

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

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
Traditional French carol, arr. Lani Smith
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 The Boney Family

Reader One: We light this candle as a symbol of the hope we have in the promise of the Lord's coming.

Reader Two: For the Lord will fulfill his promise to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. A righteous Branch will spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

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

+PROCESSIONAL HYMN #206

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

+INVITATION, CONFESSION AND PARDON

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. 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.

+OPENING PRAYER

Holy One, you have promised us that the day of our salvation is near. Keep us faithful in love and watchful in prayer, so that we may stand with confidence and joy at the coming of Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

+PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

+SONG OF PEACE STL 224

"Let Christmas Come" Danby

SHARING THE LIGHT

Elizabeth Gadd
Chief Development Officer
FLUMC Children's Home

We Hear the Word

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (In Unison) Liturgist and Congregation

O Lord our God, make us watchful, and keep us faithful to your word as we await the coming of your Son, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Jeremiah 33: 14-16 Pew Bible OT Page 694

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

I Thessalonians 3: 9-13 Pew Bible NT Page 192

+GRADUAL HYMN #213 vs. 1-2

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" Truro

+GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 21: 25-36 Pew Bible NT Page 80-81
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 vs. 3-4

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" Truro

HOMILY

Stand The Rev. Dr. Matthew M. Williams

We Respond to the Word

HYMN OF ADORATION #347 (vs. 1) "Spirit Song" Spirit Song

MORNING PRAYER

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY Creator of the Stars of Night Plainsong, arr. Robert Lau

+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

Jesus, Remember Me Jacques Berthier

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, take a wafer, dip it into the cup, and partake.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

See Insert

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Edward Dearle
Christian People, Raise Your Song J. Horn's Gesangbuch
Now the Silence Carl F. Schalk

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We Bear the Word in the World

+RECESSIONAL HYMN #202

"People, Look East" Besancon

+BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Matthew M. Williams

+POSTLUDE

Hail to the Lord's Anointed Arr. Henry Balcombe
Gesangbuch der H.W. K. Hofkapelle

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 notification is received otherwise. Please keep us updated so that the prayer lists are current. Call 941-964-2479 or email apearsall@bglighthouseumc.com

Thank you!

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! Please pick up a gift bag in the Narthex as a token of our appreciation!

DO YOU HAVE A YEAR-END IRA OR SEP MANDATORY DISTRIBUTION COMING DUE?

Many of our members probably have 401K IRA accounts, or a SEP (simple IRA). If you are over 70 1/2 years old, the IRS requires a minimum annual distribution from the IRA and they must pay income tax on that distribution. Should you be facing a commitment as to where to distribute these funds, and are fortunate enough to not need these funds to support your retirement, then there is an alternative. You can make a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA directly to a recognized charity and avoid paying the extra income tax. The Mission Committee would prayerfully ask you to donate your distribution to the church to augment our Mission's budget, or to particularly earmark the donation to one or more of our 15 sponsored missions. Please contact Cindy Handrick for assistance.

WINTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINNING IN JANUARY

As an act of radical hospitality for our community, and to accommodate our in-season growth, the Lighthouse Church will begin hosting three Sunday worship services January 6.

8:00 - 8:30 AM

A Service of Word and Table

This service will offer Holy Communion each week and a short homily based on the assigned readings of the day. There will be no musical elements in this service.

9:00 AM & 10:45 AM

Festive Liturgical Services

These services will be approximately one hour in length and will offer our full liturgy with music. Holy Communion will be offered on the first Sunday of the month.

CHOIR REHEARSALS TO RESUME

Choir rehearsals will resume on January 3, 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 on Sunday, January 6. There will also be a brief warm up rehearsal, each Sunday in the sanctuary. I look forward to the return of familiar faces and voices and hope that we will also have some new faces sharing their time and talents while lifting their 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.

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Come share in this special recalling of the Christmas Story through scripture lessons and traditional carols. Sunday, Dec. 16 at 5:00. Reception following in Fellowship Hall.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INVESTMENT!

Prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness

Our gifts as of November 25, 2018

2018 OPERATING BUDGET	<u>\$564,000.00</u>
PLEDGES, OFFERING, PLATE RECEIVED	<u>\$502,115.00</u>
MISSION GIVING	<u>\$112,735.00</u>
UMW MISSIONS	<u>\$59,840.00</u>
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN	<u>\$1,755,756.00</u>

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

Ushers: Jane & Ron Wittenberg

Cross Bearer: Abigail Turner

Liturgist: Candy Rost

Communion Stewards: Sara & Curt Moll

Hospitality Hosts: Kathi Hustedt & Cathy Maude

Audio Visual Technology: Mike Hilton

Sunday School: Leslie Barrett



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941-964-2479



A Stephen Ministry
Congregation

www.facebook.com/bglighthouseumc



CONTACTS

The Rev. Dr. 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

dhamblin@bglighthouseumc.com

Carol Elwood, Choir Director

Al Nethery, Accompanist

Philip Eyrich, Assistant Organist

Abigail Turner, Nursery Attendant



BOCA GRANDE
Lighthouse Church
A United Methodist Congregation

December 2, 2018

First Sunday of Advent

Receiving the Light, Being the Light, Sharing the Light



Our scripture readings today point to the new season of Advent, where we look to the first and second comings of Christ. Jeremiah prophesies centuries before Jesus' birth that a Savior will come from God, out of the line of David. Paul calls the Thessalonian church to live in love and holiness as they await the return of Christ. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus himself prophesies the terrifying signs that will accompany his return, and urges us to wait expectantly. Through Scripture, prayer, and song we await the Lord Jesus, who is Emmanuel – God with us.