

Christmas Eve

at Clarendon United Methodist Church

December 24, 2023

5:00PM



CUMC | 606 N. Irving Street | Arlington, VA 22201 | www.ClarendonUMC.org

Christmas Eve Family Service

December 24, 2023

5:00pm Service of Worship

A warm and sincere welcome to all of you who have come to worship with us on this holy night! We hope that you will find a sense of awe, expectancy, and peace. This service is especially tailored to meet the needs of our families with children! Your little ones are to be seen AND heard at this service! Take a moment to read through your bulletin to be aware of the many moments of participation.

Of particular note are those instructions that are preceded by our little angel: ☺

Prelude **Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus** Mark A. Miller
Youth Choir & Alumni

Welcome & Lighting of the Advent Wreath Rev. Tracy McNeil Wines

Introit	Christmas Lullaby Calypso	Donnelly/Strid
Youth, Children, and Cherub Choirs		

Hymn	It Came upon the Midnight Clear	UMH 218
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😊 If you have a flower in your bag, **bring it forward** and place it in one of the baskets during this hymn!

Reading (adapted from Luke 1:26-38)

Reader: God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, to the virgin Mary, who was engaged to Joseph. The angel said:

People: “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.”

Reader: Mary was scared. But the angel said:

People: “Don’t be afraid, Mary, God is happy with you. You are going to have a baby by the Holy Spirit and you are to name him Jesus. He will be the Son of God.”

Reader: Mary answered:

People: “I am God’s servant. I will do what he asks.”

Hymn	O Little Town of Bethlehem	UMH 230
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😊 If you have a light in your bag get it out, and wait for the cue to stand up and hold your light so that Mary and Joseph can find their way to Bethlehem!

Reading (adapted from Luke 2:1-7)

☺ *Everybody knock on the pew in front of you as the music starts and see if we can get the innkeeper to come out!*

Anthem

Knock, Knock, Knock

Traditional

Cherub Choir

Hymn

Away in a Manger

UMH 217

☺ *If you have a piece of burlap in your bag, **bring it forward** and put it in the manger as we sing!*

Reading (adapted from Luke 2:1-7)

Liturgical Dance

Joseph's Lullaby

Millard/Bannister

Children's Choir

Hymn

Angels We Have Heard on High

UMH 238

☺ *If you have bells in your bag, **QUIETLY** get them out and read along carefully, watching for the cue (*) to ring them. HINT: It will happen twice!*

Reading (adapted from Luke 1:26-38)

Reader: Shepherds were in the field watching their sheep. An angel appeared (*) and a great light glowed around them. They were terrified, but the angel said to them:

People: "Don't be afraid! I bring good news of great joy for all people! A baby has been born today in Bethlehem. He is Christ the Lord! You will find him wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Reader: Suddenly, many angels appeared (*) praising God and singing:

People: "Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth to all people!"

Reader: When the angels left, the shepherds said to each other:

People: "Let's go to Bethlehem!"

Hymn

We Three Kings

UMH 254

☺ *If you have a wrapped package in your bag, **bring it forward** and place it in the gift box in the front!*

Reading (adapted from Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11)

Offering Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

UMH 234

Anthem

Night of Silence
Youth Choir and Alumni

Dan Kantor
arr. John Ferguson

Sharing the Light of Christ

Rev. Nilse Furtado-Gilliam

*Please tip only unlit candles to receive the flame
from those already lit to prevent hot wax from spilling.*

Hymn

Silent Night (all verses)

UMH 239

Please lift your candles on the final verse.

Benediction

Rev. Wines

Postlude

Joy to the World

UMH 246

MERRY CHRISTMAS!