

# the highland HEARTBEAT

December 3, 2023



CONNECTING YOU  
WITH CHRIST AND COMMUNITY

## Dorothy Rose Smith Concert

We have had a long tradition a Highland of offering a cantata during Advent in the morning service. This year we partnered with the DRS series to offer a Christmas concert outside of regular worship. We trust this gives the congregation an opportunity to invite friends and family to a late afternoon of music making at **4PM on December 10**. Consider sharing the gifts of our choir, instrumentalists, and soloists that many of you enjoy week by week. The advent postcards that many of you received by mail would be a great way to initiate the invite to this concert and all of our December events.

We believe that the music being performed will appeal to a wide range of folks. There will be sing-along carol medleys, terrific arrangements of familiar music like "O Holy Night" featuring our soloists, and the popular and stunning *Gloria* by John Rutter. The Gloria is accompanied by a full complement of brass players (4 trumpets no less!) and percussionists along with our Jonathan Lefever on organ. In anticipation of our March concert, Jonathan and I will be playing a couple of organ/piano duets to round out the program.

We hope to see you next week at 4 PM to experience a special hour of music making and yet another way to come apart and consider how "a weary world rejoices."



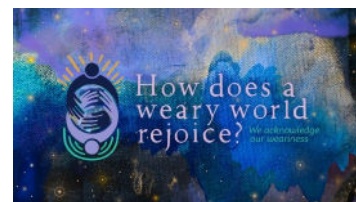
**"How Does a Weary World Rejoice?" Sermon Series.** Christ was born into a weary world. King Herod ruled the land with a legacy of ruthlessness. The Romans treated the people of Israel with contempt. Poverty and destitution were pervasive. And yet, Christ was born, bringing good news of great joy for all people. This advent our sermon series is based on the first few chapters of Luke's gospel. As we move through our series, we hope to create space for acknowledging the weariness of our world while celebrating God's closeness with great joy. There is a companion devotional to our sermon series. Hopefully by now you have received the link to that devotional through an email. If you would like a hard copy of the devotional, please contact the office. There is also a companion advent calendar that gives daily prompts on practicing joy in a weary world. This is also available as a hard copy. Please call the office if you would like one. We pray that through this sermon series and devotional, your hearts will be prepared to receive the Christ child this Christmas. May your advent season be blessed!

**Pastor Allison**

# WORSHIP SERVICE/PREACHING CALENDAR

**THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE:** Luke 1:5-25

**SERMON:** "Acknowledging our Weariness"



**How does a weary world rejoice?" Starting December 3** Pastor Allison preaching

Experience the hope, love, peace and JOY of the season amount your church family.

12/10 Pastor Allison preaching      12/17 Pastor Allison preaching

**Christmas Eve Service Schedule** 9:20 am Ignite      10am Traditional Worship

4:30 pm Family Christmas Service      8 pm Candlelight Service

## VIEWING OF ONLINE SERVICES

- Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)
- In the YouTube search bar, type "Highland Presbyterian Church"
- You should see the Highland picture (as seen below) at the top of the search results, click it.
- Here, you will find all of our weekly services and devotionals by date, including our recent online services.
- Worship services are livestreamed here at 10 am on Sunday mornings so you can watch it as it happens.

## GIVING

- Mail your contributions to Highland Presbyterian church at 500 E. Roseville Road, Lancaster, PA 17601.
- Go to our [www.highlandpc.org](http://www.highlandpc.org) and select the "Give Now" button in the upper right-hand corner. It will walk you through how to give using your credit or debit card.
- Scan the QR code below and it will take you to the online giving on our website.



If you have general questions, please contact Mike Nolt, Church Administrator at [mikenolt@highlandpc.org](mailto:mikenolt@highlandpc.org) or call the church office at 717-569-2651.

## PRAYER LIST

### In Memory

Family of M. Joan Barney  
Family of Miriam Hiestand  
Family of Sylvia Seymour

### In Prayer

Julie Bender  
Robert Coup  
Mary Catherine Ebner  
(sister of Julie Bender)  
Helen Emmitt  
Pete Faber  
Linda Guimond  
Carl Henkel  
Marge Herrmann  
Diane Hostetter (Mitchell)  
Samuel Huffard  
(father of Ginny Miller)  
Sybil Lawrence

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

## PASTOR ON CALL

**December 4 ~ December 10**

**Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne**



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

**Service of Rest and Renewal** Join us at 6pm on Tuesday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> in McClintock chapel for a service of rest and renewal. We all know how busy and overwhelmed we can get over the holidays. This service is designed to help you slow down and focus on God's word this advent season. The elements of this service are prayer, scripture, reflection, candle-lighting, and special Taizé music. We hope this service provides space for all those who need a break from the chaos and re-focuses our attention on the reason for the season.

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

Save the date! Registration will begin in the Narthex starting **TODAY** for the JOY CHRISTMAS PARTY. The party will start promptly at 11am on Thursday, December 7th with carol singing, a Christmas devotional with Pastor Allison, and fun with Pastor Ann. Lunch will be provided by our own 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.



**Christmas Memorial Poinsettias** will decorate the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 17th and Christmas Eve. If you indicate on the order form that you wish to take yours 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, to place your order! Plants are \$9 each. **Today is the last day to order.**



**HiLites Christmas Party** is **Saturday, December 9**. Are you an empty nester? This event is a great time to give us a try. It is an evening of great food and fellowship and a crazy game. We will gather at John and Sandy Wolfe's home 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. Call the church office, 717-569-2651, and find out how to reach Ginny Kleppinger or Judy Eyster. They can give you more information and sign you up!

**Christmas Tea Thursday, December 14 at noon. Held here at Highland** This annual event is sponsored by the Presbyterian Woman. All ages are encouraged to attend. Cost is \$5 per person. Sign up today in the Narthex.



**The Deacons and the Brass Bands** have planned Christmas Caroling on **December 19** at Landis Homes, in the High Foundation Auditorium. We are scheduled to arrive and begin caroling around 6:45 for 30 to 40 minutes total. It is open to church members who wish to join and get in the Christmas Spirit. We thank Jerry Rothacker for arranging the Brass Group.

**Auscultation Brass** if you are in need of some additional Christmas Cheer, the Auscultation Brass is giving two Christmas Concerts this year, **Sunday December 3, at 3 PM** at Glossbrenner United Methodist Church, 713 Church St, Mount Joy and Tuesday **December 12 at 7 PM** at Saint John Neumann Church, 601 E Delp Rd, Lancaster 17601.

**From Your Stewardship Committee: Have You Turned In Your Pledge Card?** As of November 19, there were 85 individuals and families who had submitted pledges last year for 2023, but who have yet to do so for 2024. Are you one of them? If so, please remember that any pledge, however small, is important in building Highland's 2024 budget.



Pledge cards can be mailed to the church office at any time in the next few weeks. Anyone who has not received, or who has misplaced, the stewardship materials mailed in October should feel free to call the church office for replacements.



# Mission & Outreach Corner

**Mac n Cheese, Mac n Cheese...Who loves Mac n Cheese?** Macaroni & Cheese should be on your shopping list for the Reverse Advent Calendar this week. So should canned fruit, tomatoes, tuna, applesauce and beans. Bring these food items in next Sunday and put them in the collection boxes in the Narthex or in the office area. All foods collected will be taken to the Lancaster Food Hub. The Lancaster Food Hub provides food, clothing, emergency shelter and outreach services to those deeply affected by poverty as well as the working poor. Thank you for participating and helping others. Additional copies of the Calendar are available in the Narthex or office. Any questions, please see Juanita Fowler or call the church office.

**Quilters sale today and next Sunday** Pot Holders, microwave bowls, wall hangings, table runners, baby quilts are just a few of the items that the Highland Quilters are selling today before and after the 10:00 a.m. service. All proceeds from the sale will be donated to nonprofits whose focus is on supporting women and children. Already this year the Quilters have donated money to CASA, Milagro House, Teen Hope at the Samaritan Center, and Power Packs. Your purchases will enable them to donate to other worthy organizations AND you will be buying wonderful handmade Christmas gifts for others and/or yourself. Be sure to stop at the tables in the Narthex today. The sale is before and after the service.



**Help Feed Our Neighbors at Arch Street!** Highland has continued to support Arch Street Center since its founding 40 years ago. Currently we provide lunch for about 40 people once a month. Volunteers are given a simple casserole recipe that they prepare in their own homes, or they may bake cookies. Volunteers drop their food off at church on the assigned day and from there it is taken to Arch Street. We have a dozen regular volunteers but would welcome some new people. For more details, please contact Linda Neumann or the church office.

**Presbyterian Giving Catalog** You can make a difference in the lives of others by giving through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog. Every act of generosity counts, and this is your opportunity to help shape a world built upon shared humanity, amplified generosity, and God's love.

Everyone has something to give and through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog, you can connect with those in need. The Catalog provides a space where you can contribute to a cause close to your heart to make

giving easy and rewarding. Gift options include contributions to community farming projects, disaster relief, educational programs, clean water solutions, and many more. To purchase a gift, go to the following link or hold your phone camera over the QR code below: <https://presbyteriangifts.pcusa.org/>



SCAN ME

**January Youth Retreat: Mid-Winter Advance!** Highland Youth will participate in the Mid-Winter Advance Retreat at Refreshing Mountain, January 26-28. Several youth groups from the area will be there for worship, play, and spiritual encouragement. See more about the event here: <https://www.midwinteradvance.com> Let's get a good crew together and spend a weekend at Refreshing Mountain! We want everybody to be signed up by Christmas. A separate registration form is available for download within the link below. The cost is \$175, but please let Will Massey know if you would like to talk about a scholarship. <https://forms.office.com/r/fHtiZ6908j>



SCAN ME

**Children's Ministry Helpers on Sunday Mornings**, Sign up to make a difference with children and their spiritual formation. Now scheduling for January through May 2023. <https://tinyurl.com/HPCJanMay2024>.

**Last Day to Register! Kids Night Out!** Sunday 12/10, 4:00 - 6:30 PM, \$10/child and \$25/family max. Ages 4 - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade (Friends of Highlanders are welcome!), Pizza for supper along with games, crafts & more. RSVP & payment required by **TODAY** at [www.tinyurl.com/HPCkno2023](http://www.tinyurl.com/HPCkno2023)