

# 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.  
A staffed nursery is available for those with infants. Please ask an usher for directions.

### WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

**PRELUDE** (9:55)  
Unto Us a Child Is Born Sharon Elery Rogers  
Silence is kept during the prelude to prepare our hearts for worship

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Ed Paxton, Lay Leader

**CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE** Larry & Pam Hannah

**+PROCESSIONAL HYMN #196**  
“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” Hyfrydol

**+CONFESSION AND PARDON**  
We confess, Gracious God, that we have not always turned to you for guidance. At times, we have allowed the world’s time to dominate your time. Forgive us for our sins of hurriedness and impatience. Forgive us when we have slumbered instead of remaining alert, waiting and watching for you. Forgive us for allowing the world’s fears to become our fears. Shine upon us this Advent season so that we may be restored unto you. Guide us into your time. As we call upon your name, hear our prayers and give us life. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

And now may our God make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all. Christ promises to strengthen our hearts in holiness that we may be blameless before our God and creator at the coming of the Lord.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven.  
Alleluia! Amen.

**+GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** Gloria  
Gloria! In excelsis deo!  
Gloria! In excelsis deo!

**+PASSING OF THE PEACE**  
The Peace of the Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

**+SONG OF PEACE #204**  
“Emmanuel, Emmanuel” (sung twice) McGee

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** Tabitha Jordan  
Children who wish to attend Sunday School are dismissed to Classroom A

### WE HEAR THE WORD

**+PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION** ( In Unison)  
Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, and as we hear your word, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**  
Isaiah 64: 1-9 Pew Bible OT Page 652  
The Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God

**+GRADUAL HYMN #213**  
“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” vs. 1-2 Truro

**+GOSPEL LESSON**  
Mark 13: 24-37 Pew Bible NT Page 47-48  
The Word of God for the People of God  
Thanks be to God  
The Gospel is processed to the center of the congregation to signify that It is central to the church, our faith, and our lives.

**+GRADUAL HYMN #213**  
“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” vs. 3-4 Truro

**SERMON** Keep Awake Reverend Matthew M. Williams

### WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

**HYMN OF ADORATION #347** (vs. 1)  
“Spirit Song” Spirit Song

**MORNING PRAYER** Tabitha Jordan

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**OFFERTORY** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel arr. Cindy Berry

**+DOXOLOGY 94** Lasst Uns Erfreuen

**COMMUNION MEDITATION**  
To God On High Felix Mendelssohn

**THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION**  
The United Methodist Church is an open communion.  
All are invited to partake regardless of denomination or religious affiliation. At the direction of the ushers, please come forward.

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR ADVENT**  
Pastor: The Lord be with you.  
People: And also with you.  
Pastor: Lift up your hearts  
People: We lift them up to the Lord.  
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.  
The pastor gives thanks remembering God’s acts of salvation.  
Pastor: And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise Your name and join their unending hymn.

All:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might a-dored,  
heaven and earth are shin-ing bright with the glo - ry of your light.  
Loud ho - san - nas now we sing! In the high-est may they ring!  
Bles-sed is the Com-ing One, Christ, E - man - nu - el, your Son.  
Glo - ry in the high - est! Ho - ly God, your name be blessed!

The pastor recalls the institution of the Lord’s Supper.  
Pastor : And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

All:

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a gain!

The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and praises the Trinity.  
Pastor: By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit in your holy church all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father now and forever.

All:

A - men, a - men a - - men.

### THE LORD’S PRAYER

### GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

**MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION**  
You Satisfy the Hungry Heart Robert Kreutz  
Fill My Cup, Lord Richard Blanchard  
Freely, Freely, You Have Received Carol Owens

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

### WE BEAR THE WORD IN THE WORLD

**+RECESSIONAL HYMN #720**  
“Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying” Wachtet Auf

**+BENEDICTION** Reverend Matthew M. Williams

**+POSTLUDE** Joy to The World arr. Don Hustad

## 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 UMC?

- ☐ 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 Fellowship Group
- ☐ Strawberry Festival Volunteer
- ☐ Stephen Ministry
- ☐ Greeting and Ushering
- ☐ Communion Stewardship
- ☐ Fellowship Hour Hospitality
- ☐ Singing in the Choir



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

Requested by

Date

Phone number ( )

Email

Please remember that prayer requests  
are honored until we are notified  
otherwise. Please keep us  
updated at 941-964-1479

☐ I would like someone to  
contact me to pray over  
more confidential mat-  
ters.

WELCOME!

All are welcome into the life and ministry of the United Meth-  
odist Church. We are honored that you are here. A staffed  
nursery is available for those with infants. Please ask an usher  
for directions. 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!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Don Farren, Jim Benson, Pam McMillan, Pete & Ellie Durno,  
Francie & Oakley Johnson

DOMINICAN KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY DONATIONS

Instead of shoeboxes this year, we are requesting donations to  
our missionary to the Dominican Republic, Debbie Martinez,  
so she can buy gifts for the children’s Christmas party. Please  
use the notation “D.R. Kids Party on your check or donate  
cash in a labeled collection envelope, and have it arrive before  
Tuesday, Dec. 11. Contact Jean Steinman with questions and  
for more information. THANK YOU!

COOKIES AND BAKED GOODIES NEEDED!

We need baked goodies for the reception that will be held im-  
mediately following the Festival of Lessons and Carols on  
Sunday, Dec. 17 at 5:00. There is a sign up sheet in Fellow-  
ship Hall for all those who would like to contribute. Please  
contact Kathi Hustedt with questions and for more infor-  
mation.

CHOIR REHEARSALS RESUME

Choir rehearsals will resume on January 4, 2018. We will again  
start with separate rehearsals for men and women at 4 PM fol-  
lowed by a combined rehearsal from 4:30 to 5:30 PM. It is my  
plan to have the choir begin singing at the 10:00 AM worship  
service on Sunday, January 7, and 10:30 AM when we return to  
two services on January 14. There will also be a brief warm up  
rehearsal, each Sunday, beginning promptly at 10 AM (9:30  
AM on January 7) in the sanctuary. It will be a pleasure to re-  
connect with returning choir members and to welcome new  
faces as we join in fellowship and share our time and talents  
while lifting our voices in musical praise to God. May each of  
you be filled with God’s abundant blessings during this Ad-  
vent season of anticipation and fulfillment, and as we enter a  
new year. David Hamblin

MOM’S NIGHT OUT – Mondays at 5:30 PM

December 4 & 18, January 8 & 22, February 5 & 19, March  
5 & 19, April 9 & 23 and May 7 & 21

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INVESTMENT!

Prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness  
Our gifts as of November 26, 2017

OPERATING BUDGET	\$564,000.00
PLEDGES, OFFERING, PLATE RECEIVED	\$455,017.00
MISSION GIVING	\$164,232.00

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

Ushers: Mary Foree & Bo Hamrick  
Acolyte & Cross Bearer: Hannah Amen & Abigail Turner  
Communion Stewards: Pam & Larry Hannah  
Liturgist: Ray Smedley  
Hospitality Hosts: Pat & Ross Witschonke  
Audio Visual Technology: Mike Hilton



PO Box 524 Boca Grande, FL 33921  
941-964-2479

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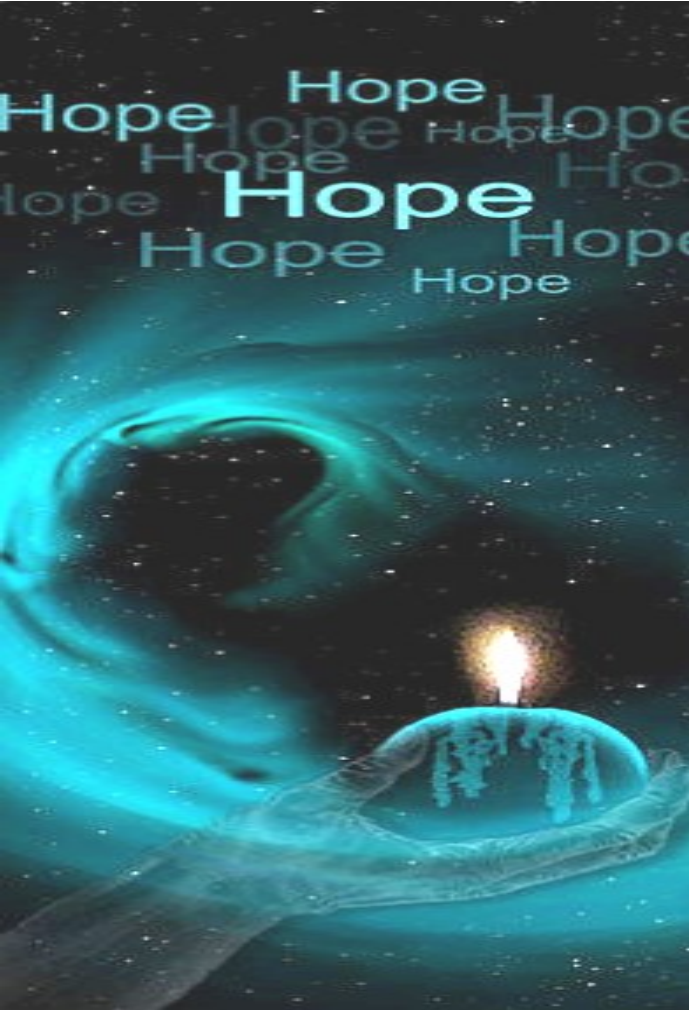
CONTACTS

Reverend Matthew M. Williams, Senior Pastor  
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Tabitha Jordan, Minister to Youth and Families  
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Amanda Pearsall, Administrative Assistant  
apearsall@bglighthouseumc.com  
Cindy Handrick, Financial Assistant  
chandrick@bglighthouseumc.com  
Cindy Crespo, Sexton  
David Hamblin, Director of Music  
Philip Eyrich, Assistant Organist  
Linda Conklin, Nursery Attendant



December 3 , 2017  
First Sunday of Advent

RECEIVING THE LIGHT, BEING THE LIGHT, SHARING THE LIGHT



Today we celebrate the first Sunday in Ad-  
vent. Advent is Latin for “coming”. It cele-  
brates the most important news about the  
past and the most important news about the  
future. Christ has come; and Christ is com-  
ing back. Just as the coming of Christ as a  
baby in Bethlehem took everyone by sur-  
prise, although it had long been predicted,  
so the coming of Christ in glory will no  
doubt take everyone by surprise, although it  
too has long been predicted. In our Sanctu-  
ary, we place a large wreath in the chancel to  
represent the four Sundays in Advent and  
the central moment of Christmas. The first  
Sunday of Advent commemorates the long-  
ing of Israel for the Kingdom of God.