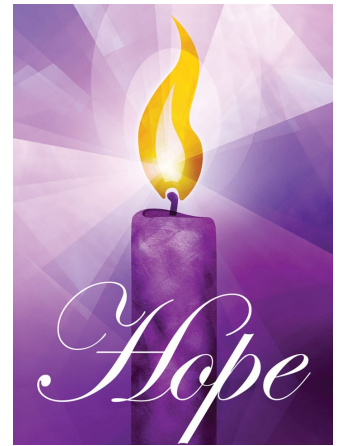


Highland Avenue
United Methodist Church
4th Sunday of Advent
December 21, 2025
9:30 a.m.



GATHERING TO PRAISE GOD

Words of Welcome

The Prelude “**Ave Maria**” arr: Ralph Cheney

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath: **Hope**

Advent Prayer

Dear God,

**As we take our Advent pilgrimage,
grant us the courage to hope.**

Hope for your presence,

Hope for your peace,

Hope for your promise. Amen.

“Light the Advent Candle” TFWS # 2090 (vs. 4)

The Call to Worship: *(By Karin Ellis, adapted)*

It is a [gift] to enter the house of the Lord!

Here we lay aside our differences and pray for one another.

Here we catch a glimpse of light, a promise of hope and new life.

Here we wait for the birth of the one who will teach us how to love and serve.

It is a [gift] to enter the house of the Lord!

Come! Let us worship.

*The Opening Hymn: “**Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming**” UMH #216

Opening Prayer *(insert)*

LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD

The Scripture Lessons: **Isaiah 2: 1-5**

Matthew 24: 36-44

A Time for Children “**What Do You Hope For**”

(Continued on the back)

The Message: “Hope of Heaven”

Meditation in Music “Waiting for the Christ Child”

Composer: Ralph Cheney Lyrics: Sandy Nisbet

A Time of Prayer

Celebrations and Concerns

Silent Prayer and Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer **UMH # 895**

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

The Offering

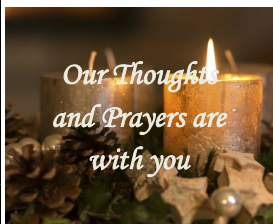
*Doxology **UMH # 95**

*The Prayer of Dedication (*insert*)

*The Closing Hymn: “**Blessed Be the God of Israel**” **UMH # 209**

Benediction, Announcements and Prayer

Postlude “Ding Dong Merrily on High”



Please pray for:

Harold Aziz
Trisha Aziz
Tom Bailey
Geneva and Norman
Beckwith
Michael Breed
Cathy Brissette
Russell Brown
Kendal Buck
Cameron (Ralph’s
grandson)
Gretchen Clark
Dwight Cooper
Betty Crocker
Karen Crommett
Danielle
Barbara Dill
Donna & Mike
DiTaranto

Crystal Farris
Armand Fournier
Harold and Lynn
Gerard
Todd Goode
Connie Greenleaf
Kay Gregory
Russell Hickey
Nancy Holmes
**Family of Darrell
Huff**
Vicky Kelley
Ray Ladd
Michael LaPlante
Ann LeClair
Kevin Lee
Cathy & Mark
Leonard
Emily Long’s gram
Lois, sister-in-law of
Pat O’Connor
Jerry Lucas
Steve McNelly

Judy Meserve’s
cousins
Jim Meserve
Kathy Meserve
Ellen Minotty
Tony Morgan
Pat O’Connor
Dennis O’Driscoll
Olivia & Jed
Silvia Palmer
Linda Pare
Carla Parsons
Peggy Philips
Jessie Powell
Sylvia Quint
Judy Quintal
Alton Ranks
Tanya Russell
Sherman Family
Sandy Smith
Sullivan Smith
Flo Sutter

Laverne & Tim
Tardiff
Patsy Tessier
Randy and Lisa
Thibeau
Rick Thombs
Tracy Trott
Samantha Dunn
Walker
Lorna Ulmer’s
brothers
Jane Weir
Jonathan Williams
Bert Winslow
Irene Wise

**People of the Middle
East**
The Military
Border Concerns
People of Ukraine
Victims of Violence
**Victims of Natural
Disasters**