



EPWORTH REHOBOTH BEACH

Worship Order, Announcements & Prayers
Epworth.faith

Sunday, December 28, 2025



Welcome to Epworth Worship
Sunday 9:50 am
in-person and online

9:50 am [Blended Worship Order](#)
[Calendar](#) & [Announcements](#)
[Prayer List](#)
[Staff & Leadership](#)

***VISION: Explore Faith,
Embrace Community***
***MISSION: Inviting, Belonging,
Connecting, Caring***

All Means All

As a [Reconciling Ministries Network](#) congregation, we welcome all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, to share their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.



19285 Holland Glade Rd.
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971
302-227-7743 Epworth.faith



~ *We Gather in Worship* ~

Prelude Doug Yetter, organ

Welcome Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Announcements Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

O Come, All Ye Faithful

John F. Wade, 1743

Congregational Hymn

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels.
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,
lo, He shuns not the Virgin's womb.
Son of the Father, begotten, not created; *{Refrain}*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest. *{Refrain}*

Kid's Time Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Charles Wesley, 1739 / Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

Congregational Hymn

Hark! the Herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold Him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.

Veiled in flesh the Godhead See;
hail th' incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Prayers of the People

RuthAnn Barnes

A new year stands on my doorstep
ready to enter my life's journey.

Something in me welcomes this visitor:

Welcoming the hope of bountiful blessings
Welcoming the joy of a new beginning
Welcoming the freshness of unclaimed surprises.

Something in me rejects this visitor:

Rejecting the swiftness of their coming
Rejecting the boldness of their entrance
Rejecting the challenge of saying good-bye
to the familiar old year.

Something in me fears this visitor:

Fearing the unnamed events of future days
Fearing the wisdom needed to walk in love
Fearing the demands of giving away and growing.

A new year stands on my doorstep:

I move with fragile caution
to open the door for its entrance.
My heart leaps with surprise, and joy fills my eyes,
for there beside this brand-new year
stands my God with outstretched hand!

God smiles and gently asks of me:

Come, let us walk through each day
of this year together.

And I, so overwhelmed with God's goodness,
can barely whisper my reply: "Welcome in!"

*And now with the confidence of the Children of God,
let us sing the prayer Christ taught us:*

The Lord's Prayer

Spoken

Angels from the Realms of Glory

James Montgomery, 1816 / Henry T. Smart, 1867
Congregational Hymn

**Angels from the realms of glory,
wing Your flight o'er all the earth.**

**Ye who sang creation's story
now proclaim Messiah's birth:**

***Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.***

**Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er Your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant light:**

***Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.***

**Sages, leave Your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar.
Seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen His natal star:**

***Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.***

Lesson: *Psalm 148*

Rose Verona, reader

Praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!
Praise him, all his angels;

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praise him, all his host!
Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars!
Praise him, you highest heavens
and you waters above the heavens!
Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he commanded and they were created.
He established them forever and ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.
Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling his command!
Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!
Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!
Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!
Young men and women alike,
old and young together!
Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.
He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to him.
Praise the Lord!

May this scripture inspire us all...

§ to walk in the way that leads to life.

Away in a Manger

Anonymous / James R. Murray, 1887

Congregational Hymn

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes;
I love You, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask You to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
bless all the dear children in Your tender care
and fit us for heaven to live with You there.**

Prayer for Our Pastor

Rose Verona

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Edmund H. Sears, 1849 / Richard Storrs Willis, 1850

Congregational Hymn

**It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth,
to touch their harps of gold;
“Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heaven’s all-gracious King.”
The world in solemn stillness lay,
to hear the angels sing.**

**Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,**

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and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains,
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the song
which now the angels sing.

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Go Tell It On the Mountain

American Spiritual, adapted by John W. Work, Jr. 1907

Congregational Hymn

*Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.*

While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens
there shown a holy light. *{Refrain}*

The shepherds feared and trembled,
when lo! above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed the Savior's birth. *{Refrain}*

Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. *{Refrain}*

Postlude

Doug Yetter, organ

Altar Flowers were donated by Gay LaNasa In
Memory of Kathy Keefer and a Happy New Year
for All!.

Annual Worship Theme
Nov. 30, 2025 - Jan. 4, 2026

Jesus & Human Dignity
Advent-Christmas Series



Joys and Concerns for your prayers this Week of December 28, 2025

SYMPATHY

CONCERNS

Those impacted by shootings
People in conflict of Israel and Gaza Strip
People of Ukraine
Deaf People of Ukraine
Arletta
Marie Ahern
Zach & Emma Anderson
Matias Baker
*Cathy Benson
Michael Bedard
*Jeff Bond
Brint and Lynne
Brooke and Ralph
*Tim Bush
Dave
David Caffier
Sr. Christine Carrigg
*Rob Cline
Donna and Bill Crnkovich
Renee Downs
*Jane Drapper
*Jennifer Eden Family
Carilyle Erich
Deb Ferlitto and Mother
Coleson Alexander Fillmore
Marion Ford
Carol Anne Fowler
Sterling Green
*Tom Groff
Toni Groff
Jerich Hasieber
Kathy Hertley
Martha Kallaher
Mark Gruber-Lebowitz
*Jimmy/Linda Hess
Ray Hilt
Connie Ann Holms-Tatom
*George Leet
*Donna Lipscomb
Logan
Bob Luedel
Janis Lunn
*Loretta Mahan
Patrick Mahan
Donald Mahon
Jerry Mahon
*Stephanie Manos
Larry Mazzoni
Sean and Adrienne McCullough
Kaitlyn McCutcheon
Mo Madden
*Marv Malone
Bob Mazur
Ellen McKeon
Josh Mikalouski
Perry James Psaros
*Ron Paxton
*Sandy & Glenn Pierce

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Quinn Family
*Janene Riley-Spillane-Surgery
*Bill Robbins
Bill Roche
Emmalea Ruff
John Ruff
*John Sadler
Jean Safrit
*Irene & Tom Safrit
*Carl Schloegel
*Loretta Smith
Owen Thompson
Beth Toney
Rene Toney
Steven Trantum
Lee Ann Walling
Peggy Waltersdorf
Hudson Walton
Donald Walton
*Deb Weber
*Suzanne Weidner
Wendy
*Tim Whaley
*Tina Whaley
Michael Wills, Sr
*Lynne Wilmer
*Carol Woodcock
*Charlotte Woods
*Claire Worrall
*Tom Worrall
*Michelle Yates
*Linda Miniscako & Jeanne Drake
Don Ziegler

***Church Members**

Prayers for those in Assisted Living, Homebound, Hospice or in Long Term Care

*Jean Young Palliative Care
Melba Bengston, Hospice @ Home
*Ann Chambers, The Moorings
Leon Cromer, Harbor Health
Ken Gilson- Hospice Vermont
*Nancy Hecker Hospice Salisbury
*Debra Leiss -Hospice Home
Gary Ralph, Polaris Milford
*Linda Rooney
*Irene & Tom Safrit
Fred and Sharyn Smith
Quinn Smith
Elaine Trexler
*Janet Yabroff

Servicemen/Women:

Michael Sakurai Wills, US Army Ft. Jackson, Alaska
Hailye Wilson, USCG Mobile, AL
Luke Wilson, USCG Pascagoula, MS
Zeb Wilson, Travis AFB, CA
Jacob Hudson, USMC Camp Pendleton, CA
Andrew Hudson, US Army, Ft. Bliss, TX

College/Grad Students

*Autumn Reynolds-Grad Student Cedar Crest College

*Kristina Alexander, Grad Student Western Governor's U

Callie Juliano, U Conn

Cole Thomas Juliano, UD

Noah Ryan, Delaware Tech

*Thomas Vyas, UD

Griffin Barrows, Marist

Grant Barrows, UNC Charlotte

Hunter Zhang, UD

Epworth Ministry Organization



Staff & Leadership

Church Office: 302-227-7743 (plus extension)

Lead Pastor: [Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith](#) (x102)

Pastor of Community & Communication:

[Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith](#) (x103)

Minister of Music: [Doug Yetter](#) (x106)

Caring Minister: [Mickie McManamon](#) (x104)

Belonging Minister: [Gwen Osborne](#) (x108)

Youth Minister: [Joy Gordy-Stith](#)

Minister to Deaf and Hard of Hearing: [Sandy Roca](#)

Office Manager: [Tammy Zhang](#) (x100)

Bookkeeper: [Bryan Warner](#) (x105)

Facilities Manager: [John Hilt](#)

Kitchen Sexton: [Maureen Knesel](#)

Preschool Director: [Betsy Plowman](#) (x107)

Cemetery Superintendent: [Jay Stevenson](#)

Governing Board Chair—[Linda Kauffman](#)

Lay Leader—[Todd Popham](#)

Finance Chair—[David Hagelin](#)

Staff-Parish Relations Chair—[Sandy Pierce](#)

Board of Trustees Chair—[Tom Lewis](#)

Scheduling/Rentals & DOVs: [Susan Jimenez](#)

Inviting Leadership Team

(Inclusive Ministries, Food Ministries, Ecumenical/Interfaith, Social Justice)

[Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith](#) and [Mike Tyler](#)

Belonging Leadership Team

(Small Groups, New Members/Belongings, Sunday School, Youth & Adult Groups)

[Gwen Osborne](#), [Linda BenderHilt](#), [Loretta Mahan](#),
[Cathie Lewis](#) and [Teri Moore](#)

Connecting Leadership Team

(Worship, Music, Arts)

[Doug Yetter](#) and [Murray Archibald](#)

Caring Leadership Team

(Missions, Pastoral Care Team, Care Ministries)

[Mickie McManamon](#), [Dee Speck](#) and [Holly Reynolds](#)