

The United Methodist Church at Absecon

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I Can Hope

September 13, 2026

Today's Lay Reader: Naamah Leary

Welcome

Prelude

Interlude #5

Eric H. Thiman

Call to Worship

Leader: Come! Now is the time to worship! Come from near and far; in-person and virtual, live on Sunday and all week long! Come and worship the One through whom we can do all things!

People: **We come, ready to experience hope through Christ.**

Leader: On Pentecost, the disciples had only been the leaders of the Church for a few moments. But hope was already a crucial part of their ministry!

People: **Let it also be a crucial part of ours!**

Hymn

Lead On, O King Eternal

1. Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, the day of march has come;
 2. Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
 3. Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, we fol-low, not with fears,

hence-forth in fields of con-quest thy tents shall be our home.
 and ho - li - ness shall whis-per the sweet a - men of peace.
 for glad-ness breaks like morn-ing wher - e'er thy face ap - pears.

Through days of prep-a - ra - tion thy grace has made us strong;
 For not with swords loud clash-ing, nor roll of stir-ring drums;
 Thy cross is lift-ed o'er us, we jour-ney in its light;

and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat-tle song.
 with deeds of love and mer-cy the heaven-ly king-dom comes.
 the crown a-waits the con-quest; lead on, O God of might.

Opening Prayer

Lord, thank you so much for our Snowball Mountain Challenge VBS. Athletes may ski down a slope, but Christians offer hope! Hope is from God. And because of your grace, we are able to share your hope with others. The Church is full of hope stories. Which stories will you write next, Lord? We will find out when we share hope together. Amen.

Pastor's Preview

Young Disciples Chatting with The Rev

Chorus

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Lord, I lift Your name on high; I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life; I'm so glad You came to save us.
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift Your name on high!

Senior Choir

Glory to the King of Kings

Van Denman Thompson

Scripture Lesson

Acts 3:1-10

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, at three o'clock in the afternoon. And a man lame from birth was being carried in. People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the Beautiful Gate so that he could ask for alms from those entering the temple. When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them for alms. Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk." And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. Jumping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. All the people saw him walking and praising God, and they recognized him as the one who used to sit and ask for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, and they were filled with wonder and astonishment at what had happened to him.

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

Message

I Can Hope

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Offertory

Brethren We Have Met to Worship

William Moore

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!



Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn

My Hope Is Built

1. My hope is built on nothing less than
2. When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
3. His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup -
4. When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O

Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness. I dare not trust the
rest on his un - chang - ing grace. In ev - ery high and
port me in the whelm - ing flood. When all a - round my
may I then in him be found! Dressed in his righ - teous -

sweet - est frame, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale, my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, fault - less to stand be - fore the throne!



Benediction

Postlude

Variations on a Theme by Handel

Darwin Wolford

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