

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor continues...

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Pastor continues...

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pastor continues...

Amen.

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Wesley United Methodist Church

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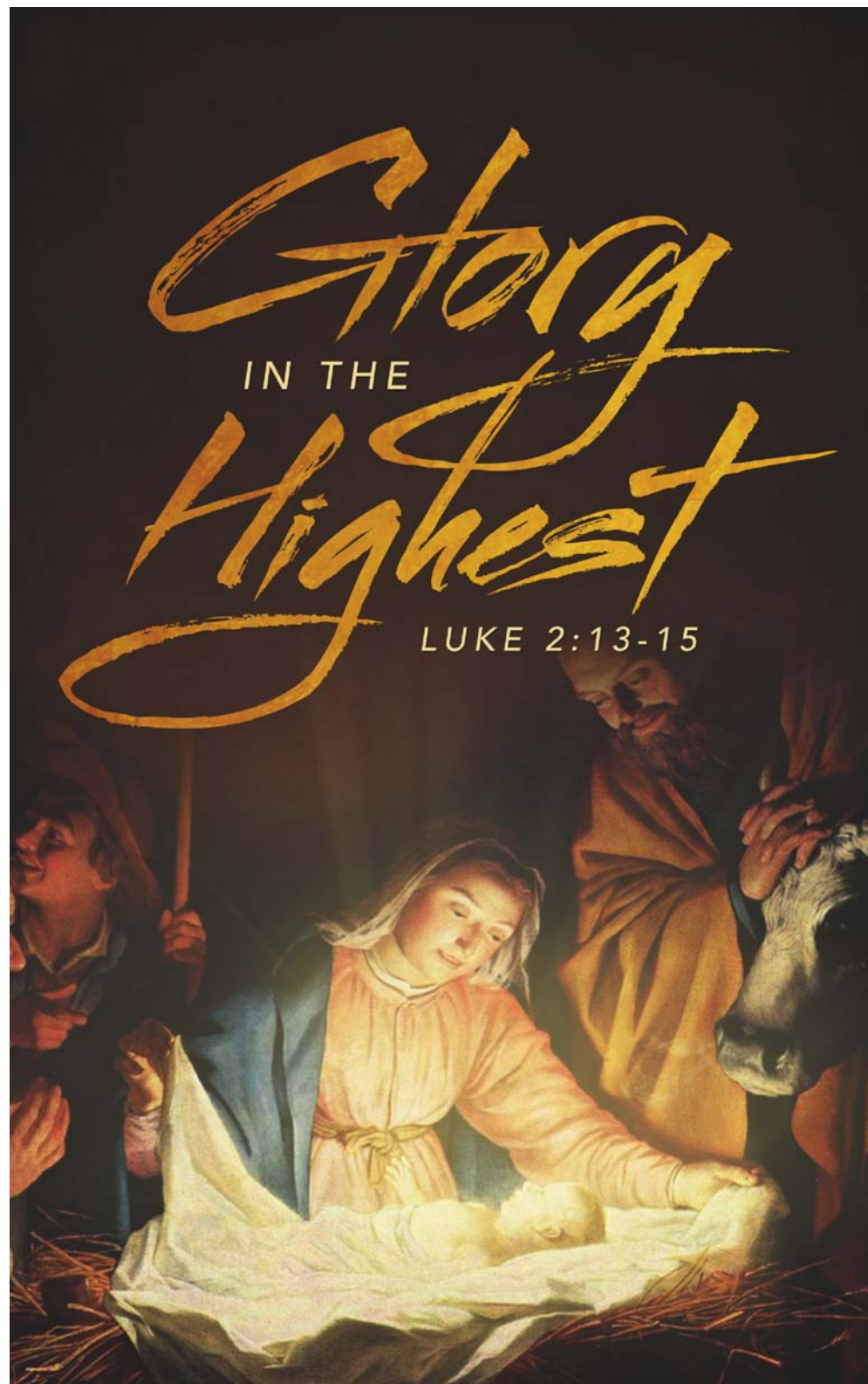
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***Welcome to
Wesley United Methodist Church
Christmas Eve, December 24, 2018***

ENTRANCE

PRELUDE "Cradle Song" Trad. Austrian carol/arr. Roger C. Wilson
"There's a Song in the Air" by Karl P. Harrington/arr. Ellen Jane Lorenz

WORDS OF WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES AND CHRIST CANDLE

7 p.m. Brad, Erin, Jack & Sydney Graves
11 p.m. Jan Glover, Steve & Amy Lopez

† CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Loving God, we thank You for the Light of Hope Jesus gives us. We thank You for the Peace of Christ in our hearts and minds; for how You are perfecting us in Christ's JOY through the Holy Spirit. God, we thank you for Christ's two greatest commandments to love You with all we have and to love our fellow humans as we love ourselves.

As we light the Christ candle tonight, may it truly remind us how the Light of Jesus Christ came long ago, and the Light has been growing ever since, as a blessing to ALL people. May we feel the love, warmth, and life Christ offers us, and may we share that Light through all we say and do, Amen.

† HYMN "Joy to the World" #246 v. 1,4

1ST SCRIPTURE Luke 1:26-38
"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" #211 v.1,7

First Story: She Changed the World
7 p.m. "Love Came Down at Christmas" #242 v. 1,3
11 p.m. "Mary Did You Know" Choir
by Mark Lowry & Buddy Greene/arr. Douglas E. Wagner

2ND SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-7
"Away in a Manger" #217 v.1,3

Second Story: 7 p.m. A Children's Story (taken from a story by Max Lucado)
11 p.m. Born in a Humble Place
"O Little Town of Bethlehem" #230 v.1,2

3RD SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-20
"Angels We Have Heard on High" #238 v.1,4

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

OFFERTORY SPECIAL MUSIC "O Holy Night" Dylan Hinrichs
by Adolphe Adam

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Loving God, on the first Christmas long ago You gave us the greatest of gifts, Your child, Jesus Christ. Dear God, please take these offerings, so that more of Your children might receive gifts of love and blessing, in Christ's Name, Amen!

The Final Story: A Savior for all People

11 p.m. **SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
(See back of bulletin)

† HYMN "Silent Night, Holy Night" #239

WORDS OF BLESSING

POSTLUDE "Christmas Pastorale"
carols by J.R. Murray and Franz Gruber/arr. Robert J. Hughes

Our Christmas offering will be split between Loaves & Fishes and Disaster Relief Fund

We have a staffed and welcoming nursery for the 7 p.m. service!

† Please stand if you are able.

Miss a sermon? You can listen to them online at www.sterlingwesley.org or watch it on Facebook live.