

# Service of Worship

10:00 AM

+Please stand where indicated if it is comfortable for you.

All are welcome in this place of worship.

As you are seated, please silence your cell phones.

The congregation will speak the liturgy in bold print.

## Gathering

### PRELUDE

Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine

traditional German melody

Arr. arr. Mark Hayes/Douglas E. Wagner

Silence is kept during the prelude to prepare our hearts for worship

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Linden Hustedt

Lay Leader

### SHARING THE LIGHT

Mitch and Debbie Martinez

Dominican Republic Missionaries

### CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Boney Family

#### Reader 1:

A reading from Isaiah chapter 9: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

#### Reader 2:

We light this candle as a symbol of the Prince of Peace. May the visitation of your Holy Spirit, O God, make us ready for the coming of Jesus, our hope and joy.

**ALL: O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

### CENTERING

Tell Out, My Soul

Philip Eyrich Organ  
Creatorex, 1919

### +OPENING PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Matthew M. Williams

God, our light and our salvation, you bring hope and peace to the lowly and oppressed. Let us see the world through your eyes that we may love the widow and orphan, that we may work for justice, that our lives may bear witness to the good news of the kingdom at hand and our vocation serve to draw people to your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### +THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be, World without end.  
**Amen.**

### WORSHIP IN MUSIC

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Hank Bentley, Matt Maher, Ike Ndolo & Richard Scott

Arr. Ed Kerr (Rebecca deRosa, vocalist)

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kathy Peters

Coordinator of Family Ministries

## Proclamation

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (In unison)

**Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; send the Holy Spirit now to illuminate your holy word; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Luke 1:46b-55

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### PREPARATION To a Maid Engaged to Joseph Philip Eyrich, Organ

Edwards, 1983

### +GOSPEL LESSON Luke 1:26-38

The Word of God for the people of God

**Thanks be to God**

### HOMILY Let it Be According to Your Word

The Rev. Dr. Matthew M. Williams

## Response

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH A Christmas Affirmation

**I believe in Jesus Christ and the beauty that began in Bethlehem. I believe in Him whose spirit glorified a little town; of whose coming only the shepherds saw the signs, and for whom the crowded inn could find no room.**

**I believe in Him whom the kings of earth ignored and the proud could never understand; whose paths were among the common people, whose welcome came from people of hungry hearts.**

**I believe in Him who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible: whose cradle was a mother's arms, who was raised in Nazareth, who looked at men and women and made them see what his love saw in them; who by his love brought sinners back to purity, and lighted human weakness up to meet the strength of God.**

**I confess my everlasting need of God: the need of forgiveness for my greed and selfishness, the need of life for empty souls, the need of love for hearts grown cold.**

I acknowledge the glory of all that is like Christ: the steadfastness of friends, the blessedness of homes, the beauty of compassion, the miracle of hearts made kind at Christmas, the courage of those who dare to resist all passion, hate, and war.

**I believe that only by love expressed shall the earth at last be purified. And I pray that redemption might begin in me. Amen.**

### PRAYERS AND PRAISES

### HYMN OF ADORATION

O Little Town of Bethlehem (VS4)

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of love,

**Hear our prayer.**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## Sending Forth

### +BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Matthew M. Williams

Bless the Lord with all your soul  
and may the blessing of God: Father, Son, and  
Holy Spirit be with you now and forevermore.

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE People, Look East - traditional French melody

arr. Stephen L. Aber

**Thank you for your ongoing investment in the life  
and ministry of Lighthouse United Methodist Church  
of Boca Grande.**

**An offering basket is located at the entrance**

## CONNECT CARD



### WELCOME! We'd like

to help you get connected. Please fill out this card & place it on the offering plate.

Let us know how we can reach out to you!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you attended LH Church?

- 1st time guest  2nd time guest  
 guest from out of town  
 regular attendee  member

I am interested in:

Having the Pastor Contact Me

- Youth and Families  
 Small Groups  
 Missions  
 United Methodist Women  
 Men's Prayer Group  
 Strawberry Festival Volunteer  
 Stephen Ministry  
 Greeting and Ushering  
 Communion Stewardship  
 Fellowship Hour Hospitality  
 Singing in the Choir  
 Membership

## PRAYER REQUESTS

In everything by prayer...  
Let your requests be made known  
unto God.

Philippians 4:6

Please write your request here  
and place it in the offering plate or  
hand it to an usher.

Please pray for

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Requested by

---

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**PRAYER REQUESTS ARE HONORED UNTIL  
NOTIFICATION IS RECEIVED OTHERWISE.  
PLEASE KEEP US UPDATED AT  
941-964-2479**

I would like someone to  
contact me to pray over  
more confidential  
matters.

# Welcome!

We are honored that you are here! If you are a first time guest, please pick up a gift mug as a token of our gratitude for your presence here today. All are welcome into the congregational life, ministry, and membership of Lighthouse United Methodist Church. For information on baptism and membership, please contact us at info@bglighthouseumc.com

## Men's Fellowship Group

The Men's Fellowship Group will be meeting every Thursday at 8 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, except on holidays. There will be no meeting on December 24 and 31.

## UMW News

The UMW November and December gatherings have been cancelled. The UMW Board will be meeting soon to determine how to proceed in the new year. Stay tuned!

## Sanctuary Flowers

To beautify the Sanctuary, you are invited to place flowers in the chancel for Sunday Services. The total for two arrangements is \$75.00. To place flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, please see the form in the weekly newsletter or contact the office at info@bglighthouseumc.com.

## Weddings, Memorial Services, Columbarium

The Sanctuary is available for services of matrimony, funerals, and memorial services. For more information regarding facility use or columbarium inurnment, please visit www.bglighthouseumc.com or contact the church office at info@bglighthouseumc.com.

## Online Christmas Eve Services

In-person Christmas Eve services have been cancelled. The Family Worship Service and the Candlelight and Holy Communion Service will be available online on Facebook and our YouTube channel beginning on Christmas Eve morning.

# Serving Today.

Liturgist: Allie Tevelde  
Usher: Bo Hamrick

## Contact Us

PO Box 524, Boca Grande, FL 33921  
941-964-2479  
www.bglighthouseumc.com  
info@bglighthouseumc.com  
www.facebook.com/bglighthouseumc



A Stephen Ministry Congregation

## Contacts

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Mike Hilton, Audio/Video Technician  
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Cindy Crespo, Sexton

Gabriela Crespo, Nursery Attendant

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR INVESTMENT!

Prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness  
Our gifts as of December 14, 2020

OPERATING BUDGET.....	\$643,000.00
OFFERING.....	\$512,652.00
OUR COLLECTIVE GIVING	
YEAR-TO-DATE TO LOCAL AND	
GLOBAL MISSIONS.....	\$371,858.00
Coming from:	
DIRECT SPONSORED MISSION	
GIVING FROM THE CHURCH BUDGET.....	\$106,958.00
(19% OF CHURCH SPENDING TO DATE)	
Plus: UMW STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL	
SPONSORED MISSIONS.....	\$70,000.00
Plus: DIRECT INDIVIDUAL CONGREGATIONAL	
PASS-THROUGHS TO OUR MISSIONS.....	\$194,900.00



**LIGHTHOUSE**  
**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
of  
**BOCA GRANDE**

*December 20, 2020*

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

*Receiving the Light,  
Being the Light,  
Sharing the Light of Jesus Christ*



On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we hear Mary's song of praise, or Magnificat. This lowly, Jewish, teenage girl extols the glory of God by declaring the Lord's faithfulness to the ancient covenants and prophecies of Scripture. Mary invites us to respond with joy as she sings of her and our Savior, the One coming into the world who is Jesus Christ, the Lord.