#### The United Methodist Church at Absecon

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# Come and Worship the Lord

# December 11, 2022

Today's Lay Reader: Lynn Caterson

#### Welcome

#### Call to Worship

<b>People:</b> Leader:	Come! Whoever you are, wherever you are, con We come ready to experience the joy of Adve Joy is different than happiness. In times of loss, and uncertainty, it is hard to be happy. Even wh unhappy, we can find joy. Happiness is temporary. Joy is permanent. comes from the world. Joy comes from God	ent. , sadness, fear nen we are Happiness
Prelude	"Munich"	George Brandon

#### Hymn

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates



#### **Opening Prayer**

Almighty God, we clap our hands and shout with joy to you, our God. You are multiplying and increasing our church. You bring us great joy. Our joy comes from our trust in you. We trust that you and your plan are bigger and better than ours. We trust in your Word which teaches us that even if there is sadness in the evening, joy comes in the morning. Help us now to share that joy with the whole world. Amen.

#### Lighting the Advent Candle

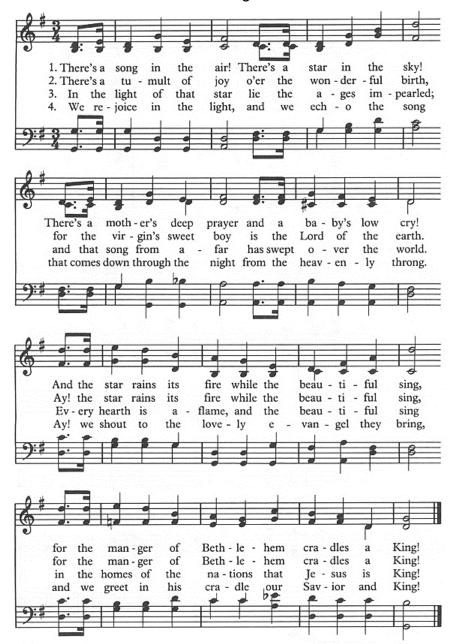
Peter and Judy Pine

#### **Pastoral Prayer**

#### The Lord's Prayer

#### Hymn

There's a Song in the Air



**Senior Choir** 

People Look East

#### Young Disciples Chatting with the Rev

#### Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 9:1-7

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darknesson them light has shined. You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy: they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us. a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God **People: Thanks be to God** 

When 1	Light	Shines
	()	

#### Message

#### Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Offertory

Prepare the Way

arr. James Mansfield

\*Offertory Hymn Emmanuel, Emmanuel

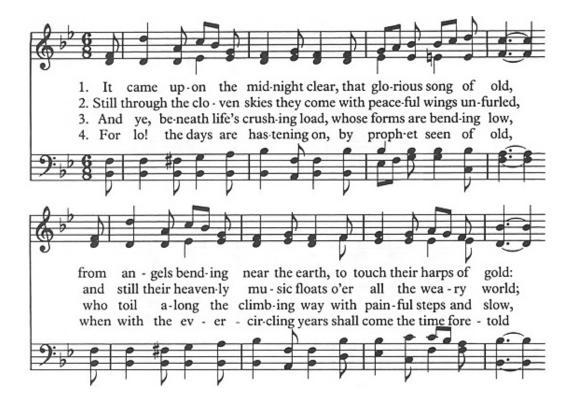
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel. God with us, revealed in us, His name is called Emmanuel.

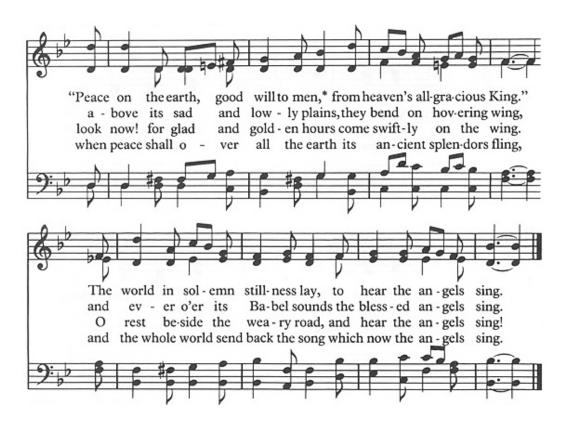
# A Service of Word and Table

Please see the Communion Liturgy on **page 7** of this document.

Hymn 218

It Came upon the Midnight Clear





#### **Benediction**

Postlude

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

**David Cherwein** 

Choir Cantata: December 18.

#### Christmas Eve Worship Schedule:

- > 5 PM Contemporary Candlelight Service in Great Hall
- > 7 PM Traditional Candlelight Service in Sanctuary (with Acolytes Circle of Light)
- > 11 PM Traditional Candlelight Service in Sanctuary

Christmas Day and New Year's Day: 10 AM in Sanctuary

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CCLI: CSPL099122

### A Service of Word and Table

#### Invitation

Pastor: 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.

#### Confession and Pardon

- People: 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.
- Pastor: 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 all forgiven!
- People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! All: Thanks be to God!

#### The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.** Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The pastor gives thanks appropriate to the occasion, remembering God's mighty acts of salvation, and concludes: And so, with Your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The people sing their response:



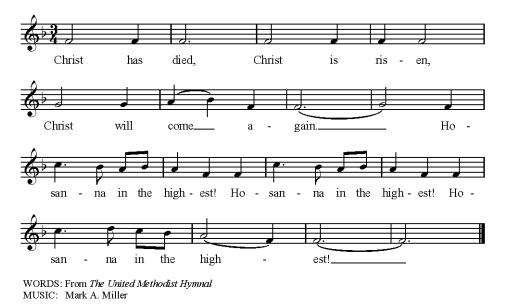
MUSIC: Mark A. Miller

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The pastor continues the Thanksgiving. The institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled. The pastor concludes: And so, in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and

living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

The people sing their response:



## Memorial Acclamation

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*The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and then praises the Trinity, concluding:* All honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

ALL: Amen!

**Breaking the Bread** 

**Giving the Cup**