



EPWORTH REHOBOTH BEACH

Worship Order, Announcements & Prayers
Epworth.faith

Sunday, January 4, 2026



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 Lee Ann Walling, keyboard

Welcome Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Announcements Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

The First Noel

Traditional English carol / from Christmas Carols New and Old, 1871

Congregational Carol

The first Noel, the angels did say,
was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay.
In fields where they, lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel. Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. *{Refrain}*

And by the light of that same star
three Wise Men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. *{Refrain}*

Then entered in those Wise Men three,
full reverently upon the knee,
and offered there, in His presence,
their gold and myrrh and frankincense. *{Refrain}*

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

There's a Song in the Air

Josiah G. Holland, 1874 / Karl P. Harrington, 1904

Congregational Carol

There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!
There's a mother's deep prayer and a baby's low cry!
And the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,
for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

There's a tumult of joy o'er the wonderful birth,
for the virgin's sweet boy is the Lord of the earth.
Ay! the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,
for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

We rejoice in the light, and we echo the song
that comes down through the night
from the heavenly throng.
Ay! we shout to the lovely evangel they bring,
and we greet in His cradle our Savior and King!

Lesson: *Ephesians 3:3-14* Michael Beigay, reader

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things

in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

May this scripture inspire us all...

§ to walk in the way that leads to life.

Joseph's Song

Michael Card, 1982 / Miles Slatcher, soloist

How could it be?

This baby in my arms, sleeping now so peacefully?

"The son of God!" the angel said... How could it be?

Lord, I know he's not my own.

Not of my flesh, seems not of my bones.

Still, Father let this baby be the son of my love.

**Father, show me where I fit into this plan of yours,
how can a man be father to the Son of God?**

Lord, for all my life I've been a simple carpenter.

How can I raise a King, how can I raise a King?

He looks so small, his face and hands so fair.

And when he cries, the sun just seems to disappear.

But when he laughs it shines again. How could it be?

**Father, show me where I fit into this plan of yours,
how can a man be father to the Son of God?**

Lord, for all my life I've been a simple carpenter.

How can I raise a King, how can I raise a King?

How could it be?

This baby in my arms, sleeping now so peacefully?

"The son of God!" the angel said... How could it be?

We Pray for Our Pastor

Michael Beigay

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Be Present at Our Table, Lord

John Cennick, 1741 / Attributed to Louis Bourgeois, 1551

Be present at our table, Lord;

be here and everywhere adored;

thy creatures bless, and grant that we

may feast in paradise with Thee.

Prayer of Confession / Words of Assurance

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,

always and everywhere to give thanks to You,

Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth...

...And so, with your people on earth

and all the company of heaven

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we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed are those who come
in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

...as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.

...Through your Son, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory are Yours, Almighty God,
now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer Spoken

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Angels We Have Heard on High

Traditional French Carol, 1862

Arranged by Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937

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

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why Your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire Your heavenly song? {Refrain}

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

See Him in a manger laid,
whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend Your aid,
while our hearts in love we raise. {Refrain}

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

Jesus & Human Dignity
Advent-Christmas Series



Joys and Concerns for your prayers this Week of January 4, 2026

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](#)