

+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** 

Meditation on "Veni Emmanuel"

John Scriveyner

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 Duke Family

Reader One We light this candle as a symbol of Christour Joy. Let us rejoice with joy that

Christ is our salvation.

Reader Two: Surely God is our salvation; we will trust, and will not be afraid. The Lord God is our strength and our might; God

has become our salvation.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

+PROCESSIONAL HYMN #218

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

Carol

**+OPENING PRAYER** 

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. **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** 

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

Directed by Bradford Boney

Proclamation

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (In unison)

God for whom we watch and wait, prepare our hearts through the hearing of your word; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** 

Isaiah 35: 1-10 The Word of the Lord *Thanks be to God*  Pew Bible OT Page 623

**+GRADUAL HYMN #198** vs. 1-3
"My Soul Gives Glory to My God" Morning Song

**+GOSPEL LESSON** 

Luke 1: 47-55 Pew Bible NT Pages 53-54 The Word of God for the People of God

Thanks be to God

**+GRADUAL HYMN #198** vs. 4-5

"My Soul Gives Glory to My God"

Morning Song

Like a Child

**SERMON** Sing of Mary The Rev. Dr. Matthew M. Williams

Response

+SONG OF RESPONSE (FWS) #2092

"Like a Child"

+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 Spirit Song

**MORNING PRAYER** 

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** 

**OFFERTORY** 

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne arr. Hayes/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 #224

"Good Christian Friends Rejoice" In Dulci Jubio

+BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Matthew M. Williams

**+POSTLUDE** Hail to the Lord's Anointed arr. Henry Balcombe

#### CONNECT CARD

**WELCOME!** We'd like to

help you get connected.

Please fill out this card & place it on the offering plate.

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 gues
guest from out of town
regular attendee member
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
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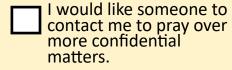
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PRAYER REQU	IFSTS ARE	HONOR	F
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DATED AT 941-964-2479



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 12<sup>th</sup>. 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, TUESEDAY, 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 8 2019

Our girts as of December 6, 2019			
2019 OPERATING BUDGET	\$600,000.00		
PLEDGES, OFFERING, PLATE RECEIVED	\$552,935.00		
MISSION GIVING	\$165,312.00		
JMW MISSIONS	\$69,000.00		
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN	\$1,796, 756.00		

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

**Ushers:** Dian & Richard Klepser **Cross Bearer:** Lachlan Barrett **Acolytes:** Vivian & Bridger Barrett Liturgist: Nick Kaiser

**Hospitality Hosts:** Ann & John Treat, Marsy & Dennis Doan, Gretchen & David Bremer



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

www.bglighthouseumc.com www.facebook.com/bglighthouseumc





A Stephen Ministry Congregation

#### **CONTACTS**

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Philip Eyrich, Assistant Organist

Mike Hilton, Audio/Video Technician mhilton@bglighthouseumc.com

Carol Elwood, Choir Director Al Nethery, Accompanist Cindy Crespo, Sexton Gabriela Crespo, Nursery Attendant



## aghthouse Church

A United Methodist Congregation

### December 15, 2019 Third Sunday in Advent

Receiving the Light, Being the Light, Sharing the Light



On this third Sunday of Advent, we hear Mary's joyful song of praise—the Magnificat—as she extols God's goodness in choosing her for the greatest of purposes, despite her lowly status. Her response reminds us of the importance of song in the life of faith. The prophet Isaiah prophesies the return of the redeemed to Zion, proclaiming the majesty and might of God's saving work. In his letter, James encourages us to be faithful as we patiently await the coming of the Lord.