



Highwater Congregational United Church of Christ

1213 Dutch Lane Road NW Newark, OH 43055

Tel: 740-745-1281 Email: highchurch@windstream.net Web: <http://www.highwaterchurch.org>

Torie Front, Senior Minister & Music Director

Grace Waggoner, Director of Youth and Family Ministries

Organist: Patsy Farmer

Pianists: Cathy Bero, Judy Grace, Loren Goodman,



December 16, 2007 – Third Sunday of Advent

The Purpose of Worship is to Joyfully Praise Our God

* = stand if you are able † = 10:30 a.m. service only †† = 8:30 a.m. service only

* Opening Hymn – O Come, All Ye Faithful Page 145

Announcements & Prayer Requests

Prelude

Lighting of the Candles and Ringing of Church Bell

Call to Worship: The Advent of Our God (v. 1) Page 120

**The Advent of our God, with eager hearts we greet; and
we must praise Him in this hour with hymns and
anthems sweet.**

Prayer of the Congregation /Instrumental Amen

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Responsive Reading: Psalm 146: 5-10

⁵Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope
is in the LORD their God,

⁶**who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in
them; who keeps faith for ever;**

⁷who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the
hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

⁸**the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up
those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

¹⁰**The LORD will reign for ever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!**

Reader: May God's blessing be added to the reading and hearing of the Holy Scripture.

* Gloria Page 622

Old Testament Lesson – Isaiah 35:1-10

* Hymn - Angels We Have Heard on High Page 132

Gospel Lesson - Matthew 11:2-11

Reader – The Word of God for the People of God

Congregation – Thanks be to God.

Children's Chat † (*Children 6th grade and younger please come forward when you hear "Jesus Loves Me" played on the piano. All children participating in the Christmas program are dismissed after the Chat*)

The Advent Journey Continues.

Cantata "A Church Family Christmas" *Highwater Adult Choir*

Pastoral Prayer, Time of Silence, Lord's Prayer (using 'debts')

Offering & Offertory

* Doxology Page 625

* **Offering Prayer: God of love, hear our voices lifted to you. Thank you for the many blessings you've given us. Most of all, thank you for the greatest gift of love you gave us, Jesus. Let us live by his example; and in all that we do, let love be our guide. In loving response to your goodness, we bring you now these First Fruits offerings. Take them and multiply them so that others in this community and beyond can learn of your love for them. In Christ's loving name we pray, Amen.**

- * Hymn – Christmas Medley
- * Benediction
- * Benediction Response - Come, Thou Long-Expected JesusPage 124

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee. Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art; Dear Desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.



Visitors Are Always Welcome – If you came as a visitor this morning, we hope you will leave as a friend. Please fill out a visitor's card, which you will find in the pew, and place it in the offering plate. We are glad you are here, and hope you will return soon and often.

Nursery and Cry Room –We have a nursery available in the Legg Center **and** a Cry Room upstairs above the sanctuary where you are able to see and listen to the service.

Greeters and Ushers for December - Bob and Evan Rowe will be greeting us with the love of Christ this month.

Flower Dedication for December - December's altar flowers are donated by Randy & Shelly Ellis and Family in honor of their families.

Lay Readers for today - Evan Rowe 8:30 Tanner Maclachlan 10:30

Acolyte for today - Austin Campbell

Advent Wreath Families - Bob and Evan Rowe - 8:30

Drew, Cathy, Joshua Bero, and Tanner Maclachlan - 10:30



This Week at Highwater Congregational United Church of Christ:

Today	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
8:30a –Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a –Worship 4:30p - Santa's Workshop/Christmas Program/ Dinner	8a-12p Church office open 6:30p - WISH Christmas Dinner at Jennifer Bruce's 5319 Loudon St N.W. Bible Study cancelled	8:30a - 5:00p - Church Office open 7:30p - Pastoral Relations meeting	8:30a - 5:00p - Office open 7:30p - "Blue Christmas" service	8a - 2p Church office open 12:00p - <i>Monday</i> Noon Bible Study 7:30p - Council meeting		

Announcements and Information

Advent Devotionals - Please pick up you Advent devotionals, calendars, and schedules in the Narthex.

Children's Christmas Program / Family Dinner and Santa House - Tonight's activities start at 4:30pm with a Boomer-sponsored "Santa's Workshop" - an opportunity for kids to buy presents for family, teachers, and others at greatly reduced rates!! At 5:00pm the Children's Christmas Program will begin, followed by a dinner. Boomer's will provide meat and beverage. Last names beginning A-H please bring a desert and I-Z please bring a vegetable.

Choir Chime Practice - Next Sunday, Dec 23, 10:00am, the Chimes will practice and then play at the 10:30am service!

"Christmas Carol Hymn Sing" - Next Sunday, Dec 23 at both services.

Breakfast with Santa - Hosted by FISH at 9:30a next Sunday, Dec 23. Come enjoy pancakes flipped by Fellows in Service to Highwater and greet our visitor from the North Pole!

Christmas Eve Service - As always, Highwater will be offering two totally different Christmas eve services. The 7:30p is known as our Family service and concludes with "Silent Night" and candles for everyone. The 11:15p is our Quiet Country Candlelight service of Lessons and Carols. Special music provided by different members of the congregation will enhance each service.

Congregational Meeting - There will be a short congregational meeting following both services on Dec 30th to vote in our new Council Chairs.

New Year's Eve Party - Looking for a safe, family friendly gathering? Join our Highwater Family of Faith at Bob Rowe's home (4270 Marion Rd) on Dec 31st at 8:30pm. .Bring a covered dish or some snacks to share along with your favorite beverage. Expect to have fun as we usher in

the new year. Euchre, Bunko, Mexican Train Dominoes are just some of our entertainment possibilities.

Epiphany Sunday - Looking ahead to the end of the Christmas season, on January 6, Highwater will host our annual Epiphany gathering, complete with a Bonfire, Chili cook-off and a welcoming of our new members that joined our church family on November 25th. Start thinking about those chili recipes and plan on dropping off your cut Christmas tree in the church parking lot before January 6.

Mitten Tree - The smaller tree in the narthex is this year's Mitten Tree. It is sponsored by our Confirmation Class and is now ready to be filled with your donations of hats, scarves, and mittens / gloves. Items collected will be distributed at our local schools to kids in need.

Where Do You Live? - Take a moment to stop by the map on the bulletin board in the hallway leading to the office and put up a sticker to indicate where you live!

Please consider chairing or being a part of one of our church ministries. We are still in need of a chair person for our Missions ministry. Remember all ministries are open to members.

2008 Sign-up - Remember to sign up for Lay Reader, Greeter, and Altar Flowers for the coming year.

Hunters for Highwater! If you get an extra deer, donate it to Highwater! Questions? See Brian Payne or Grace Waggoner. If you are not a hunter and want to help, why not donate some spaghetti or chili to go with the ground venison?!

Highwater Congregational United Church of Christ Prayer List

Highwater Congregational UCC Church Family
Second Congregational UCC, Thornville

Our Members :

Carolyn Claggett
Merle Davis
Tom Lake Jr.
Grant Ellis
Kay Davis
Dave and Betty Nash
Rosalie Baughman

Praise:

Our Greater Church Family: *(The list starts over at the beginning of each month unless we know otherwise. Please add anyone continuing to need prayer)*

John Gard
Jeff French
Marge Patrick
Kim Swartz

Bill Gault
Evelyn Cashdollar
Leanne Connard
Pat Landon
Emily Hill
Alice Clary
Thelma Layman (Patsy Farmer's Mother)

In Memoriam: We join with the families in mourning the passing of their family member's:
Family of Pat Radabaugh

In the Military: All Troops overseas & their families

Jimmy Chen
Josh Momber - in Iraq (Elaine Tulloss's great nephew)
Geoff Stewart - in Iraq (Jack Schmidt's nephew)

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