

The United Methodist Church at Absecon

100 Pitney Rd // Absecon, NJ 08201

609.641.1265 // abseconumc.com

abseconumc@comcast.net

The Reverend David L. Ledford III, Pastor

ReverendDaveLedford@gmail.com

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



Heart and Head

January 18, 2026

Today's Lay Reader: Pam Stearns

Welcome

Prelude

Fugue on "Ave Maris Stella"

Jean-François Dandrieu

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 serve you with our head AND with our heart.**

Leader: Convince us, Lord, to love every part of us the way you do.

People: **Remind us, Lord, that both our hearts and our minds are essential to who we are. And you created us this way. Amen.**

Hymn

Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love

1. Blest be the dear u - nit - ing love that
 2. Joined in one spir - it to our Head, where
 3. O may we ev - er walk in him, and
 4. We all are one who him re - ceive, and
 5. Par - tak - ers of the Sav - ior's grace, the

will not let us part; our bod - ies may far
 he ap - points we go, and still in Je - sus'
 noth - ing know be - side, noth - ing de - sire, noth -
 each with each a - gree, in him the One, the
 same in mind and heart, nor joy, nor grief, nor

off re - move, we still are one in heart.
 foot - steps tread, and do his work be - low.
 ing es - teem, but Je - sus cru - ci - fied!
 Truth, we live; blest point of u - ni - ty!
 time, nor place, nor life, nor death can part.

Opening Prayer

God of our whole selves, today we ask you to stir our hearts and meet our minds. We offer ourselves fully so that your grace might wash over all of who we are – leaving no part behind. Form us into thoughtful and compassionate disciples so that our very lives tell the story of your love to the world. Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism

Aubrey, Avery, and William Stearns
 "The Baptismal Covenant II" Hymnal Page 39

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Chorus

Bind Us Together

Bind us together Lord,
Bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together Lord,
Bind us together, bind us together in love.

There is only one God, there is only one King:
There is only one body, that is why we sing:

Bind us together Lord,
Bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord,
Bind us together, bind us together in love.

Senior Choir

Sing Joyfully

Don Marsh

Young Disciples Chatting with the Rev

Scripture Lesson

Mark 12:28-31

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God

Message

Heart and Head

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Offertory

Medley

arr. John Innes

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

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with

me; let there be peace on earth, the peace that was

meant to be. *With God our cre - a - tor,

chil - dren all are we. Let us

walk with each oth - er in per - fect har - mo - ny.

The musical score is written for voice and piano in 3/4 time. It consists of five systems of music. The first system begins with a treble and bass staff. The melody is in the treble staff, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are: 'Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with'. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'me; let there be peace on earth, the peace that was'. The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'meant to be. *With God our cre - a - tor,'. The fourth system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'chil - dren all are we. Let us'. The fifth system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'walk with each oth - er in per - fect har - mo - ny.'.

Let peace be - gin with me; let this be the mo - ment

This system contains the first line of music. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

now. With ev - ery step I take, let

This system contains the second line of music. It begins with a fermata over the word 'now.' in the treble staff. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

this be my sol - emn vow: to take each mo - ment and

This system contains the third line of music. The treble staff features a melodic line with some ties and a fermata over the word 'vow:'. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

live each mo - ment in peace e - ter - nal - ly.

This system contains the fourth line of music. The treble staff ends with a fermata over the word 'ly.'. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me.

This system contains the fifth and final line of music on the page. It concludes with a double bar line in both staves.

Benediction

Postlude

O Worship the King

J. Michael