

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John W. Bowling

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the beginning, God spoke light into the world.

And in Jesus, the Word became flesh and lived among us.

God did not stay distant or far away—

Instead, God stepped into our world with love.

Today we celebrate a God who comes close, who enters our joy and our pain.

God's promise is not just spoken—it is embodied, enfleshed.

May Christ take on flesh again in our compassion, our courage, and our love.

We come today to worship the God who dwells among us and within us.

WORSHIP WITH SINGING*

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord; Everlasting God; Transfiguration;
Advent Hymn; Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Jane DeSoi

(Each week after the Lighting of the Candle, the congregation is invited to sing together a verse of "What Child is This", #219 vs. 1)

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN

*(At this time, children 4yrs through 5th grade are dismissed to go upstairs for Sunday School.
Parents, please pick up your child in room 207 upstairs following worship.)*

MINISTRY OF GIVING

OFFERING MUSIC Mary Did You Know; My Deliverer

SCRIPTURE ISAIAH 40:1-5

MESSAGE **Enfleshment**

Rev. John W. Bowling

The Promise in Flesh

WORSHIP WITH SINGING*

Advent Hymn; I Will Wait

BENEDICTION*

*Please stand as you are able.

Welcome to Highland United Methodist! If you're looking for information about our church, you can probably find it and much more at highlandmethodist.com

We welcome all visitors today and kindly request you complete a "Connect Card" found either in the pew or by scanning this QR code. We would love to get to know you!



Highland United Women of Faith send out a big **Thank You** for your donations of change for our World Thank Offering. We collected a total of \$1,792.85. \$450.64 from the congregation, and \$1,342.21 from Jack Rouse (in memory of his wife Joyce who was a member of Circle 12). Jack and Joyce collected change for years and even rolled it. With Jack's approval part of his donation will be added to that of the congregations for the World Thank Offering. The rest of the money will go for other United Women of Faith projects to help women and children at home and around the globe.



Special thank you to today's **Ushers & Greeters,**
Amy & David Golden
Your service is greatly appreciated!



THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS ON THE ALTAR TODAY are given
BY GINGER PAUL
IN HONOR OF JON PAUL'S 51ST BIRTHDAY

Advent 2025:

Enfleshment means *to take on flesh*. In the Christian story, it refers to the astonishing truth that God chose to become human in Jesus. For many, that can feel like a distant or abstract idea—but it is at the very heart of the Gospel. John 1:14 tells us: *"The Word became flesh and lived among us."* God's love did not remain a concept or a feeling—it became real, visible, and touchable in Jesus. And as followers of Christ, we are invited not only to receive and rejoice in that love, but to live it out, to let God's compassion, mercy, and grace take on flesh again in us.

PRELUDE Come Thou Long Expected Jesus Paul Karvonen

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HYMN #716* Rejoice, the Lord Is King

RESPONSIVE ACT OF PRAISE #208* Canticle of Zechariah (sing response)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Don & Esther Drewry

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MINISTRY OF GIVING

OFFERTORY Come Now Savior of the Heathens Wilhelm Friedemann Bach

DOXOLOGY*

HYMN #196* Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

ANTHEM Peace Will Come arr. David Schwoebel

SCRIPTURE ISAIAH 40:1-5

MESSAGE **Enfleshment** Rev. John W. Bowling
The Promise in Flesh

HYMN #202* People, Look East

BENEDICTION*

CHORAL AMEN*

POSTLUDE From Heaven Above to Earth I Come Wilbur Held

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YOUTH MINISTRY

Upcoming Youth Calendar:

Sunday, 11/30—**THANKSGIVING BREAK— No Youth Group**
Monday, 12/1—Monday Morning Prayer @ 7:20am
Sunday, 12/7—Holiday Walk, meet @ 5:30pm at HUMC
Monday, 12/8—Monday Morning Prayer @ 7:20am
Sunday, 12/14—Christmas Party @ 6pm
Monday, 12/15—Monday Morning Prayer @ 7:20am
***Youth Group will be on Christmas Break from 12/21—1/4.**



AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2025

General Fund YTD Income: \$445,370
General Fund YTD Expense: \$450,117
YTD Net Shortfall: (\$4,748)

YTD General Fund Budgeted Need: \$511,327

PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAISE REPORTS

- Lynn E—recovery
- Dan Jones' son—Broken leg/surgery
- Mike R's Cousin, Kent—open heart surgery
- Rosemary
- Herschel—Open Heart Surgery



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

Highland United Methodist Church

November 30, 2025 9:30am

First Sunday of Advent



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.

We are still seeking 1-2 more adults to help lead **Monday Morning Prayer** during the '25-26 school year, on a rotational basis. Are you available once a month on Monday mornings from 7:15—7:40 am?

Please contact Madeline at youth@highlandmethodist.com or call the office to be a part of this longstanding, vibrant ministry that HUMC has offered to our youth & the community for many years.



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Join us at Highland United Methodist Church on **Saturday, December 13 for a special visit from Santa**. We'll have snacks, crafts, photo opportunities (we will not have a photographer at this event, so please bring your own). Sign up on our website or by using the QR code.



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Let's make our neighbors' holiday a bit brighter! We'll be handing out Hot Chocolate and Popcorn in the Fellowship Hall during the **Fort Thomas Holiday Walk, Sunday, December 7, from 4-6**. We need your help to make it happen. **Sign up** on the website to help make this moment in our community special.



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Join us **Wednesday, December 17 at 7** for a truly special holiday experience! This year's Christmas cantata, *Carols*, invites you to lift your voice and your spirit along with the Highland United Methodist Church Choir, our accompanist, Terrie Benjamin, and a guest string quartet from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. Reception to follow.



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