

# 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.

## WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

**PRELUDE** *Let There Be Peace on Earth* Jackson/Miller

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE** Becca & Carlo deRosa  
*(The Liturgy and reading are presented. Then the  
Congregation will join in the response.)*

Isaiah 2: 1-5

And so we offer this mysterious prayer:

**Lord Jesus, quickly come.**

### +PROCESSIONAL HYMN #196

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” *Hyfrydol*

### +OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he will come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### +GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

**Gloria! In excelsis deo!**  
**Gloria! In excelsis deo!**

*Gloria*

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

### +SONG OF PEACE #706

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel” *McGee*

### CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

*Children who wish to attend Sunday School are dismissed to Classroom A*

## WE HEAR THE WORD

### +PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Speak to us, Lord. Speak to us in the waiting, the watching, the hoping, the longing, the sorrow, the sighing, and the rejoicing. Speak to us by your word in these Advent days, and walk with us until the day of your coming. **Amen.**

**EPISTLE LESSON** Romans 13: 11-14 Pew Bible NT Page 152

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### +HYMN OF PREPARATION # 206

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” vs. 1-2 *Houston*

*The Gospel is processed to the center of the congregation to signify that it is central to the church, our faith, and our lives.*

**+GOSPEL LESSON** Matthew 24: 36-44 Pew Bible NT Page 26

The Word of God for the People of God

**Thanks be to God**

### +HYMN OF PREPARATION #206

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” vs. 3 *Houston*

**SERMON** A Geography of Salvation Reverend Matthew M. Williams

*A Pending Invitation*

## WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

### +AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**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, whose welcome came from the 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.**

**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 hearts grown cold.**

*Continued...*

**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.**

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

### MORNING PRAYER

### THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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. Amen.**

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

**OFFERTORY** *There’s a Song in the Air* Karl P. Harrington  
Arr. Cindy Berry

**+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

## WE BEAR THE WORD IN THE WORLD

### +RECESSIONAL HYMN #720

“Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying” *Wachet Auf*

### +BENEDICTION

**+SUNG RESPONSE** *Veni Emmanuel*

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee O Israel!**

**+POSTLUDE** *A Song in My Heart* Arr. Eyrich

## 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

## 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

**Prayer requests are honored until  
notification is received otherwise.  
Please update us at 941-964-2479**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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!

### CHRISTMAS COOKIE BAKERS NEEDED!

Please sign up in Fellowship Hall today to provide cookies for the reception following the Lessons & Carols Service on December 11 @ 5:00 PM.

### UMW CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON & MEETING

Lunch will be provided in Fellowship Hall. The program will be Kids Needs. Please bring new sneakers (sizes 10,11,12,13,1,2, & 3) to donate. Please RSVP to Kathi Hustedt at kwhustedt@gmail.com by December 9.

### SHOEBOX UPDATE

Thanks to the good people of Lighthouse Church, 122 shoeboxes are on the way to the children of the Dominican Republic! Also thanks to several generous donations, we were able to send a check to help the people of the "Rails", who lost their possessions recently when the river flooded their homes. The shoeboxes will be greatly welcomed by the children this year as the community has lost so much! Happy Thanksgiving from Jean and Bill Steinman

### FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS AND CHRISTMAS EVE

Sunday, December 11, 5:00 PM - A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols with guest organist and soloists. Saturday, December 24: Family Service @ 5:00 PM, Candlelight Services @ 7:00 & 9:00 PM

### CHOIR REHEARSALS SCHEDULED TO RESUME

"Choir rehearsals will resume on January 5, 2017. 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 10:30 worship service on Sunday, January 8. There will also be a brief warm up rehearsal, each Sunday, beginning promptly at 10 AM in the sanctuary. It will be wonderful to again experience the return of familiar faces and voices. I sincerely hope that we will see some new faces joining in fellowship as we 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

### COME SHARE THE LIGHT! January 29, 2017 at 4:00 PM

Lighthouse Church will host a musical concert benefitting the Florida United Methodist Children's Home. Tickets are \$40.00 each. Lynda Jamison will be joined by Rev. Matthew and Joy Williams. Please contact Beth Paxton at 941-830-8179 or mbethpaxton@gmail.com to purchase tickets and they are also available at the church administrative office.

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR INVESTMENT!

**Prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness**

**Our gifts as of November 13, 2016**

<b>OPERATING BUDGET</b>	<b><u>\$496,000.00</u></b>
<b>PLEGGED TO DATE</b>	<b><u>\$388,030.00</u></b>
<b>PLEGGES, OFFERING, PLATE RECEIVED</b>	<b><u>\$ 431,578.00</u></b>

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

**Ushers:** Ed and Beth Paxton

**Liturgist:** Sara Moll

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

**Hospitality Hosts:** Kathleen & J.T. Turner, Becca deRosa

**Audio Visual Technology:** Liam Hugger and Grant Reeher

**Sunday School:** Leslie Barrett



**Lighthouse United Methodist Church**

**PO Box 524. Boca Grande, FL 33921**

**941-964-2479**

**www.bglighthouseumc.com**



**A Stephen Ministry**

**Congregation**



**www.facebook.com/bglighthouseumc**

### CONTACTS

Reverend Matthew M. Williams, Senior Pastor

mwilliams@bglighthouseumc.com

Tabitha Jordan, Minister to Youth and Families

tjordan@bglighthouseumc.com

Amanda Pearsall, Administrative Assistant

apearsall@bglighthouseumc.com

Betty Jean Legg, Financial Assistant

bjlegg@bglighthouseumc.com

David Hamblin, Director of Music

Philip Eyrich, Assistant Organist

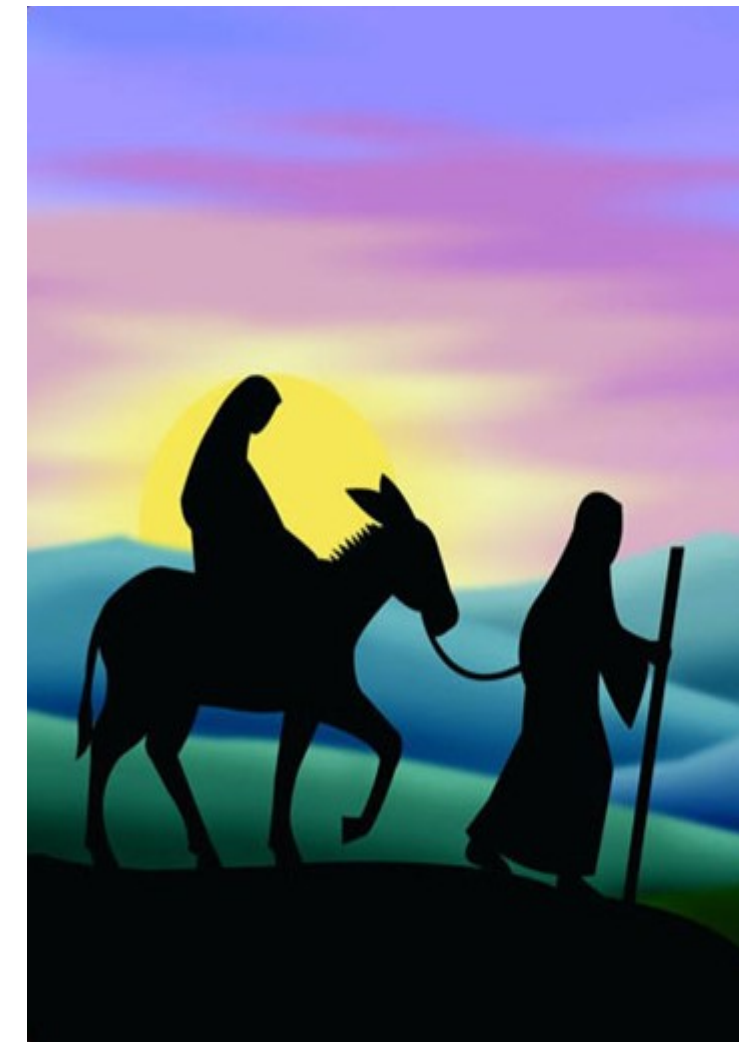


— B O C A G R A N D E —  
**Lighthouse Church**  
A United Methodist Congregation

**November 27, 2016**

**First Sunday of Advent**

**RECEIVING THE LIGHT, BEING THE LIGHT, SHARING THE LIGHT**



The Scriptures that help us prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ are filled with places—holy places, hard places, and the pathways in between. Together, these places present a "geography of salvation" - a map of the heights and depths our good God will go to bring us home. Throughout the weeks of Advent, we will "visit" some of these sacred locales. Along the way we will learn that we can meet God on the mountaintop—but that God also draws near to wherever we may find ourselves.