

**The United Methodist Church at Absecon**

100 Pitney Rd // Absecon, NJ 08201

609.641.1265 // [abseconumc.com](http://abseconumc.com)

[abseconumc@comcast.net](mailto:abseconumc@comcast.net)

**The Reverend David L. Ledford III, Pastor**

[ReverendDaveLedford@gmail.com](mailto:ReverendDaveLedford@gmail.com)

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



---

# Wisdom as Divine Presence

October 12, 2025

Today's Lay Reader: Naamah Leary

## Welcome

## Prelude

"St. Peter"

Healey Willan

## 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!

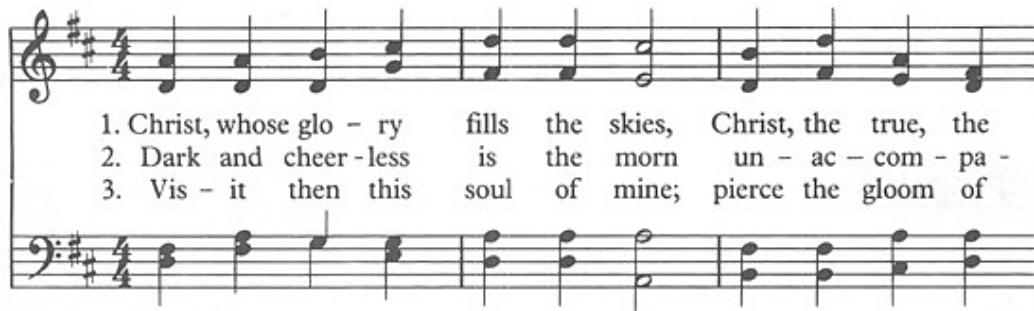
**People:** **We come, ready to listen to God's great wisdom once again.**

**Leader:** In the beginning, Wisdom was there, rejoicing in the presence of God, delighting in the world God made.

**People:** **We seek wisdom. For whoever finds wisdom finds God.**

## Hymn

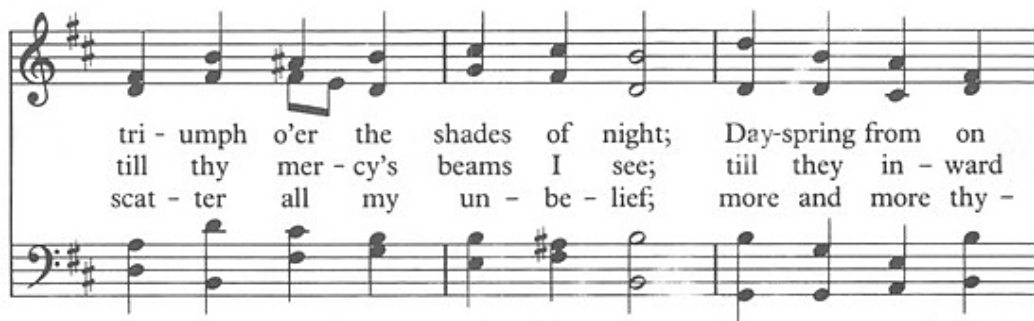
## Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies



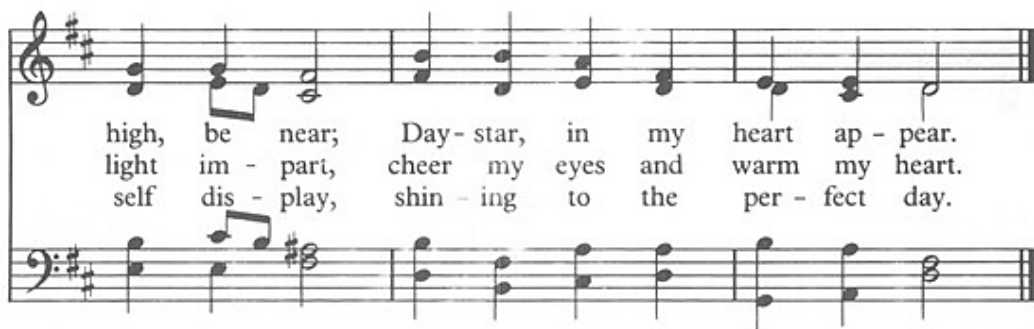
1. Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the  
2. Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa -  
3. Vis - it then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of



on - ly light, Sun of Righ - teous - ness, a - rise,  
nied by thee; joy - less is the day's re - turn,  
sin and grief; fill me, Ra - dian - cy di - vine,



tri - umph o'er the shades of night; Day-spring from on  
till thy mer - cy's beams I see; till they in - ward  
scat - ter all my un - be - lief; more and more thy -



high, be near; Day - star, in my heart ap - pear.  
light im - part, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.  
self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

## Opening Prayer

Lord, we come before you, eager to hear Your voice. Teach us to listen with open hearts, to seek your wisdom above all else, and to find joy in your presence. Bless this time of worship. Let Your Spirit guide our thoughts and our words, that we may honor you in all we do. Grant us the wisdom that leads to life, through Jesus Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

## Pastoral Prayer

## The Lord's Prayer

## Hymn

## Lord, Speak to Me

(verses 1, 2, 3, and 5)

1. Lord, speak to me, that I may speak in  
 2. O strength - en me, that while I stand firm  
 3. O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the  
 4. O fill me with thy full - ness, Lord, un -  
 5. O use me, Lord, use ev - en me, just

liv - ing ech - oes of thy tone; as thou hast sought, so  
 on the rock, and strong in thee, I may stretch out a  
 pre - cious things thou dost im - part; and wing my words, that  
 til my ver - y heart o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and  
 as thou wilt, and when, and where, un - til thy bless - ed

let me seek thine err - ing chil - dren lost and lone.  
 lov - ing hand to wres - tlers with the trou - bled sea.  
 they may reach the hid - den depths of many a heart.  
 glow - ing word, thy love to tell, thy praise to show.  
 face I see, thy rest, thy joy, thy glo - ry share.

Senior Choir

Praise Ye the Lord

Julie Knowles

**Young Disciples Chatting with the Rev**

**Scripture Lesson**

Proverbs 8:22-36

“The Lord created me at the beginning of his work,  
the first of his acts of long ago.  
Ages ago I was set up,  
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.  
When there were no depths I was brought forth,  
when there were no springs abounding with water.  
Before the mountains had been shaped,  
before the hills, I was brought forth,  
when he had not yet made earth and fields  
or the world’s first bits of soil.  
When he established the heavens, I was there;  
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,  
when he made firm the skies above,  
when he established the fountains of the deep,  
when he assigned to the sea its limit,  
so that the waters might not transgress his command,  
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,  
then I was beside him, like a master worker,  
and I was daily his delight,  
playing before him always,  
playing in his inhabited world  
and delighting in the human race.  
“And now, my children, listen to me:  
happy are those who keep my ways.  
Hear instruction and be wise,  
and do not neglect it.  
Happy is the one who listens to me,  
watching daily at my gates,  
waiting beside my doors.  
For whoever finds me finds life  
and obtains favor from the Lord,  
but those who miss me injure themselves;  
all who hate me love death.”

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: **Thanks be to God**

**Message**

*Wisdom as Divine Presence*

## Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

### Offertory

Prelude in G

E. H. Rimbault

### Doxology

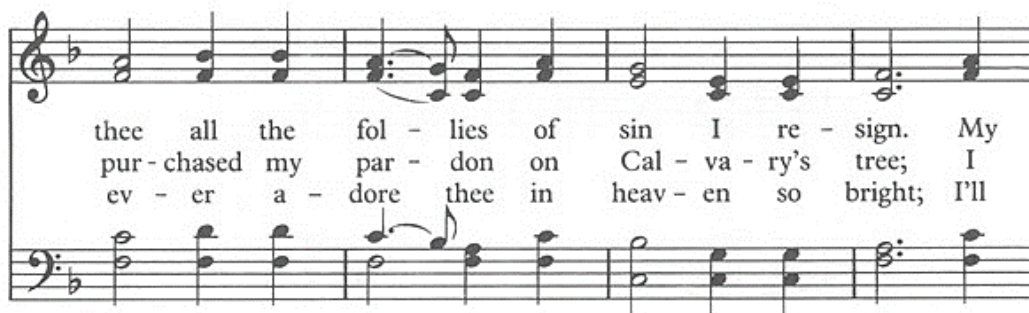
Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### Hymn

My Jesus, I Love Thee



1. My Je - sus, I love thee, I know thou art mine; for  
2. I love thee be - cause thou hast first lov - ed me, and  
3. In man - sions of glo - ry and end - less de - light, I'll



thee all the fol - lies of sin I re - sign. My  
pur - chased my par - don on Cal - va - ry's tree; I  
ev - er a - dore thee in heav - en so bright; I'll



gra - cious Re - deem - er, my Sav - ior art thou; if  
love thee for wear - ing the thorns on thy brow; if  
sing with the glit - ter - ing crown on my brow; if



ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.  
ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.  
ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.

## Benediction

## Postlude

## Festive Recessional

Janet Linker