

The United Methodist Church at Absecon

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What Are You Looking For?

July 28, 2024

Today's Lay Reader: Melissa Wilson

Welcome

Prelude

He Is Born

Albin C. Whitworth

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, ready to experience the manifestation of God, even in July!**

Leader: Each individual has their own expectations and desires. What are YOU looking for?

People: **In Christ, may we all look for the very presence of God, the Messiah, the lamb of God. If we look for it, we will see it!**

Hymn

Good Christian Friends Rejoice

1., 2., 3. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi-ce with heart and soul and

voice; give ye heed to what we say: News, news!
 voice; now ye hear of end - less bliss: News, news!
 voice; now ye need not fear the grave: News, news!

Je - sus Christ is born to - day! Ox and ass be -
 Je - sus Christ was born for this! He hath o - pened
 Jē - sus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and

fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 heav - en's door, and ye are blest for - ev - er - more.
 calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day, Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save!

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, you are all things to all people. Like no one else, you can fulfill the desires and expectations of everyone. Will we allow ourselves to have our expectations fulfilled? Will we allow ourselves to fully believe in you? Will we acknowledge that you are what we have always been looking for? We pray that this will be so for ourselves, and throughout the whole Earth. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Unison

1. In-fant ho - ly, in-fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle
2. Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing

stall; ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing, Christ the babe is Lord of
new saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel

all. Swift are wing - ing an - gels sing - ing, no - els ring - ing, tid - ings
true. Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the

Interlude, Ending

bring - ing: Christ the babe is Lord of all.
mor - row: Christ the babe was born for you.

Special Music

One Child
Karen Hanko

Jill Gallina

Young Disciples Chatting with the Rev

Scripture Lesson

John 1:35-42

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

Message

What Are You Looking For?

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Offertory

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Albin C. Whitworth

***Offertory Hymn**

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

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

Hymn

There's a Song in the Air

1. There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!
 2. There's a tu - mult of joy o'er the won - der - ful birth,
 3. In the light of that star lie the a - ges im - pearled;
 4. We re - joice in the light, and we ech - o the song

There's a moth - er's deep prayer and a ba - by's low cry!
 for the vir - gin's sweet boy is the Lord of the earth.
 and that song from a - far has swept o - ver the world.
 that comes down through the night from the heav - en - ly throng.

And the star rains its fire while the beau - ti - ful sing,
 Ay! the star rains its fire while the beau - ti - ful sing,
 Ev - ery hearth is a - flame, and the beau - ti - ful sing
 Ay! we shout to the love - ly e - van - gel they bring,

for the man - ger of Beth - le - hem cra - dles a King!
 for the man - ger of Beth - le - hem cra - dles a King!
 in the homes of the na - tions that Je - sus is King!
 and we greet in his cra - dle our Sav - ior and King!

Benediction

Postlude

Joy to the World

Don Hustad

Worship on August 11

August 11 is VBS Celebration Day! We will gather in the Great Hall at 10 AM to hear stories and sing VBS songs – because at AUMC, everyone is welcome at VBS!