

## The United Methodist Church at Absecon

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# Be a Witness

May 11, 2025

Today's Lay Reader: Melissa Southrey

### Welcome

### Prelude

How Great Thou Art

arr. Dan Miller

### Call to Worship

**Leader:** Come! Come from our sanctuary or from your home. Come at 11 AM on Sunday or any time during the week. Come whenever and wherever you are. Come! Worship is called in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

**People:** **We come, giving thanks for the kindness we received from mothers and mother figures when the world treated us unkindly.**

**Leader:** We thank the Lord for their gentle correction, their loving guidance and their passionate faith.

**People:** **We honor mothers of all kinds who live lives of service to you in the name of the Risen Christ.**

## Hymn

## To God Be the Glory

1. To God be the glo-ry, great things he hath done! So loved he the  
 2. O per - fect re-demp-tion, the pur-chase of blood, to ev-ery be -  
 3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done, and great our re-

world that he gave us his Son, who yield - ed his life an a -  
 liev - er the prom-ise of God; the vil - est of - fend-er who  
 joic-ing thru Je - sus the Son; but pur - er, and high-er, and

tone-ment for sin, and o-pened the life-gate that all may go in.  
 tru - ly be - lies, that mo-ment from Je - sus a par-don re - ceives.  
 great-er will be our won-der, our trans-port, when Je - sus we see.

*Refrain*

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the

Lord, praise the Lord, let the peo-ple re - joice! O come to the Fa-ther thru

Je - sus the Son, and give him the glo-ry, great things he hath done!

## **Opening Prayer**

**Loving God, we first came to know of your love through mothers. We thank you for the mothers who carried us in their wombs, and gave us birth. We thank you for the mothers who did not give birth to us, yet loved us just the same. And we thank you for all the women who have poured their lives into the Church and into your creation. Amen.**

## **Pastoral Prayer**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

#### **Chorus**

He Is Lord

He is Lord, he is Lord! He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!  
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

#### **Men's Chorus**

### **Young Disciples Chatting with the Rev**

#### **Scripture Lesson**

1 Samuel 25:23-35

When Abigail saw David, she hurried and dismounted from the donkey and fell before David on her face, bowing to the ground. She fell at his feet and said, "Upon me alone, my lord, be the guilt; please let your servant speak in your ears and hear the words of your servant. My lord, do not take seriously this ill-natured fellow, Nabal, for as his name is, so is he; Nabal is his name, and folly is with him, but I, your servant, did not see the young men of my lord, whom you sent.

"Now then, my lord, as the Lord lives and as you yourself live, since the Lord has restrained you from bloodguilt and from taking vengeance with your own hand, now let your enemies and those who seek to do evil to my lord be like Nabal. And now let this present that your servant has brought to my lord be given to the young men who follow my lord. Please forgive the trespass of your servant, for the Lord will certainly make my lord a sure house, because my lord is fighting the battles of the Lord, and evil shall not be found in you so long as you live. If anyone should rise up to pursue you and to seek your life, the life of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of the living under the care of the Lord your God, but the lives of your enemies he shall sling out as from the hollow of a sling. When the Lord has done to my lord according to all the good that he has spoken concerning you and has appointed you prince over Israel, my lord shall have no cause of grief or pangs of conscience for having shed blood without cause or for having saved himself. And when the Lord has dealt well with my lord, then remember your servant."

David said to Abigail, "Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who sent you to meet me today! Blessed be your good sense, and blessed be you, who kept me today from bloodguilt and from avenging myself by my own hand! For as surely as the Lord the God of Israel lives, who has restrained me from hurting you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, truly by morning there would not have been left to Nabal so much as one male." Then David received from her hand what she had brought him; he said to her, "Go up to your house in peace; see, I have heeded your voice, and I have granted your petition."

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: **Thanks be to God**

## Message

## Be a Witness

## Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

### Offertory

Channels Only

arr. Jack Schraeder

### Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## Hymn

## Lift High the Cross

(verses 1, 3, and 4)

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

*Fine*

*Harmony*

1. Come, Chris-tians, fol - low this tri-um-phant sign. The  
 2. Each new-born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied bears  
 3. O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo-rious tree, as  
 4. So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be: Praise

hosts of God in u - ni - ty com - bine.  
 on the brow the seal of him who died.  
 thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.  
 to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

*D.C.*

## Benediction

## Postlude

## The Church's One Foundation