

The United Methodist Church at Absecon

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The Reverend David L. Ledford III, Pastor

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**Priscilla Cunningham,
Director of Music and Organist**



Service Before Self

November 9, 2025

Lay Reader: Tom Crawford

Worship Leader: Lynn Caterson

Welcome

Prelude

Prayer

Ferdinand Von Heller

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 with our own desires, our own plans, each heart busy with its own designs.**

Leader: Yet Scripture reminds us: "The human mind may devise many plans, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will be established."

People: **Today, we turn our hearts outward to serve rather than to be served, to live not for self, but for God.**

Hymn

Heralds of Christ

Trumpets, before each stanza

1. Her-alds of Christ, who bear the King's com -
 2. Through des - ert ways, dark fen, and deep mo -
 3. Lord, give us faith and strength the road to

mands, im - mor - tal tid - ings in your mor - tal hands,
 rass, through jun - gles, slug - gish seas, and moun - tain pass,
 build, to see the prom - ise of the day ful - filled,

pass on and car - ry swift the news you bring;
 build now the road, and fal - ter not, nor stay;
 when war shall be no more, and strife shall cease

make straight, make straight the high - way of the King.
 pre - pare a - cross the earth the King's high - way.
 up - on the high - way of the Prince of Peace.

Opening Prayer

Teach us, O Lord, to see as You see, to care as You care, and to live with kindness and truth in all we do. When we are tempted to serve our own desires, remind us that life is found in giving, and that joy is found in love. As we worship You today, quiet our spirits, open our hearts, and fill us with Your wisdom and compassion. May our thoughts, our words, and our actions bring glory to Your name.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Chorus

Glorify Thy Name

Father, we love You, we worship and adore You,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name, Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

Senior Choir

Known to You

David Catherwood

Young Disciples Chatting with the Vet

Scripture Lesson

Proverbs 19:16-23

Those who keep the commandment will live;
those who are heedless of their ways will die.
Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord
and will be repaid in full.
Discipline your children while there is hope;
do not set your heart on their destruction.
A violent-tempered person will pay the penalty;
if you effect a rescue, you will only have to do it again.
Listen to advice and accept instruction,
that you may gain wisdom for the future.
The human mind may devise many plans,
but it is the purpose of the Lord that will be established.
What is desirable in a person is loyalty,
and it is better to be poor than a liar.
The fear of the Lord is life indeed;
filled with it one rests secure
and suffers no harm.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

Message

Service Before Self

Bob McCarty

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Offertory

O Rest in the Lord

Felix Mendelssohn

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

God Bless America

God bless America, land that I love.
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with a light from above.
From the mountains to the prairies,
To the oceans white with foam,
God bless America, my home sweet home,
God bless America, my home sweet home.

Benediction

Postlude

Immortal, Invisible

Edward Broughton