

Highland United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 34, Callaway, VA 24067

www.highlandumc.net

Parsonage 483-1053 *** Office 483-4421 *** Pastor's Cell Phone (804)694-9759

We are an open community of Christians sharing Christ's love and helping each other to develop and strengthen their relationship with God.

December 3, 2017

Prelude

The Ministry of the Acolytes

Welcoming our Guests, Sharing Ministry Opportunities and Celebrating Special Days

Greeting and Sharing the Peace of Christ

Prepare For Worship: Ringing of the Church Bell

Advent Wreath

Judy Brubaker and Donna Guilliams

"This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine (3 times)

Let it shine, shine, shine

Let it shine."

Choral Introit

Call to Worship

Leader: In the darkness of sin and death...

People: ...Jesus came—a little light in this world!

Leader: Like a flashlight, he shines the way in the dark.

People: Let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Leader: In this season of Advent, help us focus and follow, be on guard and alert.

People: Help us be like little flashlights, guiding the way of God.

*Opening Hymn *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

UMH # 211 (vs. 1-4)

Opening Prayer

Thank you Jesus for Advent! Let the world go wild. We will be people of intention and focus. Guard our hearts, resources, and energy, so we give ourselves to you and be present to the gift of others. Keep us alert to sorrows and pain, so we can spend quality time with each other, holding on until Jesus comes like a child, again. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson: *Isaiah 2:1-5*

Epistle Lesson: *Romans 13:11-14*

Gospel Lesson: *Luke 21:34-36*

Sermon "Giving the Gift of Ourselves: Choose"

Rev. Amy E. Pannell

*Responsive Hymn *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

*"1. I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus—no turning back,
no turning back.*

2. The world behind me, the cross before me...

3. Though none go with me, still I will follow..."

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Offering; Prayer and Offertory

*The Doxology (Praise God from whom all blessings flow...)

UMH pg. 95

The Celebration of Communion

All are welcome! This is Christ's table, come just as you are. When you come, reach out your hands, and a piece of bread will be given to you. Dip the bread into the cup. You may be served at your seat. The elements of grace are bread, non-gluten wafers, and non-alcoholic grape juice.

* Closing Hymn *O Happy Day, That Fixed My Choice*

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* Benediction

* Postlude

*** indicates congregation standing, if able

GREETERS

December—Mitch Webb
& Grandsons

USHERS

December 2—Youth
December 10—Men

ACOLYTES

December 3—Graham Weaver
December 10—Jared Jamison

NURSERY

December 3—Cindy Jamison
December 10—Donna Guilliams

Monday, December 3— Choir will meet at 7 pm. Come sing a new song to the Lord!

Saturday, December 9 — **Church for All:** Recognizing and Including the full spectrum of abilities in your church will be held THIS Saturday at Piedmont Presbyterian Church. Cost is \$10 per person and includes lunch. We will begin to look into the subject of purposefully including people with special needs and their families. We will end with ideas to help you get started! Call Piedmont Presbyterian Church ([540\) 483-2655](tel:5404832655) for questions and RSVP.

Sunday, December 10—The choir is very excited to present "The Greatest Story Ever Told," complete with the nativity and a visit from a worshipping Santa. Please join us for this celebration during the 10:00 worship service, and we will enjoy a potluck in the fellowship hall after the worship service. Santa will take time to visit with children in the fellowship hall. He is anxious to meet with everyone! Please come and bring a friend. Thank you!

Saturday, December 16—Youth Day of Service. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the BoJangles in Rocky Mount for breakfast. Following, we will go out to serve (still determining the place and people). All ages are welcome! We will end the day with a movie at the Eagle Cinema, seeing "The Star."

As members of this congregation, we will faithfully participate in its ministries by our prayers (see the prayer list), our presence, our gifts, our service (see announcements) and our witness (all you do and who you are.) We are thankful that you have blessed Highland United Methodist Church with your presence and your gifts:

11/19/17 63 Present for Worship and \$1,121 received in gifts

11/26/17 66 Present for Worship and \$1,512 received in gifts

Prayer Requests

November 26—Larry Houston, Kelsey Pendleton, Marie Sigmon, Fred Guilliams, Ronnie Bernard, Family of Ann Snead, Family of Betsy Stanley and Sue Bernard's Aunt Hazel

