



## Highlands Happenings



### Third Week of Advent

During this season of waiting in hopeful anticipation of Christmas, we light another candle on the Advent wreath each week as we await the coming of new life into our world, and within our own lives.

We have lit the first two candles, one for hope and one for peace. This coming Sunday we will light the third candle, the candle of **joy**. This should be the easy one, because joy is all

around us—in the children, the lights, the music, the gathering together. But how often do we let our holiday preparations—or our memories—push joy to the side?

**Joy is like an underground spring that wells up within us, but joy is also a choice, and attitude. Like a muscle, it needs to be exercised. So this week we open ourselves to joy, trusting that God has already planted it in us. All we need to do is give it care and offer it to share.**



## **Birthdays and Celebrations**

Robert Reynolds - 12/17, Martin Brotherton - 12/18



## **Advent Adventure for Little Lutherans: Sat Dec 15th, 10am-1pm**

Please join us for our second annual Advent Adventure bonanza! We will be taking pictures of the kids acting out the Christmas story. These will then be made into a video that will be shown during our Christmas Eve service. Pictures will be done from 10-11:30.

After pictures we will move to the fellowship hall for lunch, and crafting! During this time (11:30-1) parents are welcome to stay, or take some time to run quick holiday errands. If you do chose to head out, please be sure your information is in our Sunday School registration book!

We'll also be collecting toys at this event to benefit [The Gathering Place in Denver](#). So please bring a toy to donate if you are able!



## Our own Emily Stover in concert!

Our music director Emily Stover plays in the [Rocky Mountain Ringers](#), a semi-professional bell choir here along the front range. Come out to enjoy some great music and support her and the Ringers for one of their upcoming Winter Wonderland concerts!

[Tickets can be purchased here.](#)



## Pledge Reminder

**Did you forget to bring in your pledge card? It's not too late!**

Your contribution of time, talent, and financial support is what makes it possible for us to be church - better together!

Thank you!

-Nicole Jobin, Council President



## **Christmas Eve Worship - 4:30pm Dec 24th**

Join us for Christmas Eve, 4:30pm Monday Dec. 24! There will be plenty of beautiful music as together we all sing some of the classics, listen to our choir, and enjoy a piece from our brand new bell choir. Worship will include a children's sermon featuring the long-awaited pageant slideshow of the kids acting out scenes from the Christmas story. Our worship will end with the candlelit singing of Silent Night. Don't miss out on it!

## The Bookies!

The Bookies are a group of folks who gather once monthly on a Friday evening for a meal and some discussion on a book. Let Pastor Asher know if you're interested in joining and he can get you connected. Here are the upcoming dates and hosts:

Jan 4 - Ray Lejeune

Feb 8 - Lynn Cooper

Mar 8 - Pam McClune

April 12 - Erin Power

## Miss a Sermon?

Our website has a [new section where you can find recordings of all the sermons](#) from recent weeks. So if you ever need to miss worship on a Sunday, you can still access the sermon for the week on your mobile phone or computer at your convenience.

## Ministering in Worship for 12/16/2018

Usher Team .....Lorraine Rumpeltes, Paul Rumpeltes, Jerry Haselgren and Brandon Stover

Reader: .....Carrie Olgeirson

Assisting Minister: .....Sue Wittkopp

Chancel Ministry: .....Sue Wittkopp

Coffee .....Nancy & Dennis Lintvedt

## Stewardship of Time and Resources

**Looking to step up your stewardship game?** Consider getting active in our HLC Council! Council meetings are open to the congregation. Unless otherwise noted, Council meetings take place in the HLC church library at 6:00pm on the 2nd Monday of the month. We welcome your input!

**ReconcilingWorks gift:** As a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) partner, we have taken an extra step to affirm that when we say "All are welcome" we *really* mean **ALL**. This gives us yet another stewardship opportunity in supporting the ReconcilingWorks ministry as they expand across the country. Should you be moved to make a donation toward the mission of proclaiming God's unconditional love to all, know that your gift will be matched dollar for dollar (up to \$30,000) through a matching gift challenge by the ReconcilingWorks Board of Directors, until December 31st. You may send your gift directly to ReconcilingWorks at <http://www.reconcilingworks.org> or place a check (clearly marked **For: Reconciling Works**) in the offering plate and HLC will forward it to ReconcilingWorks.

## Learning about Liturgy: Why is the candle for this Sunday pink?

The use of Advent wreaths originated with German Lutherans in the 16th century and became more widely popularized in the 19th century. At first these wreaths were primarily used by

households for family devotions during the week outside of congregational worship. As time has gone on, they have been adopted as a part of Sunday worship in many congregations.

Perhaps you or your family have used "Advent Calendars" in the past - a calendar that counts down the days to Christmas, often with pieces of chocolate for each day. The Advent Wreath was the original Advent calendar!

Our Advent Wreath has 5 candles - one for each week of Advent as we await the coming of Christ on Christmas, plus the Christ candle in the center of the wreath. There are various designations for themes that can be used for each candle. This year the designations that we'll be using are: hope, peace, joy, and love. During worship each week of Advent, we light one additional candle. Last week we lit the hope candle, this week will be the peace candle, next will be joy, and then love.

## Calendar

[Here's a glimpse of what's going on this week!](#)



SHARE TO FACEBOOK



SHARE TO TWITTER



FORWARD EMAIL



Highlands Happenings

Want to be permanently removed from our email list?

[Unsubscribe](#)

**Highlands Lutheran Church**

Worship: Sundays 10am

3995 Irving St., Denver  
United States

mailer lite