

**Lewes Presbyterian Church**

**Believing, growing and sharing the love of Christ**

**11:00 AM Worship Service**

**December 14, 2025**



**SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 40:3-5**

**SERMON SERIES: Advent**

**SERMON: Prepare the Way**

**Rev. Greg Wiest**

Lewes Presbyterian Church  
Believing, growing and sharing the love of Christ  
Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

Sarah Rose

GREETING AND WELCOME

Rev. Greg Wiest

THE LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Granville Reed &  
Susan Kammerer

HYMN: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Hymnal pg 214

*Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests. Luke 2:14*

1. Angels we have heard on high  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply  
echo back their joyous strains.

CHORUS

Glo - - - - ri-a, in excelsis De-o,  
Glo - - - - -ri-a, in excelsis De-o

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say what may the tidings be,  
which inspire your heavenly song?

CHORUS

3. Come to Bethlehem and see  
him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

CHORUS

ANTHEM Carol of Remembrance

Martin

## **THE APOSTLE'S CREED**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,**  
Maker of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ,** his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit;**  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
and the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

INVITATION TO SILENT CONFESSION  
DECLARATION OF PARDON

Michael Salvatore  
1 John 1:9

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without  
end. Amen, amen.

CELEBRATION

PSALTER READING: Psalm 88:9-18

Michael Salvatore

My eyes are dim with grief. I call to you, Lord, every day; I spread out  
my hands to you.

**Do you show your wonders to the dead? Do their spirits rise up and  
praise you?**

Is your love declared in the grave, your faithfulness in destruction?

**Are your wonders known in the place of darkness, or your righteous  
deeds in the land of oblivion?**

But I cry to you for help, Lord; in the morning my prayer comes before  
you.

**Why, Lord, do you reject me and hide your face from me?**

From my youth I have suffered and been close to death; I have borne  
your terrors and am in despair.

**Your wrath has swept over me; your terrors have destroyed me.**

All day long they surround me like a flood; they have completely  
engulfed me.

**You have taken from me friend and neighbor – darkness is my  
closest friend.**

STEWARDSHIP & OFFERING  
PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Michael Salvatore  
Rev. Greg Wiest

**PREPARATION**

HYMN: "What Child is This"

Hymnal pg 213

*"Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews." Matt 2:2*

1. What child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are  
keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.
2. Why lies he in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me and you;  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary.
3. So bring him incense, gold and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him;  
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;  
joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.

**PROCLAMATION**

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 40:3-5  
New International Version (NIV)

Bible pg 1028

SERMON SERIES: Advent

SERMON: Prepare the Way

Rev. Greg Wiest

HYMN: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" Hymnal pg 201

*Bethlehem.....out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel ..... Mic. 5:2*

1. O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;  
above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
3. How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.
4. O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Greg Wiest

Flowers are provided by **David & Suzi Pashuck** *in memory of our parents.*

**Christmas Poinsettias:**



You may order your Christmas poinsettias through December 15<sup>th</sup>. \$10 each. Order forms are in the Welcome Center or you may order online at [2025 Christmas Poinsettia Order Form](#)

## **WELCOME . . . .**

**To Lewes Presbyterian Church where you are always welcome. Whether you are attending for the first time in years, or the first time as a new resident, or an LPC member, you will always find LPC as *a place for you.***

***LPC is a place to worship*** on Sundays which offers three distinct types of worship services; 8AM, 9AM and 11AM.

***LPC is a place to bring your children.*** Your children are welcomed by caring leaders. LPC has a nursery available during the 9AM worship services. Children's Church is offered before the 9AM sermon for ages 3-7. Adult and Children's Sunday School meet at 10AM during the school year.

***LPC is a place to explore Christianity during our Sunday a.m. and weekly Bible studies. Welcome to LPC . . . . a place for you.***

We are glad you are here to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with us. We look to God's Word as the foundation for our church and our personal lives, and we joyfully praise God as we welcome you to our church family.

If you are visiting for the first time, we invite you to complete a connection card found in the pew and put it into the offering plate as you leave worship today. We encourage you to return often and make LPC a spiritual home for you, your family and friends.

**Experience LPC—we have a place for you!**

## Angels We Have Heard on High

### 1937

*Angels We Have Heard on High* is of unknown French origin dating back to the 1700s and has appeared in several different versions. It is based on Luke 2:8-15 and generally sung to the hymn tune *Gloria*, a traditional French carol and arranged by Edward S Barnes. The lyrics of this Christmas carol were inspired but not an exact translation of a French carol whose literal meaning is “The angels in our countryside,” and whose first known publication was in 1842. The most common translation is the English version, an 1862 paraphrase by James Chadwick, a Roman Catholic bishop, in northeast England.

Hymns are usually authored by human beings like us, but in this case obscure verses by unknown French poets were coupled with a refrain that was literally composed by angels in heaven: *Gloria in excelsis Deo*, the Latin wording for the angelic anthem, *Glory to God in the highest!*” Which comes from Luke 2:14 and translates Latin *Gloria* – *Glory*, and *excelsis* is the phrase for *in the highest*. The Latin word *Deo* means *God*.

Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958) was an American organist who was a graduate of Yale University and then continued his studies in Paris. Barnes worked as an organist in New York, Philadelphia and Santa Monica. He composed organ symphonies and other organ works. He was also the editor of the magazine “American Organ Monthly.” Barnes is noted for arranging the current form of this Christmas carol in 1937. The carol soon became very popular and has been translated into many other languages and is widely sung and published. Modern hymnals usually include three verses.

This was the song proclaimed by the angels over the shepherds in their field the night Christ was born. The musical score stretches out and emphasizes the words in a way that is uniquely fun to sing and deeply stirring as we lift our voices to proclaim: Jesus has come! Hope has arrived on earth! A Savior is born! Glory to God on High! *Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*