

7:00pm & 9:00pm

December 24, 2018



# The Light Is With You

Mount Zion United Methodist Church

Rev. Gary Sheffield-James, Lead Pastor

12430 Scaggsville Rd, Highland, MD 20777

301.854.2324 410.531.5173 [www.mtzionhighland.com](http://www.mtzionhighland.com)

Touching Lives for Jesus Christ

# *Contemporary Candlelight Service 7pm*

## **Enter to Worship**

Gathering Music – *Light Of The World*

\*Lighting of the Advent and Christ Candles – Laurie, Chuck,  
Nathan & Brandon Norwood

Welcome Gary Sheffield-James

Greeting Gary Sheffield-James

Opening Prayer Gary Sheffield-James

Passing of the Peace

Songs of Celebration – *Light Of The Stable & What a  
Glorious Night*

Christmas Offering – *Christmas Eve In Bethlehem*

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*The Birth in a Manger – Luke 2:1-7 Gary Sheffield-James

*Mary Did You Know*

A Christmas Meditation – *The Light Is With You*  
Gary Sheffield-James

\*Sharing the Light of Christ – *A Christmas Alleluia,  
He Shall Reign Forevermore,  
Silent Night (Stille Nacht)*

# *Contemporary Candlelight Service 7pm*

*(Continued)*

\*Christmas Blessing

Gary Sheffield-James

\*Extinguishing the Candles

\*Closing Song – *Joy To The World (Unspeakable Joy)*

**\*You are invited to stand in heart or posture**

# *Traditional Candlelight Service 9pm*

**PRELUDE** – *What is This Lovely Fragrance?* Deb Papavizas

**WELCOME** Gary Sheffield-James

**GATHERING MUSIC** – *Rejoice!* Chancel Choir

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsively) (*Psalm 26, Luke 2*)

L: Sing a new song of our ancient story.

**P: Sing of the birth of Christ.**

L: Sing a new song of our ancient hope.

**P: Sing of the promises of God.**

L: Sing a new song of peace and love.

**P: Sing with the angels above.**

**\*PROCESSIONAL:** *O Come All Ye Faithful* (vss. 1,2,3 6) No. 234

**\* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT & CHRIST CANDLES**

Russ, Christy and Katy Fink/Wnuk-Fink

(responsively)

First Reader:

*(Begin with the previous candles relit.)*

L: In a time of violence and despair, an ancient prophet gives good news: The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light. . . . The boots of earth-shaking armies on the march, the soldiers' cloaks rolled in blood, are destined to be burnt, food for the fire. For a child has been born to us. . . . Wide will be the dominion and boundless the peace . . . with justice and righteousness from now on, for evermore. (*Isa. 9:2a, 5, 6a, 7a, 7c REB*)

Second Reader:

We light the Christ candle, thankful that God has come to us, not as a conquering hero but as a child, whose faithful, peaceful life will follow God's way of love.

*(Light the Christ candle.)*

**P: (unison prayer) Living God, come to our world, may the love of Christ shine brightly, at the center of our lives, spreading warmth and light, in us, in this congregation, and everywhere.**

**\*CAROL:** *Angels We Have Heard on High* (vss. 1 & 3) No. 238

## **THE BIRTH OF THE SAVIOR FORETOLD**

**SCRIPTURE:** Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 & Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

**CAROL:** *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* (vss. 1, 3) No. 240

## **THE ANNUNCIATION**

**SCRIPTURE:** Luke 1:26-35, 38

**ANTHEM:** *Mary on a Mountain* Trinity Choir

## **HE IS BORN!**

**SCRIPTURE:** Luke 2:1-7

**ANTHEM:** *December Carol* Chancel Choir

## **THE VISIT OF THE WISE MEN**

**SCRIPTURE:** Matthew 2:1-11

**CAROL:** *The First Noel* (vss. 1, 3, 5) No. 245

## **CHRISTMAS OFFERING**

**MUSICAL OFFERING:** *Glad Noel* Trinity Choir

\*Doxology "*In the Bleak Midwinter*" (verse 4) No. 221

*"What can I give him, poor as I am?*

*If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;*

*If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;*

*Yet what I can give him, give him my heart."*

\*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Alleluia! Alleluia! We bring our offering tonight in a spirit of thanksgiving and rejoicing for your great gift, O generous God. Help us remember always to give in this spirit of joy. Use these gifts that all your people will know the good news of salvation of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **THE SHEPHERDS AND THE ANGELS**

**SCRIPTURE:** Luke 2:8-16

# THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS

**SCRIPTURE:** John 1:1-14

**A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE:** *THE LIGHT IS WITH YOU*

**\*ANTHEM:** *Sleeping Adonai* Solo: Janice Doherty & Chancel Choir

## **\*SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

(As “Silent Night” is sung, the lights will be dimmed, and the pastor will light the candle of the candle lighter gathered at the altar. They will light the candle of the first worshipers in each pew. Light will then be passed from worshiper to worshiper. Remember that the lighted candle remains upright and the unlighted candle is tipped to be lighted.)

**\*CAROL:** *Silent Night* No. 239

## **\*CHRISTMAS BLESSING:**

L: We rejoice this night in the rising of the Sun of righteousness, the coming of the heaven-born Prince of Peace. Let us go out in love, ready to spread the news of the light and life he brings to all the earth. The Peace of Christ go with you.

**P: And also with you. Amen.**

## **\*EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES**

**\*CAROL:** *Joy to the World* No. 246

## **\*CHORAL BENEDICTION:**

*Hallelujah Chorus* – All are invited to join the choir in singing

**\*POSTLUDE:** *Carillon* by Louis Vierne Deb Papavizas

**\*Please stand, as you are able.**

**MAY YOU HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A  
BLESSED NEW YEAR!**

**\*\*IF THE SANCTUARY IS FULL,** we have set up live video and audio in these three sites: 1)NURSERY, 2) CHAPEL, 3) FELLOWSHIP HALL

**\*You are invited to stand in heart or posture**

# CHRISTMAS 2018

## POINSETTIAS



*The lovely poinsettias, which decorate our Sanctuary during this Christmas season, are placed here by the following families and individuals to glorify God and to remember or to honor loved ones.*



***In Loving Memory of***



***Barbara Adams***

*Bill Adams*

***Ruth Gray***

*Bill Adams*

***Thomas Hobbs***

*Karen Blau*

***Our Parents***

*Dick & Martha Caruso*

***My Husband, John Cashmark***

*Betty Cashmark*

***Our Parents Gilbert & Violet Coonts, Carroll & Dorothy Williams***

*Nancy & John Coonts*

***Lucius 'Pere' Dickson***

*Joanne Dickson*

***Kenneth Ellis***

*Alice Ellis*



***In Loving Memory of*** 

***Edmund, Virginia & Linda Haywood***  
*Gail Coffin*

***Warren Howard***  
*Barbara Howard*

***Ed & Joyce Jacques, Art's Parents***  
*Art & Barb Jacques*

***Dorothy Sunderland, Barb's Grandmother***  
*Art & Barb Jacques*

***Donna Kopp***  
*The Kopp Family*

***Peggy Barrett***  
*The Kopp Family*

***Our Grandparents***  
*David & Belinda Norton*

***Wilda & Jennings Norwood & Ernie Powers***  
*Laurie & Chuck Norwood*

***My Loving Husband Winfield Parlette***  
*Ann Parlette*

***Jacob and Ruth Parlette, Howard Parlette***  
*Ann Parlette*

***Willard and Ina Steen***  
*Amy and Logan Roundtree*

***Sylvia Berry***  
*Amy and Logan Roundtree*





***In Loving Memory of*** 

***Margueritte Wampler***  
*Sandy & Chuck Sehman*

***Roselia & Aristed Rebottini***  
*Andrea Smolen*

***My Parents***  
*Caroline Strats*

***Polly Hawkes & Wilson (Will) Lee Hobbs***  
*Wilma Wiest*



# ***In Honor of***



## ***Our Grandchildren & Grandchildren***

*Dick & Martha Caruso*

## ***My Children: David, James, Bill, Stacy & Kathy***

*With Love, Mom Betty Cashmark*

## ***My Grandchildren: Allison, Cody, Casey, Carlee & Great Granddaughter Mackenzie***

*With Love, Grandma Betty Cashmark*

## ***All of our Loving family in Indiana***

*The Chadwicks*

## ***My amazing gift from God, Aiden Chadwick***

*Mom*

## ***Our Daughter, Ella Ciliberti***

*Amy & Peter Ciliberti*

## ***Our Parents, John and Nancy Coonts***

*Amy, Peter & Ella Ciliberti & Jack, Emy, Connor,*

*Lizzie and Jake Coonts*

## ***Our Children Jack & Emy Coonts,***

***Amy & Peter Ciliberti***

*Nancy & John Coonts*

## ***Our Grandchildren Connor, Lizzie, Jack & Ella***

*Nancy & John Coonts*

## ***Brandon & Nathan Norwood***

*Laurie & Chuck Norwood*

## ***Suzanne Powers***

*Laurie & Chuck Norwood*



***In Honor of***



***Elaine & Victor Smolen***  
*The Smolen Family*

***Bonita & Bill Divver***  
*The Smolen Family*

*Poinsettias may be removed after the conclusion of the 9pm service Christmas Eve. Flowers may be left in the Sanctuary until the afternoon of January 6, 2019, Epiphany Sunday. Any Poinsettias left at the church following the 11am service on Jan 6 will be donated to the church. Thank you. Merry Christmas!*

***Have a Blessed and Merry Christmas!***



May the  
**JOY**, **PEACE**,  
**HOPE** and  
**LOVE**  
of Jesus  
our Savior be  
with you.

*Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year!*

**December 30th - One Service 10:00am**