# **Sermon: Unwrapping Christmas**

1 Timothy 3:16

Pastor Weyland Leach

Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory.

# **The Heights Church**

1845 Hyacinth Avenue East, Saint Paul, MN 55119-4599 church office: 651.776.0519 / fax: 651.776.1492

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theheightschurchmn.org

# The **Heights** Church

"We exist to joyfully surrender our lives to Jesus Christ through God's Word, together proclaiming the gospel to all peoples, for the glory of God."

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Advent - December 24, 2017

Prelude Megan Hayton

Gathering

Prepare Him Room Elliott/Fournier

Welcome

Call to Worship Luke 2:1–7

#### **Lighting of the Advent Candle**

#### **Praise & Adoration**

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus
Angels We Have Heard on High
O Little Town of Bethlehem
Scripture Reading
Wesley/Prichard, hymn #168
Chadwick/Barnes, hymn #192
Brooks/Redner, hymn #178
Luke 2:8–14
What Child Is This?
Dix/Traditional English Carol

# **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

# **Worship in Giving**

Fullness of Grace Getty/Townend

# Response

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:15–20

Joy to the World

Watts/Handel, hymn #171

#### Word

Unwrapping Christmas
1 Timothy 3:16 page 992 in the pew Bible

Pastor Weyland Leach

### **Closing Song**

O Come All Ye Faithful
Oakeley/Wade, hymn #193
Silent Night
Mohr/Gruber, hymn #195

#### Benediction

#### Welcome!

Welcome to The Heights Church! We are grateful that you are with us today as we gather together to make much of Jesus Christ. If you have any questions or would like to know more about our church **please fill out our Connection Card** located in the pews. It is our joy to serve you.

We love having families worship together in our service. We also understand that a child may become restless during a service. If needed, you are welcome to use our restless child room directly behind the sanctuary where the worship service can still be heard. We also have a **Nursing Mom's Room** across the hall from the sanctuary where you can listen to the worship service.

# This Week Sunday, December 24 Christmas Eve

9:00am No Sunday School 10:15am Worship Service

# Monday, December 25 Merry Christmas!

(Church office closed)

# Tuesday, December 26 (Church office closed)

# Wednesday, December 27

7:30pm Worship Team Rehearsal

# Sunday, December 31

9:00am No Sunday School 10:15am Worship Service

#### Attendance / Offering

Attendance last Sunday: 136

#### **General Budget**

Offering Given Last Sunday: \$9,512.84 Weekly Gen. Budget Need: \$5,682.12

#### First Quarter to Date Giving

(November 1, 2017–January 31, 2018)
Offering Given QTD: \$41,499.65
Offering Need QTD: \$39,774.84

# **Preaching Schedule**

Dec 24 Pastor Weyland Leach
Dec 31 Pastor Weyland Leach
Jan 7 Pastor Weyland Leach

# **Prayer Requests**

Do you have a prayer request? It is our joy to pray for you. Please share your request via our prayer link at **theheightschurchmn.org** or by contacting the church office at 651.776.0519.

# **Baptism / Membership**

Do you have questions about baptism or church membership? Please contact us at 651.776.0519 or theheightschurch1@gmail.com.

#### Sermon Audio

Audio of today's sermon will be available for streaming/download at **theheightschurchmn.org** by this Tuesday. You can also request an audio CD of any sermon by contacting our church office.

#### Mobile Giving

You can use your phone to give to The Heights Church. **Text "HEIGHTSMN" to 77977** to get a link to give a one-time or recurring offering.

When you send your text you will receive a one-time reply containing a link to give to The Heights Church (1msg/request). Please be aware that Msg & Data rates may apply. For full Terms & Conditions, please visit https://pushpay.com/terms. For the Privacy Policy, please visit https://pushpay.com/privacy. For help, reply HELP or STOP to cancel.

#### **Announcements**

visit us at theheightschurchmn.org

# No Sunday School Classes on December 24 and 31

All classes resume on Sunday, January 7, 2018.

#### No Men's Bible Study this Wednesday, December 27

#### **Worship Service Song Lyrics Available (Large Print)**

To help serve those who have difficultly reading the song lyrics during our worship service, we also have large print song sheets available at the back usher table.

#### **Year-End Giving Online**

Online giving is available at **theheightschurchmn.org**. Simply click the "Give" link at the top of the homepage and follow the online instructions. All year-end contributions must be made by December 31.

#### Offering Envelope Boxes for 2018 Now Available

If you are currently using personal offering envelopes, your new offering envelopes for 2018 are available to pick up in the foyer. If you do not have personal offering envelopes but would like to start using them for 2018, please contact our church office and we will be glad to assist you.

# **Serving One Another**

#### Today

Ushers: Dick Johnson, Cory Mastel, Brian Kendall Greeters: Don Nelson, Russ Johnson

Coffee: Russ & Judy Johnson

#### Communion for January 7

Mike Facklam, Gary Horn, Matt Taylor, Dick Johnson Set up: Alice Rogan

**Next Sunday** 

Joe Groppoli, Walt Acosta Russ Johnson, Loren Johnson

Kathy Lundberg