

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John W. Bowling

### CALL TO WORSHIP

### WORSHIP WITH SINGING\*

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord;  
God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen/We Three Kings; Jesus Light of the World;  
Emmanuel; In the Bleak Midwinter

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Mark Powell & Rileigh Parsons

*(Each week after the Lighting of the Candle, the congregation is invited to sing together a verse of "What Child is This", #219 vs. 3)*

### 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

Make Room; Living Hope

### SCRIPTURE

JOHN 1:1-14

### MESSAGE

**Enfleshment**

Rev. John W. Bowling

*The Hope of Flesh & Blood*

### WORSHIP WITH SINGING\*

O Come, O Come Emmanuel; I Will Wait

### BENEDICTION\*

\*Please stand as you are able.

### 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. God's love did not remain a concept—it became real, visible, and touchable in Jesus. 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*.



Special thank you to today's **Ushers & Greeters**,

**Ron Jump & Katie Huber**

Your service is greatly appreciated!



THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS ON THE ALTAR TODAY ARE GIVEN  
BY DAN & CYNDY JONES  
IN HONOR OF THE MARRIAGE OF OUR DAUGHTER, JULIE TO DAVID  
—MR. & MRS. DAVID HELTON

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](http://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!



**PRELUDE**                      The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came                      Anna Laura Page

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

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

In a world hungry for hope, God draws near.

**Not as an idea, but in flesh and blood; real, present, and full of grace.**

We wait for the One who steps into our very humanity.

**Jesus is the embodiment of hope; who walks our roads, carries our burdens, and knows our pain.**

So I say: "Lift up your hearts today!"

**For Christ is coming. He is coming to bring wholeness and fulfilment; the promise of new and everlasting life!**

So let us, with joy, worship the God who became one of us.

**Today we celebrate the hope of flesh and blood in Jesus, our Immanuel.**

**HYMN #211\***                      O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**                      Tom Marshall & Martha Ashcraft  
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**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**MINISTRY OF GIVING**

**OFFERTORY**                      People Look East                      Dale Wood

**DOXOLOGY\***

**HYMN #221\***                      In the Bleak Midwinter

**ANTHEM**                      O Come, All Ye Faithful                      arr. Heather Sorenson

**SCRIPTURE**                      JOHN 1:1-14

**MESSAGE**                      **Enfleshment**                      Rev. John W. Bowling  
*The Hope of Flesh & Blood*

**HYMN\***                      God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

**BENEDICTION\***

**CHORAL AMEN\***

**POSTLUDE**                      O Come Emmanuel                      Wilbur Held

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Advent 2025:

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## YOUTH MINISTRY

### Upcoming Youth Calendar:

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.**



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.



### AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2025

General Fund YTD Income: \$482,904

General Fund YTD Expense: \$503,664

YTD Net Shortfall: (\$20,759)

YTD General Fund Budgeted Need: \$562,460

### PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAISE REPORTS

- Lynn E—recovery
- Dan Jones' son—Broken leg/surgery
- Rosemary
- Jim Davis-health concerns
- Curtis & his son Owen
- Margie (Marlene Selby's sister-in-law) - ALS



Highland United Methodist Church  
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office@highlandmethodist.com  
Guest wifi password: HumcLoves

# Highland United Methodist Church

December 14, 2025 9:30am

**Third Sunday of Advent**

# Enfleshment



## The Third 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.