



CENTERING MOMENT

*"Happiness is not so much in having as sharing.
We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." ~ Norman MacEwen*
*Worshippers are invited to bring their **Gift Sunday donations** to the altar at this time.*

PRELUDE

"Pastoral Symphony"
George Frideric Handel

Robert Johnson, Jr.

GREETING

Carmen Hayes
Liturgist

CALL TO WORSHIP & ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

8 am | Hightower/Hill Family
11 am | Thomas/Wesley Family

A voice cries in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord!"

A challenge is uttered from on high:

"Make straight the paths of our God."

Come! Let us worship the God of our salvation.

We worship with a passion for God's peace throughout the earth.

We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to passionately pursue the work of making peace in our hearts, our families, our communities, and throughout the earth until God's kin-dom comes on earth as it is in heaven.

(Light the second candle of the Advent wreath.)

OPENING PRAYER

***God of our deliverance, you meet us in our need.
You fill the valleys of our insecurities with hope
and bring low the mountains of our pride and conceit.
As we await your Son and the glory of your salvation,
guide our feet in the ways of peace. Amen.***

*Adapted from Abingdon Worship Annual
(B. J. Beu) and UMDiscipleship.org
(Rev. Beg Ogsden)*

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN “There’s a Voice in the Wilderness Crying”

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”
J. S. Bach harmonization

Haqumai Sharpe
Tenor

SCRIPTURE

Luke 3:1-6
Common English Bible

SONG OF PREPARATION

“Comfort Ye, My People” (recitative)
“Every Valley Shall Be Exalted” (air)
George F. Handel

Mr. Sharpe

MESSAGE

“Prepare the Way”

Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin
Lead Pastor

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

INVITATIONAL HYMN

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & BLESSING OF THE GIFTS

Historically observed on the second Sunday of December, **Gift Sunday** is the church’s opportunity to give back to the community by donating unwrapped toys during the first and second services. This tradition, started by Dr. Quentin James, was meant to ensure that the children of the Kedren Community Center received gifts for Christmas. This year, we are donating the gifts to **Children Youth and Family Collaborative (CYFC)**, for their **25th Annual Holiday Festival** at Holman on December 14, 2024 at 12:00 pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR TITHES & OFFERING

BENEDICTION

“Come Savior, Quickly Come”
Evelyn Cureton

Holman Choir

POSTLUDE

“I Hear A Sound”
Himmie Gustafson

Robert Johnson, Jr.

TODAY IN WORSHIP: Rev. Victor Cyrus-Franklin, *Lead Pastor*; Rev. Dr. Jennifer Oliver, *Associate Pastor*; Rev. Louis Chase, *Minister of Community Outreach*; *In Memoriam* Rev. James M. Lawson, Jr., *Pastor Emeritus*; Carmen Hayes, *Liturgist*; Holman Choir, William Campbell, Jr., *Director*; Robert Johnson, Jr., *Organist*; Ricardo L. J. Mowatt, *Drummer*; David R. Sears, *Production Mixer*; Mark Conway, *Video Director*; Keith McGruder, *House Mixer*; Fitzroy Younge, *House Mixer*; Jules Green, *Post-Production*; Mychael Carter, *Audio Tech/Mixer*

We invite you to sponsor our 11:00 am worship broadcast live on Radio Free, KJLH 102.3 FM. Carry the good news to those who are sick, shut-in or far away, while sharing a special message, honoring a loved one, celebrating an occasion, or promoting an event. A 20% discount on sponsorship has been extended through the end of the year. Visit holmanumc.com/forms, and become a radio broadcast sponsor today!



WAYS TO GIVE

- **Mail:** Send to *Holman UMC*,
3320 W Adams Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90018
- **Radio Broadcast Sponsorship:** Take advantage of a 20% discount on the 11am worship broadcast on KJLH Radio Free 102.3 FM!
- **Online:** Go to the church website @ www.holmanumc.com/give
- **Altar Flowers Sponsorship:** Visit holmanumc.com/give and choose flowers.



Access the broadcast sponsorship form at www.holmanumc.com/forms and be a blessing today!

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

PRAYER LIST | Gloria Bailey, Cassandra Bailey, Hazel Storey and family; Dr. Bettye Walker and family; Anita Hayes and family, Mrs. Emily Brown, Ovis Massey, Cynthia Marroquin-Henley, Thresa Thomas, Reggie Thomas, Gweneth Alexander, the family of Dr. Barbara Lake, the family of Wilfred Malcolm, Samantha McQueen, Dr. Harold Jordan, Larry Turner, Freddie Muse, Jr.



BEREAVEMENT | **Professor Hildreth “Hal” Walker, Jr.** passed away on Sunday evening, November 24, 2024, at Blaauwberg Hospital, Cape Town, South Africa. A **celebration of his life** will be held on **Thursday, December 19, 11:00 am** at Holman. Please keep the Walker family in prayer. | **Dr. Herbert Conley**, brother of longtime members Gloria Bailey and Hazel Storey, and uncle of Dr. Cassandra Bailey, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday afternoon, November 23rd. Plans are pending. Please keep the family in prayer. | **A Celebration of the Life of Dr. Barbara Lake** was held Friday, December 6 at Holman. Please keep the Lake family in prayer. | Homegoing services for **Wilfred Malcolm** are pending. Please keep Mr. Malcolm’s family in prayer.

AFTER WORSHIP

- **The Advent Bazaar** continues in White Hall immediately following worship services.
- Join us for **Hospitality and Fellowship** immediately following service in the Library.
- Join the **Holman Choir** and guest artists for *Handel’s Messiah* today at 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary.
- The **Holman Choir & Jubilant Voices** will perform in honor of our late Pastor Emeritus, Rev. James M. Lawson, Jr. at the **2024 Leonard I. Beerman Foundation Award for Social Justice in Action Celebration** at 7:00 pm at Leo Baeck Temple.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Advent Book Study** continues Monday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. This year’s book is *The Heart That Grew Three Sizes: Finding Faith in the Story of the Grinch* by Matt Rawle.
- **All-Church Charge Conference** is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m.** Council members and ministry chairs, please submit electronic charge conference forms. Contact the church office at caroline@holmanumc.com if you need the link.
- **Children and Youth Ministries** invite you to “A Soulful Christmas” on **Sunday, December 15** from **9:45-10:45** in the Sanctuary.

This Week @ HOLMAN

www.holmanumc.com/calendar

Sunday, Dec 8

Sunday Worship: 8:00 am

8–9:15am | Every Sunday
Sanctuary

Adult Sunday School: Zoom + Phone

9:30–10:30am | Every Sunday
Online

Children's Church/Sunday School: Gathering

DIGITAL LESSON | "[Getting From One Place to Another](#)"
9:30–10:30am | Every Sunday
Johnson Chapel

Book Talk: Zoom

9:15–10:15am | Every Sunday | Online
Noel Leo Erskine, *Black Theology and Black Faith*

Sunday Worship: 11:00 am

11am–12:15pm | Every Sunday
Sanctuary

Holman Choir Rehearsal: 12:30-2:00 pm

12:30-2:00pm | Every Sunday
Bowick Music Room (111)

Holman United Women in Faith Spiritual Growth Circle

1:00-3:00pm | Every 3rd Sunday
Crockett Library

Tuesday, Dec 10

A-MAN Center Christmas Scholars Celebration

3:30–6:00pm
Education Building, Rms 2 & 9

SPPRC Monthly Meeting

6:30–7:45pm | The third Tuesday of every month
Online

Thursday, Dec 12

Thursday Bible Study

1–2pm | Every Thursday
Phone

Friday, Dec 13

Friday Morning Prayer Group: Prayer Service

7:30–8:30am | Every Friday
Phone

Advent at Holman



Sunday, December 8

Gift Sunday

During worship services

Advent Bazaar

10am–3pm | L. L. White Hall (following worship services)

Handel's *Messiah*

3pm | Sanctuary

Holman Choir and Jubilant Voices at Leonard Beerman Foundation for Justice and Peace

6-8pm | Sanctuary
Leo Baeck Temple | 1300 N. Sepulveda Bl. | L.A., CA 90049

Saturday, December 14

Children Youth Family Collaborative

25th Annual Holiday Festival

8am-3pm | L. L. White Hall & Parking Lot

Holman United Women in Faith Annual Christmas Luncheon

11am-3pm
Proud Bird Restaurant | 11022 Aviation Bl. | L.A., CA 90049

Sunday, December 15

A Soulful Christmas featuring the Holman

UMC Children and Youth Ministries

9:45-10:45am | Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 18

All Church Charge Conference

7-8:30pm | Zoom