** Infant Holy Infant Lowly

Don & Esther Drewry

Paul Manz

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John W. Bowling

## CALL TO WORSHIP\*

On this holy night, we gather in wonder and with jubilant hearts.

**We come with holy expectation; to welcome the Light that has come into the world.**

The long-awaited promise is fulfilled; love has drawn near in a child born in Bethlehem.

**God is no longer distant—God is with us.**

In the hush of this night, heaven touches earth.

**We open our hearts to the gift of a Savior.**

Come, let us adore the One born in humility and grace.

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all on earth. Amen.**

**HYMN #238\*** Angels We Have Heard on High

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Shaarf Family

*(Tonight we hear a word of prophecy from **Isaiah 9:6-7**. After the candle is lighted the congregation is invited to sing together verses 1-3 of hymn #234, "O Come, All Ye Faithful.")*

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON** Titus 3:4-6

## EVENING PRAYER

**HYMN #249** There's a Song in the Air

## MINISTRY OF GIVING

**OFFERTORY** O Little Town of Bethlehem

Paul Manz

**GOSPEL LESSON** Matthew 1:18-25

**SPECIAL MUSIC** O Holy Night  
Jason Fishburn

**MEDITATION** Rev. John W. Bowling

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE OF THE LORD AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PREPARATION

Let us open our hearts to the Spirit of Christ, born a long time ago, and born again this night in our lives.

**We open our hearts to God, the enfleshment of God now in our lives, and to one another.**

And so, O God, we offer gratitude and praise this night for Your persistent, undeniable love. This love, Your Word, became enfleshed in the person of Jesus Christ.

**He was born humbly, took on the nature of a servant, shared his life with outcasts and proclaimed a vision of a new kind of world, the Kingdom of God.**

O God, we now ask that Your Spirit be poured on us and on these elements of bread and fruit of the vine, that they may be for us the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus. We pray, too, that these gifts will strengthen our resolve to be Your love and goodness in the world through us.

**We continue to rejoice in God's desire to share life with us in Christ.**

Jesus is our Savior.

**He is Emmanuel, the Light of the World, the Prince of Peace, the Bread of Life.**

Bind us together in his holy meal.

**In the name of our Lord, Jesus we pray. Amen.**

## CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### AN INVITATION TO SHARE THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS

*(As Silent Night is being sung, the lights will be dimmed. The Pastor will light his candle from the Christ Candle and then light the candles of our ushers, who will in turn light the candles of the first person in each pew. Those persons will pass the light along until the Sanctuary is filled with light. After the dismissal blessing, you will find receptacles for the candles at both exits as you depart....yet carry the light of Jesus' love with you in your heart).*

**HYMN\*** (back of bulletin)

Silent Night



**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 and instructions in the Welcome Center. Thank you for your consideration!

## GATHERING MUSIC

**PRELUDE** Infant Holy Infant Lowly

Don & Esther Drewry

Paul Manz

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John W. Bowling

## CALL TO WORSHIP\*

On this holy night, we gather in wonder and with jubilant hearts.

**We come with holy expectation; to welcome the Light that has come into the world.**

The long-awaited promise is fulfilled; love has drawn near in a child born in Bethlehem.

**God is no longer distant—God is with us.**

In the hush of this night, heaven touches earth.

**We open our hearts to the gift of a Savior.**

Come, let us adore the One born in humility and grace.

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all on earth. Amen.**

**HYMN #238\*** Angels We Have Heard on High

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Ed Harber

*(Tonight we hear a word of prophecy from **Isaiah 9:6-7**. After the candle is lighted the congregation is invited to sing together verses 1-3 of hymn #234, "O Come, All Ye Faithful.")*

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON** Titus 3:4-6

## EVENING PRAYER

**HYMN #249** There's a Song in the Air

## MINISTRY OF GIVING

**OFFERTORY** Still, Still, Still

Paul Manz

**SPECIAL MUSIC** Sweet Little Jesus Boy  
Jerry Noran

**GOSPEL LESSON** Matthew 1:18-25

## MEDITATION

Rev. John W. Bowling

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE OF THE LORD AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PREPARATION

Let us open our hearts to the Spirit of Christ, born a long time ago, and born again this night in our lives.

**We open our hearts to God, the enfleshment of God now in our lives, and to one another.**

And so, O God, we offer gratitude and praise this night for Your persistent, undeniable love. This love, Your Word, became enfleshed in the person of Jesus Christ.

**He was born humbly, took on the nature of a servant, shared his life with outcasts and proclaimed a vision of a new kind of world, the Kingdom of God.**

O God, we now ask that Your Spirit be poured on us and on these elements of bread and fruit of the vine, that they may be for us the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus. We pray, too, that these gifts will strengthen our resolve to be Your love and goodness in the world through us.

**We continue to rejoice in God's desire to share life with us in Christ.**

Jesus is our Savior.

**He is Emmanuel, the Light of the World, the Prince of Peace, the Bread of Life.**

Bind us together in his holy meal.

**In the name of our Lord, Jesus we pray. Amen.**

## CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### AN INVITATION TO SHARE THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS

*(As Silent Night is being sung, the lights will be dimmed. The Pastor will light his candle from the Christ Candle and then light the candles of our ushers, who will in turn light the candles of the first person in each pew. Those persons will pass the light along until the Sanctuary is filled with light. After the dismissal blessing, you will find receptacles for the candles at both exits as you depart...yet carry the light of Jesus' love with you in your heart).*

**HYMN #\*** (back of bulletin) Silent Night

\*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 and instructions in the Welcome Center. Thank you for your consideration!

## Silent Night

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright,  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light;  
radiant beams from thy holy face  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing,  
Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

# Highland United Methodist Church

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 5:00pm

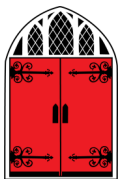
## Christmas Eve



## Grow – Follow – Love

At Highland United Methodist Church, we are a community of imperfect people who exist to **grow** God's kingdom by **following** the examples of Jesus and **loving** with purpose.

We are deepening our spiritual understanding by embracing diversity, enriching lives, mindfully serving, and bringing joy through music and friendship. As United Methodists, we inclusively welcome everyone and follow the Wesleyan call to do no harm, do good, and love God.



Highland United Methodist Church  
859-441-0587 office@highlandmethodist.com  
www.highlandmethodist.com  
Guest wifi password: HumcLoves