

the highland HEARTBEAT

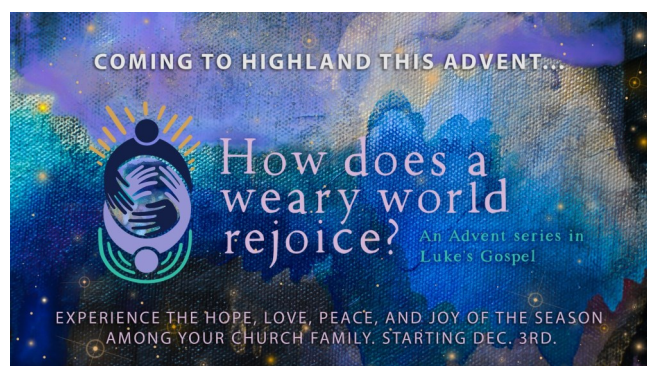
November 12, 2023



CONNECTING YOU
WITH CHRIST AND COMMUNITY

Preparing for Advent

This Advent season, we invite you to look closely at the opening chapters of Luke's Gospel as we discover Christ being born into a weary world. Discover where joy is sprinkled throughout the narrative even though fear, grief, and timidity are present. Consider how joy can be a companion to you this season, for our joy is rooted in the truth that we belong to God.



Postcards will be sent next week to all Highlanders detailing the many joy-filled activities being offered by Highland this Advent season. We will have more invitations printed next week for you to begin inviting your family and friends. Be sure to mark your calendars for our three Christmas Eve services at 10:00 AM Worship Service (Ignite at 9:30 AM), 4:30 PM Family Service, and 8:00 PM Traditional Service.

Advent devotionals that follow our church-wide series, *How Does a Weary World Rejoice?*, are available online at <https://online.flippingbook.com/view/136123036/> or in print by calling the church office. Perhaps this is a time where you reconnect with your Summer prayer triad (or form a new one) to engage with the richness of Christ's story alive in you. This devotional is designed to help you practice joy in a weary world. Each lesson includes art, reflections, poetry, and hymns. May each week offer you rhythms for rejoicing through acknowledging your weariness, finding joy in connection, allowing yourself to be amazed, singing stories of hope, making room, rooting yourself in ritual, and remembering your belovedness.

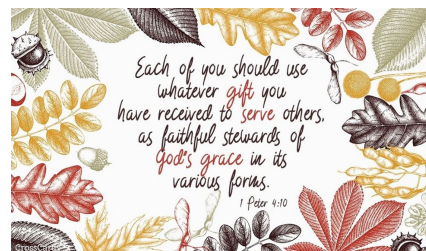
For a full listing of Advent activities including our Christmas Eve services, Christmas Cantata, Kid's Night Out, Caroling, Christmas Tea, and more, see our special Advent page on the church website. www.highlandpc.org/advent2023. Scan this QR code (by simply hovering your open Camera app on the image, and then clicking the link that appears at the top of your smartphone screen) to access it quickly.



WORSHIP SERVICE

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 4:7-11

SERMON: "Our Gifts to Share- Part 1"



HOW TO VIEW OUR ONLINE SERVICES

- Visit our website for the current week's service at www.highlandpc.org
- Worship services are livestreamed at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings so you can watch it as it happens.
- Visit our Youtube Channel at www.youtube.com/c/highlandpresbyterian for access to all of our past services and events

PREACHING/WORSHIP CALENDAR

11/19 Pastor Allison preaching

11/26 Will Massey preaching



"How does a weary world rejoice?" Starting December 3 Pastor Allison preaching
Experience the hope, love, peace and JOY of the season among your church family.

12/10 Pastor Allison preaching

12/17 Pastor Allison preaching

Christmas Eve Service Schedule
4:30 pm Family Christmas Service

9:20 am Ignite

10 am Traditional Worship
8 pm Candlelight Service

PRAYER LIST

In Memory

Family of Frances Kaufmann
Family of M. Joan Barney
Family of Miriam Hiestand

In Prayer

Julie Bender
Jane Boris (sister of Carla Rothacker)
Matt Bransby
Robert Coup
Bill & Claudia Dyson (Friends of Lee Heisey)
Ryan Ginn
Averril Good
Linda Guimond
Carl Henkel
Marge Herrmann
Diane Hostetter (Mitchell)

Joan Lewis
Carolyn McGuigan
Beverly Moore
Ingeborg Ross & Family
Hank Savard
Heather Sievers
The people of Israel & Gaza

PASTOR ON CALL

November 13 ~ November 19



Names found on the Heartbeat prayer list will remain on the list for **30 days**. If you would like the name to be included after 30 days, please contact the church office to re-add them. To request a name to be added to the Prayer List, kindly first obtain permission from the individual then call the church office to have them added.

Announcements & Updates

2023 Highland Christmas Giving Tree will be collecting gifts for three programs of the Community Action Partnership, a leading organization in Lancaster which addresses the problems of poverty. Thrive to Five, Parents as Teachers and Domestic Violence Services are all programs run by CAP, an organization which deals with children growing up with low-income families. Our Giving Tree gifts not only provide Christmas presents but, in many cases, provide clothes, toys and books to help these children. Please select a tag for these children and return your gift on November 26, In Gathering Sunday.



Veteran's Day Concert tonight ~ 7-8:30 pm Hear classic big band music from all era's to Honor our Veterans. Admission is free, a voluntary offering will be taken for Wounded Warrior Project.



Senior Ministry Christmas Gathering ~ Thursday December 7 from 11 am ~ 1 pm

Save the date! Registration will begin in the Narthex starting on **November 12** for the JOY CHRISTMAS PARTY. The party will start promptly at 11am on Thursday, December 7th with carol singing, special music by Bill Rhoads, a Christmas devotional with Pastor Allison, and fun with Pastor Ann. Lunch will be provided by our own Linda Brackbill, and her hospitality team. Registration is required for the party so that we will have sufficient food for everyone. Donation baskets will be provided to cover the expenses of the meal.

Presbyterian Women's Book Group Join Us! The PW Book Group will meet on Wednesday, November 15 at 1:00 in Room 208 to discuss the book *HORSE* by Geraldine Brooks. Visitors and/or new members are welcome. Hope to see you then! Please contact the church office with any questions.



Christmas Memorial Poinsettias are for sale in the Narthex. One of the Deacons' many ministries provides the opportunity to order Poinsettias to donate for delivery to someone homebound, grieving, or who is ill. You may also order a Poinsettia in memory of, a loved one or for your personal enjoyment. When you purchase Memorial plants in memory of or honor of a loved one; their names will be printed in the bulletin. Poinsettias will decorate the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 17th and Christmas Eve. If you indicate on the order form that you wish to take your home, please, pick it up after the 8 pm Christmas Eve Service. Stop by the Deacon table in the Narthex before or after Sunday services, now thru December 3 to place your order! Plants are \$9 each.

From Your Stewardship Committee: Dedication Sunday ~ Next Sunday, November 19, our pledges for the year 2024 will be formally dedicated in worship. At Highland our tradition is to bring forward envelopes with our pledge cards and put them in baskets at the front of the sanctuary. For those who cannot attend in person next Sunday, mailing or dropping off your pledges at the church office is equally welcome. Our prayers of dedication will apply equally to all pledges; however they are received.

Fall cleanup day ~ The Trustees are planning to remove leaves from the Highland campus on Saturday, November 25th with a rain date of December 2nd. Please come out to help remove leaves, bring leaf rakes, tarps, and pickup trucks if you have one. Contact the church office if you have questions.

Christmas Tea Attention **ALL** the women at Highland! Save **Thursday, December 14** at noon for the annual Christmas tea sponsored by the Presbyterian women. All ages are encouraged to attend.



From the Library ~ With Christmas only six weeks from Christmas, our library has some special books to enhance your preparations and slow down the journey. Please take time to visit and select a special "read" for yourself! The books, and also puzzles, are on the round table. Please sign the card in the back of the book and place it in the small basket on the bookshelf to the right of the door. Happy Reading!

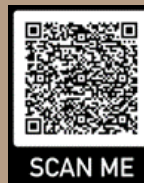


HiLites Christmas Party is Saturday, December 9. Are you an empty nester? This event is a great time to give us a try. We will gather at John and Sandy Wolfe's at 6:00 for hearty appetizers and then to Andrew and Dana Mead's for dessert and ornament exchange game. Cost is \$8 per person. For more information or to sign up contact Ginny Kleppinger, Judy Eyster or the church office.

Mission & Outreach Corner

Ecological Gardening for Fall In the linked article, Lancaster Conservancy offers their wisdom on ecological gardening this Fall. By implementing these tips you can support habitat for birds, pollinators, and other wildlife. Scan the code using the camera app on your phone to read more! Their advice includes:

- • Leave the Leaves
- • Expand your garden with native plants
- • Leave stalks, stems and seed heads in your garden.



SCAN ME

College Care Packages - Attention parents of Highland college students, we will be collecting care package items to send to the kids before fall semester finals and we need their address. Please email me at mindywitmer@gmail.com before Nov. 21. College care package items to send to our college members can include popcorn, pretzels, twizzlers, gum, smarties, granola bars, hot chocolate packets, etc. (we send about 30 boxes). **If you would like to contribute, please drop off donations at the church office by Nov. 21.**

We will be packing them on Monday, November 27th at 6:30 email Mindy Witmer or contact the church office if you would like to help.

Thank you, thank you! Our congregation through Market Share has made a second donation for this year to the Lancaster Food Hub. And just like a school child, the Food Hub was in need of milk money. Our donation of \$1700 came just at the right time to have a direct and large impact to supply milk for the remainder of the year. Remember, purchasing grocery cards at the **Market Share** desk helps raise funds to aid in combating hunger. Please, give it a try!

Christmas Bags for Red Rose Assisted Living – it is once again that time of year when PW collects toiletries and more for those in need. **We plan to pack the bags the first week in December, so bring in items by Dec 3.** Besides for small toiletries, we need pens, small tablets, individually wrapped hard candy (regular and diabetic), combs, chap stick. Thanks for your support!

Volunteers needed to serve bagged dinners at First Reformed Church on **November 14th from 5-6 pm.** Families welcome! Please contact Lisa Murray or the church office if interested.

Be part of the Christmas Pageant being planned We're planning to have a Christmas pageant for our family service on Sunday, December 24th at 4:30 pm. **We need actors, narrators, Black Light performers, ushers, children's hand bells, and behind the scenes helpers to make this a success. Children, youth, and adults are all encouraged to join us in the preparations. We need LOTS of people for various roles, so please SIGN UP TODAY!** Contact Jennifer Weitzel at jenniferweitzel@highlandpc.org OR Will Massey at willmassey@highlandpc.org for more information Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/hpc2023xmas430>



Upward Basketball Registration is Closing Soon! Sign up your interested basketball players in grades Kindergarten through 4th grade to play on our church-sponsored basketball team. Children learn the basics of basketball in a loving, safe, and encouraging environment. They receive jerseys and other special prizes while learning about the virtues of the Christian faith. Sign up before December 2nd at <https://registration.upward.org/UPW85192>. Use code: HPC2024 for a \$10 discount. For our adults and older teens who also love the sport, sign up here <https://registration.upward.org/UPW85192/volunteer> to be a coach or referee during the season. All links can be found on the Sports Ministry page on Highland's website.