

The United Methodist Church at Absecon

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I Am the Light of the World

April 26, 2026

Today's Lay Reader: Judy Pine

Welcome

Prelude

Canzona on "Liebster Jesu"

Richard Purvis

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 continue spreading God's light in the world!**

Leader: In the beginning, the Earth was dark and empty.

People: **Then, God said "let there be light". God saw that the light was good, and separated it from the darkness. Our whole Christian story is like this; God's light, Jesus Christ, separates us from the darkness.**

Hymn

To God Be the Glory

1. To God be the glo-ry, great things he hath done! So loved he the
 2. O per - fect re-demp-tion, the pur-chase of blood, to ev-ery be-
 3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done, and great our re-

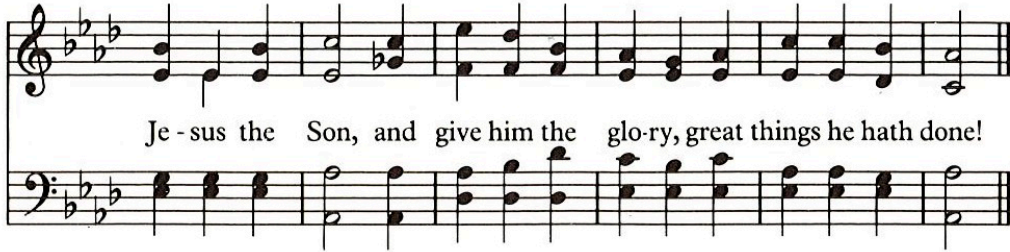
world that he gave us his Son, who yield - ed his life an a -
 liev - er the prom-ise of God; the vil - est of - fend - er who
 joic-ing thru Je - sus the Son; but pur - er, and high - er, and

tone-ment for sin, and o-pened the life-gate that all may go in.
 tru - ly be - lies, that mo-ment from Je - sus a par-don re - ceives.
 great - er will be our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the

Lord, praise the Lord, let the peo-ple re - joice! O come to the Fa-ther thru



Opening Prayer

Dear God, shine your light into the darkness. At times, our lives seem dark. Sometimes the world seems dark. Two thousand years ago, you saw that darkness. And into it, you sent a great light. Those walking in darkness would never have to again. Jesus, the light of the world, brings light, hope, peace and salvation into the world like no one else ever could. Thank you! Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

Chorus

He Is Lord

He is Lord, he is Lord! He is risen from the dead and he is Lord! *(sing twice)*
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Senior Choir

Lay Up Your Treasures in Heaven

Pepper Choplin

Young Disciples Chatting with the Rev

Scripture Lesson

John 8:12-20

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” Then the Pharisees said to him, “You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid.” Jesus answered, “Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards; I judge no one. Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is valid, for it is not I alone who judge but I and the Father who sent me. In your law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is valid. I testify on my own behalf, and the Father who sent me testifies on my behalf.” Then they said to him, “Where is your Father?” Jesus answered, “You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.” He spoke these words while he was teaching in the treasury of the temple, but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

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

Message *I Am the Light of the World*

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Offertory My Lord, What a Morning Robert Thygerson

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 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!

Refrain

On Christ the sol - id rock I stand, all oth - er ground is
sink - ing sand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Benediction

Postlude

“Allegro” from Westminster Suite

Henry Purcell