



BEHOLD

NOW IS THE MOMENT

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

NOVEMBER 27, 2022

8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.

Invitation to Worship

Renee Purtlebaugh

Chiming of the Hour

The Lighting of the Advent Candle: Hope

Andrea Hunt, Jason Martin and Sebastian Martin (8:45)
Abbi Wolfe and Ashley Carlisle (11:15)

The world says, "All is lost."

God says, "All is loved."

The darkness says, "The light is dying."

The light says, "The fire is catching."

Fear says, "Cover your eyes and your ears."

Hope says, "Behold! The time is now."

As we light our first Advent candle,

We pray for the holy hope of God.

Come now, O Child of Mary.

Come now, O Prince of Hope.

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL, AND RANSOM CAPTIVE ISRAEL

Processional Hymn (79) †

VENI EMMANUEL

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Prayer of Expectancy

Karen Park

O COME, THOU DAYSPRING, COME AND CHEER OUR SPIRITS BY THINE ADVENT HERE

Choral Anthem

Howard Helvey

O Come, Divine Messiah

The Gospel Lesson †

Renee Purtlebaugh

Matthew 24:36-44 (Pew Bible page 27—NT)

Prayer of Confession

Jim England

Advent God, in this season of waiting, we confess that we have fallen asleep. Startle us into alertness when we forget to be present to all that you have entrusted us.

When we avoid your presence in others and in ourselves, stir us to incarnate your presence with us. Now is the moment you call all people to live in harmony, but we sow division and harvest discord. You command us to craft tools that sustain life, but we cling to weapons that damage and destroy. Advent God, show us what repentance is so our confessions may be complete and we may know our closeness to you. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Psalm 122:1-9 (Pew Bible page 560 —OT)

The Exchange of Hope

May the Hope of Christ be with you.

Hymn of Assurance (89) †

PSALM 42

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

O COME, THOU WISDOM FROM ON HIGH,
AND ORDER ALL THINGS, FAR AND NIGH

Prayers of the People

Lauren Jones Mayfield

The Epistle Lesson

Romans 13:11-12 (Pew Bible page 158—NT)

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Song of Advent

MORNING SONG
text by Diane Brewer

Wake us from sleep, sur - prise us__ Lord; Your light drives out de - spair: Your
word has__ prom - ised HOPE for__ all; Your pre - sence is__ our prayer.

Sermon

Behold! Now is the Moment

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

O COME, DESIRE OF NATIONS,
BIND ALL PEOPLES IN ONE HEART AND MIND

Hymn of Response (97) †

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

MORNING SONG

Offertory Prayer

Tyler Swim (8:45)
Steve Brown (11:15)

Offertory

Noel Huron

Denis Bedard

Doxology †

VENI EMMANUEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee O Israel!

Benediction

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Postlude

People, Look East

Wayne Wold

† For those who are able, we invite you to stand.

Today in Worship

Highland's deacons (wearing identification name tags) are available at various locations for prayer, questions or information. Deacons are lay ministers of the church who have been called to a ministry of service.

Phrases from today's processional hymn, *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service —praise, confession, proclamation and response.

Listening Assist Devices are available. Please see our sound technician or an usher for assistance.

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Notes and News for the Community of Faith

- **Join us this evening at 6:00 as we gather for our annual Hanging of the Green service** to prepare the sanctuary for the season and collect gift items for local organizations. **We are asking everyone to bring generous donations from the list below, requested by La Casita and Highlands Community Ministries, to serve our community this holiday season!**
 - ◆ Spanish and bilingual books (available for purchase in the Commons from Carmichaels)
 - ◆ Small bags of white rice and dry black beans
 - ◆ Holiday sweets (from grocery stores serving the Latinx community - see examples in the Commons)
 - ◆ Canned fruit and canned veggies with pop tops
 - ◆ Size 6 diapers and baby wipes
 - ◆ \$25 Target and Kroger cards
 - ◆ \$10 Walmart cards
 - ◆ Blankets
 - **Monday, November 28**
Sorting Soiree for Senior Adults (9:30 – 11:30 AM)
Join us as we begin to divide up the donations received for our various holiday partnerships.
 - **Wednesday, November 30**
Cloud of Witness: Advent Edition (6:15 PM)
This will be our last night of weekly dinners and regular Wednesday night activities for the year.
 - **Saturday, December 3**
Work Day on the grounds (8:30 AM)
Bring a rake and a friend to help spruce up the grounds around the building.

Christmas Caroling at Mid City Mall (4:00 PM)
Folks from Friday Church and Sunday services are invited to join us for a time of singing Christmas carols and spreading a message of Love with our neighbors during festivities at Bardstown Road Aglow. Meet at Valu Market parking lot.
 - **Sunday, December 4**
Second Sunday of Advent: Now is the Moment for... Peace (8:45 and 11:15 AM)
Join us as we light the Peace candle on our Advent wreath and participate in our annual Crosses on the Lawn vigil to remember those who have been killed by acts of violence in our community this year. Names are read and crosses are placed on the front lawn at the conclusion of the three weekend services. Alternative Christmas Cards go on sale in the Commons and throughout Advent.

Children's Choirs Advent Service (6:00 PM)
Children's voices are a highlight of the season. Join us for an evening of music from Highland's Carol and Chorister Choirs. Childcare provided for infants, toddlers and twos.
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**HIGHLAND
BAPTIST CHURCH**
*A thinking, feeling, healing
community of faith*

Our Mission... God's Love compels us to cultivate a safe, welcoming community of faith where all are challenged to discover, grow, and serve, as together we boldly live out the worship that is our very lives.