

The Gifts of Christmas Past

2nd in Advent Series

Sunday, December 16, 2018

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Matthew 1:18-25 (NIV)

- *CONNECTING YOU WITH CHRIST AND COMMUNITY* -

Greeters:

Sandy & John Wolfe
Judy Smith
Joan Lewis
Joy & Denny Walker

Ushers:

John Bair
Nancy Holtzapple
Joyce Shaffer
Art & Vivian Westman
David Levens
John Herr

The Chancel Flowers are Presented By:

Christmas Poinsettias

Gathering in God's Name

Chimes & Welcome

Rev. Dr. Roger Rabey

Prelude

"Sleepers Awake, BWV 568"

J. S. Bach

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Johanna & Robert Gingher

* Opening Hymn #5

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer of Confession (Silent & Corporate)

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Almighty God, as we await the coming of Jesus this Advent,

we confess that we do so with divided loyalties and scattered attention.

We want to welcome a baby

but not surrender control of our lives to a Lord.

We are inspired by angelic song and the magi's gifts,

but we are not interested in the risky business of sharing the good news with others.

Our lives have become cluttered with parties, packages and pageantry,

and in the midst of it all, we have misplaced the truth of the Incarnation -

that you have come to *be with us,*

to dwell not just with us but within us,

for the sake of all creation and the world.

Forgive us, dear God and restore to us the joy of living in your Light,

the Light of the world, Jesus Christ! Amen.

Kyrie Eleison 572

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*During the Gloria Patri, we invite the K-3rd graders to walk back to the **Prayground** where they can listen to the Scripture and the sermon. We invite the 4th/5th graders to walk back and pick up a Sermon activity sheet and take it back to their seats. If a preschooler would like to join us in the **Prayground**, we ask that a parent accompany them.*

* Gloria Patri 579

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen**

Scripture Matthew 1:18-25 (NIV)

Message **“The Gifts of Christmas Past”** Rev. Dr. Roger Rabey
2nd in Advent Series in Series

Hymn of Response #38 *“It Come Upon A Midnight Clear”*

Responding to God’s Word

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer Rev. Dr. Noé Juárez

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Presentation of Offering Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

Offertory *“In the Bleak Mid-Winter”*

*Please sign and pass the “**Friendship Pad**” during the Offering and pass it down the pew. At the end of the row, pass it back so that we can greet one another by name after the service.*

* Doxology 592 (inclusive)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Going in God’s Name

Ministry Highlights & Greeting Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

* Closing Hymn #14 *“Savior of the Nations Come”*

* Benediction and Advent Choral Response Rev. Dr. Noé Juárez

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, reveal’d in us,
his name is called Emmanuel.**

Postlude *“The Advent of our Lord”*

MUSIC: HIGHLAND CHANCEL CHOIR, SETH WICKENHEISER , ORGAN SCHOLAR
DR. PAUL THORLAKSON, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND ORGANIST
A/V: JONATHAN LEFEVER

* PLEASE STAND IF ABLE



Care and compassion - If you or someone you know would like a helping hand by way of a comfort meal, prayer shawl, visitation, or a delivery of flowers, please feel free to reach out to our Caring Deacons in the narthex today.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 16 | Christmas Concert | 3:00-4:30PM

Featuring The Auscultation Brass, The Highland Bells and Dr. Paul Thorlakson

Sunday, December 16 | Traditional Service 10:00AM | Contemporary Service 10:15AM
2nd in Series: "The Gifts of Christmas Past,"

Thursday, December 20 | Presbyterian Women's Christmas Tea | 3:00PM

Sunday, December 23 | Traditional Service 10:00AM | Contemporary Service 10:15AM
3rd in Series: "The Gifts of Christmas Present "

Monday, December 24

4:00PM - Family Christmas Eve Worship

"A Christ-Centered Christmas"

8:00PM - Christmas Eve Worship with Candles

10:00PM - Christmas Eve Worship with Candles & Communion

4th in Series: "The Gifts of Christmas Future"

December 30 | One Service Fellowship Hall | 10:00am
"Provoked to Love"



A description of the stained Chancel window can be found in the front of the hymnal
FM sound devices are available. Please ask an usher for your own personal receiver.

Cell phones should be silenced during the worship service.

Nursery is available during all worship services

After the service, please recycle this page in the receptacles labeled "Paper Only" located in the Narthex.

MESSAGES: Each week the sermons from the traditional & contemporary services can be found on the Highland website
If you missed a week but would still like to connect with Highland on the message
Visit highlandpc.org under the "Welcome" tab and choose either traditional or contemporary service.