

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.
For those with infants a staffed nursery is available.

Gathering

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on "In dulci jubilo" arr. Michael Ryan

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Linden Hustedt, Lay Leader

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Benson Family

Reader One: We light this candle as a symbol that God is Love. We shall live secure in God's love, and rest in God's peace.

Reader Two: Our souls magnify the Lord. Our spirits rejoice in God, our salvation. God has filled the hungry with good things. God has remembered Israel, and God Remembers us.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus, Come!**

+PROCESSIONAL HYMN #220

"Angels from the Realms of Glory" Regent Square

+OPENING PRAYER

God, our light and 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, earthly son of Joseph and Mary, our Lord and Savior, Amen.

+GLORY BE TO GOD, CREATOR

Glory be to God, Creator, glory be to God the Son, glory be to God the Spirit, known as Three, yet God the One. As it was in the beginning, it is now and so shall be in a world without ending, glory through eternity. Holy, holy God Almighty, holy, Prince of Peace, holy, holy wind of Presence, holy, holy, holy. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Anna Boney

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Linden Ruth Maquire

(See insert)

HYMN OF PRESENTATION (FWS) 2248 "Baptized in Water"

Proclamation

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (In unison)

God our redeemer, as you prepared humble Mary to be the mother of your Son, so prepare our hearts to receive your word now; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalms 80: 1-7, 17-19

Pew Bible OT Page 511-512

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

+GRADUAL HYMN #230

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" vs. 1-2 St. Louis

+GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 1: 18-25

Pew Bible NT Page 1

The Word of God for the People of God

Thanks be to God

+GRADUAL HYMN #230

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" vs. 3-4 St. Louis

SERMON A Man of Few Words

The Rev. Dr. Matthew M. Williams

Response

+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 of hungry hearts.

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

Continued...

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 for 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, and 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.

HYMN OF ADORATION #347

"Spirit Song" vs. 1 & 2

Spirit Song

MORNING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY

Joseph, Dearest, Joseph Mine arr. Mark Hayes/Douglas E. Wagner

+DOXOLOGY 94

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!

+PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Sending Forth

+RECESSIONAL HYMN #240

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Medelssohn

+BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Matthew M. Williams

+POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Joy to the World"

arr. Matthew McConnell

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

Requested by

Date _____

Phone number () _____

Email _____

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

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

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! For those with infants, a staffed nursery is available; please ask one of the ushers for directions.

**VISITORS, PLEASE PICK UP A GIFT BAG IN THE NARTHEX AS A
TOKEN OF OUR APPRECIATION!**

CHOIR REHEARSALS SCHEDULED TO RESUME

Choir rehearsals will resume on January 2, 2020. Rehearsals will begin at 4 PM and end at 5:30 PM. I plan to have the choir begin singing for the 10:30 AM worship service on Sunday, January 12th. There will be a brief warm up rehearsal, each Sunday, beginning at approximately 9:50 AM in the sanctuary. It will be a pleasure to reconnect 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 Advent season of anticipation and fulfillment, and as we enter a new year. ~David Hamblin

HARRY CHAPIN FOOD BANK

The annual Harry Chapin Food drive has begun! Please donate canned and nonperishable foods in the barrels located at the main church entrance and at the Administrative Office at 325 W. Third St. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES, TUESDAY, DEC. 24

5:00 – Family & Children with special Children's Program
7:00 – Candlelight & Communion

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Thursday, Dec. 19 closing at 11:00 for Staff Christmas Lunch
Tuesday, Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve – CLOSED
Wednesday, Dec. 25 – Christmas Day, Thursday, Dec. 26 CLOSED
Tuesday, Dec. 31 – New Year's Eve – CLOSED
Wednesday, New Year's Day & Thursday, Jan. 2, 2020 CLOSED

Have a wonderful Christmas and happy New Year!

IN SEASON SERVICE SCHEDULE SUNDAY AT 8:00, 8:45 AND 10:30 AM

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INVESTMENT!	
Prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness	
Our gifts as of December 15, 2019	
2019 OPERATING BUDGET	<u>\$600,000.00</u>
PLEDGES, OFFERING, PLATE RECEIVED	<u>\$565,876.00</u>
MISSION GIVING	<u>\$165,362.00</u>
UMW MISSIONS	<u>\$69,000.00</u>
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN	<u>\$1,796,856.00</u>

Special Thanks for Serving in the Lord's House today!

Ushers: Susan Hanafee & Ian Rogerson

Acolytes: Will & Harry Duke

Liturgist: Bo Hamrick

Hospitality Hosts: Danyielle & Robert Duke



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**A Stephen Ministry
Congregation**

Contacts

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Philip Eyrich, Assistant Organist

Mike Hilton, Audio/Video Technician
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Carol Elwood, Choir Director
Al Nethery, Accompanist

Cindy Crespo, Sexton

Gabriela Crespo, Nursery Attendant

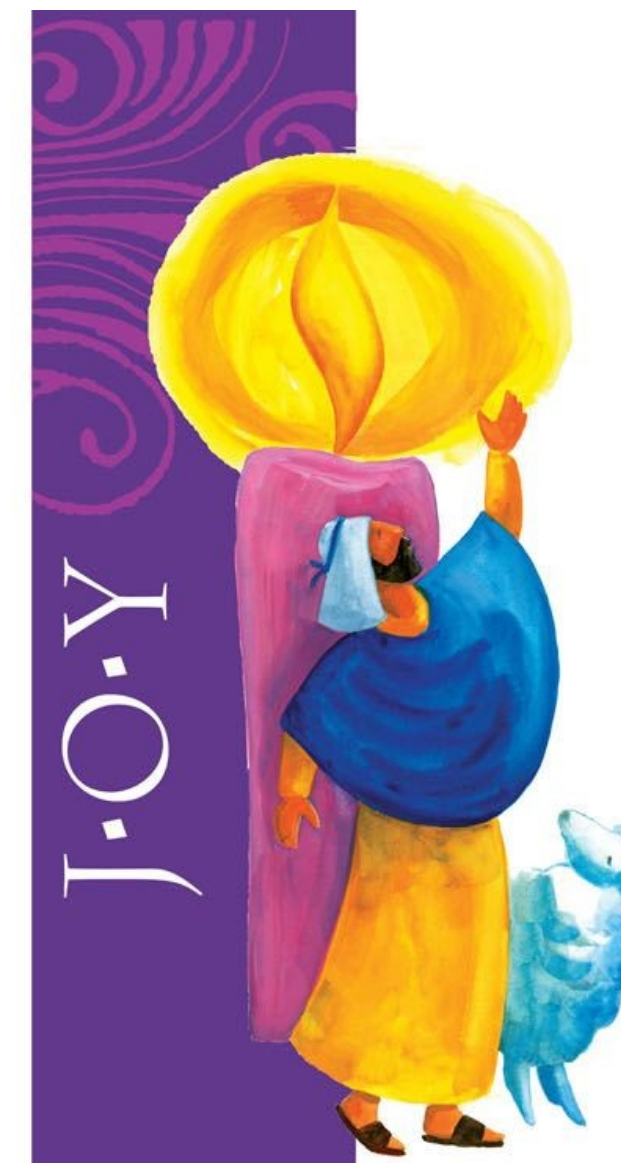


BOCA GRANDE
Lighthouse Church
A United Methodist Congregation

December 22, 2019

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Receiving the Light, Being the Light, Sharing the Light



On this fourth Sunday of Advent, the Scripture readings point to the faithful responses of God's people as they await their coming Savior, Jesus Christ. The psalmist cries out to the Lord for the restoration of God's people, faithfully anticipating the coming Shepherd of Israel. Matthew's Gospel shines light on Joseph's righteousness. He is unwilling to expose Mary to public shame and is also obedient to God's instructions. Joseph's grace and faithfulness are powerful and allow God's story to continue to the birth of Jesus, our Emmanuel—God with us.