

WELCOME!

All are welcome into the life and ministry of the United Methodist Church. We are honored that you are here. Please join us for refreshments after the service in the Fellowship Hall. We hope you will worship with us again as we continue to discover the difference God's love makes in our lives!

NURSERY

We welcome children to our worship experiences. If, during the service, you need a quiet place to take your children, please ask the ushers for directions to the Cry Room, which is accessed through the Fellowship Hall. The service can be seen and heard in the Cry Room, enabling a meaningful experience for guardians and children.

BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism is freely offered to infants and adults. If you are interested in being baptized, having your child baptized, or joining Lighthouse United Methodist Church as a professing member, please contact Amanda Pearsall at apearsall@bglighthouseumc.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Please ask the ushers for directions to Classroom A, where elementary school aged children will experience hands on learning during the service. Volunteers needed! Please contact the church administrative office at 941-964-2479 if you can help!

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MINISTRY

We welcome all children and teenagers into the life and ministry of this congregation. For more information regarding our children's and youth ministries please contact Ruth Amen at 941-276-0654 or Cheryl Schum at 336-391-0133.

MID-WEEK HOLY COMMUNION

Every Wednesday a brief Holy Eucharist with healing prayers will be held in the Chancel from 11:45 am-noon. All are welcome!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INVESTMENT IN BOCA GRANDE LIGHTHOUSE UMC!

By offering your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness, we are able to meet the physical and spiritual needs of our local congregation and our missional initiatives locally and internationally. We thank you for your investment and pray that God's Kingdom will continue to come among you!

Next Week:

December 27, First Sunday after Christmas Day

Psalm 148

Colossians 3: 12-17

Luke 2: 41-52

SPECIAL THANKS FOR SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE TODAY!

Ushers: Jane Caple and Candy Rost

Acolyte: Flynn Stewart

Cross Bearer: Tanner Stewart

Liturgist: Mary Ann Roelse

Communion Stewards: Joan & David Senior/Pat & Ross Witschonke

Hospitality Hosts: Marilyn & Howard Witt/Ruth Balogh

Audio Visual Technology: Grant Reeher

Children and Youth Ministry: Cheryl Schum, Leslie Barrett

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

5:00 PM

Family service with Children's Pageant

This service will feature familiar carols and readings, children and youth as a part of telling the Christmas Story, and video clips from popular Christmas films as a part of the sermon. There will be a Christmas gift for children as you exit the Sanctuary. All ages are welcome!

7:00 and 9:00 PM

Candlelight Communion Services

These services will feature pre-service music for prayer, a processional, familiar carols, special music, readings, and sung Holy Communion. Both services will conclude with candle lighting from the Christ Candle, the singing of 'Silent Night', and quietness. All ages are welcome!

Invite your family and friends to be a part of these meaningful times of worship as we honor the Christ Child who is Emmanuel, God With Us.

Boca Grande

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CONTACTS

Reverend Matthew M. Williams, Senior Pastor

David Hamblin, Director of Music

Philip Eyrich, Associate Organist

Amanda Pearsall, Administrative Assistant

Betty Jean Legg, Financial Assistant

Joyce Riker, Sexton



— B O C A G R A N D E —
Lighthouse Church
A United Methodist Congregation

December 20, 2015

Receiving the Light, Being the Light,
Sharing the Light

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Today's scripture lessons focus on the anticipation and surprise of the Advent season. The reading from Micah reveals that the small town of Bethlehem will be the birthplace of a faithful and righteous ruler. Luke tells the story of Mary and Elizabeth, each of whom comes to know the surprising ways of God. Elizabeth, long barren, conceives John the Baptist, as foretold by the angel Gabriel. Mary visits Elizabeth after her own encounter with Gabriel and the news of her own unexpected pregnancy, and the women rejoice and marvel at the mysterious work of God.

Service of Worship

Fourth Sunday of Advent 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 and register your attendance in the registration pad.
The prelude signals the beginning of worship.

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *How Great Our Joy!* Arr. Eyrich

+RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: All through this season of Advent, we have encountered Hope,
Peace and Joy.

People: **Today belief and love are the theme.**

Leader: Today we will hear the story of surprising commitment.

People: **We will learn of Mary and God's wonderful love.**

Leader: Today we will be challenged to believe in all that God can do.

People: **Open our hearts, Lord, that we may be ready for your love. Amen.**

+PROCESSIONAL HYMN #200

"Tell Out, My Soul" Woodlands

+CONFESSION OF SIN

All: O God of the ages and ages to come, make us watchful as we
await the coming of your Son our Savior. When he comes, may he
find us not sleeping in sin, but awake, and rejoicing in his praises.

Bring to light things hidden in the darkness, even the sinful shadows
of our hearts. Forgive and cleanse us, that we may walk in your
light, and glorify your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silent Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Pastor: Believe the good news of the Gospel. In the name of Jesus Christ
we are forgiven!

All: **In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen!**

+GLORY TO GOD

Gloria
Gloria! In excelsis Deo!
Gloria! In excelsis Deo!

+PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

+SONG OF PEACE #230

O Little Town of Bethlehem *St. Louis*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Advent Song (Light the Advent Candle) vs. 4

The Turner Family

See insert

The liturgy is read followed by the response of the people

It is for Mary that we light this fourth candle. Mary—blessed among
women. Mary—the Lord's lowly servant. Mary—who believed that
God was about to fulfill the promise made to Abraham so long ago.

The Fourth Candle is Lit

All: **Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.**

Repeat refrain

HYMN OF ADORATION #347

Spirit Song vs. 1 *Spirit Song*

MORNING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*It is our honor to pray with you and for you. If you have a prayer request that you
would like listed on our prayer list, please fill out a prayer card and place it in the
offering plate.*

All: **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. Amen.**

WE HEAR THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Micah 5: 2-5a Pew Bible OT Page 815

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

THE CANTICLE OF MARY Luke 1: 46b-55

Sung: **My soul gives glory to my God. My heart pours out its
praise. God lifted up my lowliness in many marvelous ways.**

Leader: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.

People: **My Spirit rejoices in God my Savior, who has looked
with favor on me, a lowly servant.**

Leader: From this day all generations shall call me blessed.

People: **The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is
the name of the Lord, whose mercy is on those who fear
God from generation to generation.**

Leader: The arm of the Lord is strong, and has scattered the
proud in their conceit.

People: **God has cast down the mighty from their thrones and
lifted up the lowly.**

Leader: God has filled the hungry with good things and sent
the rich away empty.

People: **God has come to the aid of Israel, the chosen servant,
remembering the promise of mercy, the promise made to
our forebearers, to Abraham and his children forever.**

Sung: **Love casts the mighty from their thrones, promotes the
insecure, leaves hungry spirits satisfied, the rich seem
suddenly poor.**

+HYMN OF PREPARATION #204

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel" McGee

+GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1: 39-45

Pew Bible NT Page 53

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: **Thanks be to God**

+HYMN OF PREPARATION #204

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel" McGee

+PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HOMILY

"Le Point Vierge" Reverend Matthew M. Williams

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Reverend Matthew M. Williams

OFFERTORY

What Child Is This? Traditional English Melody
Arr. Tom Fettke

+DOXOLOGY/PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE LORD'S TABLE

COMMUNION MEDITATION

The First Noel Anonymous

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne Page
The Birthday of a King Neidlinger
It Came Upon a Midnight Clear Willis

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

WE BEAR THE WORD IN THE WORLD

+RECESSIONAL HYMN #179 "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem" Kingsfold

+BENEDICTION

Reverend Matthew M. Williams

+BENEDICTION RESPONSE

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to Thee, O Israel**

+POSTLUDE

Angels, from the Realms of Glory Henry T. Smart