

## The United Methodist Church at Absecon

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**Director of Music and Organist**



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# The Beginning of Wisdom

*September 21, 2025*

Today's Lay Reader: Tom Crawford

### Welcome

### Prelude

Air

J. Matheson

### 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, seeking wisdom, not foolishness.**

**Leader:** We lift our hearts to God, who calls us to wisdom, peace, and life.

**People:** **Come, Holy Spirit, guide us into truth, and lead us in the way everlasting.**

## Hymn

## Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

(verses 1, 2, and 5)

1. Praise to the Lord, the Al-might-y, the King of cre-a-

2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous-ly reign -

3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros-per thy work and de-fend

4. Praise to the Lord, who doth nour-ish thy life and re-store

5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a-dore

tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and sal-

ing bears thee on ea-gle's wings, e'er in his keep-ing main-

thee; sure-ly his good-ness and mer-cy here dai-ly at-

thee, fit-ting thee well for the tasks that are ev-er be-

him! All that hath life and breath, come now with prais-es be-

va-tion! All ye who hear, now to his tem-ple draw

tain-ing. God's care en-folds all, whose true good he up-

tend thee. Pon-der a-new what the Al-might-y can

fore thee. Then to thy need God as a moth-er doth

fore him! Let the a-men sound from his peo-ple a-

near; join me in glad ad-o-ra-tion!

holds. Hast thou not known his sus-tain-ing?

do, who with his love doth be-friend thee.

speed, spread-ing the wings of grace o'er thee.

gain; glad-ly for-ev-er a-dore him.

For learning about wisdom and instruction,  
for understanding words of insight,  
for gaining instruction in wise dealing,  
righteousness, justice, and equity;  
to teach shrewdness to the simple,  
knowledge and prudence to the young—  
let the wise, too, hear and gain in learning  
and the discerning acquire skill,  
to understand a proverb and a figure,  
the words of the wise and their riddles.  
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge;  
fools despise wisdom and instruction.

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

**Message**

*The Beginning of Wisdom*

**Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God**

**Offertory**

Pavanne

Gabriel Fauré

**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**

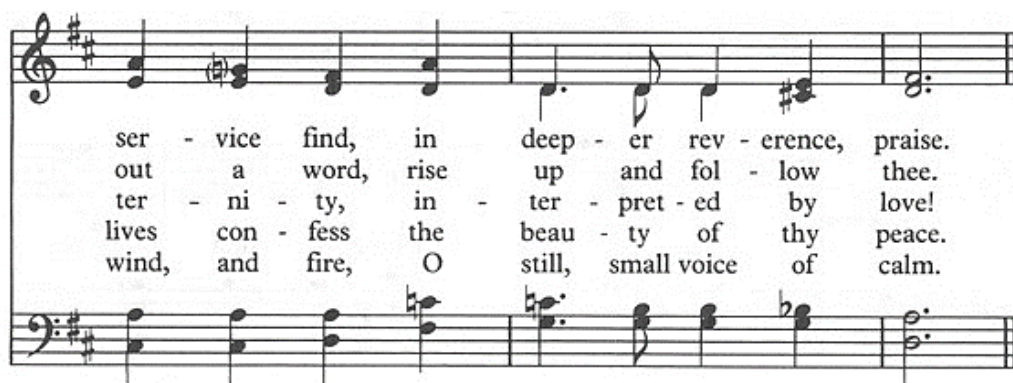
Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

(verses 1, 2, and 5)

1. Dear Lord and Fa - ther of man - kind, for -  
 2. In sim - ple trust like theirs who heard, be -  
 3. O sab - bath rest by Gal - i - lee, O  
 4. Drop thy still dew of qui - et - ness, till  
 5. Breathe through the heats of our de - sire thy

give our fool - ish ways; re - clothe us in our  
 side the Syr - ian sea, the gra - cious call - ing  
 calm of hills a - bove, where Je - sus knelt to  
 all our striv - ings cease; take from our souls the  
 cool - ness and thy balm; let sense be dumb, let

right - ful mind, in pur - er lives thy  
 of the Lord, let us, like them, with -  
 share with thee the si - lence of e -  
 strain and stress, and let our or - dered  
 flesh re - tire; speak through the earth - quake,



ser - vice find, in deep - er rev - erence, praise.  
 out a word, rise up and fol - low thee.  
 ter - ni - ty, in - ter - pret - ed by love!  
 lives con - fess the beau - ty of thy peace.  
 wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm.

## Benediction

Postlude

Festal Finale

Henry Coleman