

# 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)

*Meditation on "Veni Emmanuel"*

John Scriveyner

*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

Bob & Ellie Young

### +PROCESSIONAL HYMN #206

*"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"*

Houston

### +PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins before God and one another:

**Almighty God, you who shaped out of nothing all that is, forgive us for returning empty-handed.**

**You who called for the light, forgive our preference for the shadows! You who sent John to be a voice crying, forgive our unwillingness to say anything at all.**

**We yearn for clean hearts, O God, and renewed spirits within us. Hear us, O God, as we come to you in this time of silence, confessing those sins we speak only in our hearts...**

### +DECLARATION OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news:

*In Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven. Glory to God! 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)

**God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: prepare us now as we hear your word; give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11

Pew Bible OT Page 650-651

The Word of the Lord

*Thanks be to God*

### +GRADUAL HYMN #203

*"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"* vs. 1-2

Ellacombe

### +GOSPEL LESSON

John 1: 6-8, 19-28

Pew Bible NT Page 86

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 #203

*"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"* vs. 3-4

Ellacombe

### HOMILY

Tidings of Joy

Tabitha Jordan

## WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #881

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic\* and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

\*universal

## HYMN OF ADORATION #347 (vs. 1)

*"Spirit Song"*

*Spirit Song*

### MORNING PRAYER

Reverend Matthew M. Williams

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

### OFFERTORY

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

from "Psalmody Sacra"

Arr. Edward Broughton

### +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

### COMMUNION MEDITATION

*He Shall Feed His Flock*

G.F. Handel/arr. Douglas

## THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

The United Methodist Church has 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

### 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.**

### GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

### MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

*Adoration*

*Come to the Table*

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

Monsell/Fettke

Martin Nystrom, arr. Douglas

Traditional Spiritual

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

## WE BEAR THE WORD IN THE WORLD

### RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Bill & Carrie York

### +RECESSIONAL HYMN #240

*"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*

Mendelssohn

### +BENEDICTION

Reverend Matthew M. Williams

### +POSTLUDE

*Lift Up Your Heads*

Steve Fry

## 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 Methodist 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!

### A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Please join us **tonight** (Sunday, December 17) at 5:00 PM in the sanctuary as we celebrate the story of God's incarnation and salvation with scripture readings accompanied by traditional Christmas carols.

### 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 followed 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 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

### LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON

All elected officers, committee chairpersons and committee members are invited and encouraged to attend a Leadership Luncheon in Fellowship Hall, Tuesday, January 16, between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. The purpose of the luncheon is to welcome the newly elected leaders to their committees, provide the opportunity for all committees to meet for the first time in 2018, and for chairs to share information with the entire group.

Please RSVP to [apearsall@bglighthouseumc.com](mailto:apearsall@bglighthouseumc.com)  
or 941-964-2479

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 SERVICES

10:00 AM (Liturgy for the 4th Sunday of Advent)  
5:00 PM (Family and Kids) 7:00 PM (Candlelight & Communion  
and Communion)

### MOM'S NIGHT OUT – Mondays at 5:30 PM

December 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 December 10, 2017

OPERATING BUDGET	<u>\$564,000.00</u>
PLEDGES, OFFERING, PLATE RECEIVED	<u>\$500,865.00</u>
MISSION GIVING	<u>\$165,787.00</u>

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

**Ushers:** Susan Hanafee & Ian Rogerson

**Acolyte & Cross Bearer:** Hannah Amen & Abigail Turner

**Communion Stewards:** Lynn & Steve Kieffer

**Liturgist:** Jim Cooper

**Audio Visual Technology:** Mike Hilton



BOCA GRANDE  
**Lighthouse Church**  
A United Methodist Congregation

PO Box 524 Boca Grande, FL 33921

941-964-2479

[www.bglighthouseumc.com](http://www.bglighthouseumc.com)



A Stephen Ministry

Congregation



[www.facebook.com/bglighthouseumc](http://www.facebook.com/bglighthouseumc)

### CONTACTS

Reverend Matthew M. Williams, Senior Pastor

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Cindy Handrick, Financial Assistant

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Cindy Crespo, Sexton

David Hamblin, Director of Music

Philip Eyrich, Assistant Organist

Linda Conklin, Nursery Attendant



BOCA GRANDE  
**Lighthouse Church**  
A United Methodist Congregation

December 17, 2017

Third Sunday of Advent

RECEIVING THE LIGHT, BEING THE LIGHT, SHARING THE LIGHT

COMMUNION SUNDAY



In the third week of Advent, God's promises of new life and healing echo through the scriptures. In Isaiah, a new age is dawning—an age where the brokenhearted are comforted, the captives are freed, and where places of destruction and ruin are transformed into places of life through the power of God. In the gospel of John, John the Baptist identifies himself as the voice in Isaiah who cries in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord", with the promise that God was doing something new in the midst of his people.