

Order of Worship

Our Spirit Waits

December 10, 2023 10:00 AM

Welcome to this time of worship, as we gather in the name of Jesus Christ.

Prelude

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen

Johannes Brahms

Annelisa Crabtree, organ

Welcome

Rev. Tracy McNeil Wines

Lighting of the Advent Wreath - The Candle of Peace

Leader: In days when God's people longed for peace, Isaiah declared,
"Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that
she has served her term, that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins."
(Isaiah 40:1)

We who gather today also seek comfort and peace, yet we are
unsatisfied with ideas of peace that tell us to keep quiet and go
with the flow. We long for real peace, true peace, just peace.

**People: We wait as people who yearn for peace that bears the fruit
of community, equity, and flourishing for all.**

Leader: We light these candles as signs of God's surprising hope and just peace.
May they be beacons calling us to repent and to live the good news
of Jesus Christ as we wait and watch and labor for the day when
all people can gather together to worship and glorify God.

People: Amen.

Hymn

Blessed Be the God of Israel

UMH 209

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Merciful God,
in your gracious presence
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.

**People: Although Christ is among us as our peace,
we are a people divided against ourselves
as we cling to the values of a broken world.**

Leader: The profit and pleasures we pursue
lay waste the land and pollute the seas.

**People: The fears and jealousies that we harbor
set neighbor against neighbor
and nation against nation.**

Leader: We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,
of intellect and reason,
and have turned them into bonds of oppression.

**People: Lord, have mercy upon us;
heal and forgive us.
Set us free to serve you in the world
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Rev. Wines

Leader: God will feed you with goodness and grace.
God will give you what is good—
mercy and forgiveness, love and acceptance,
an eternity of justice and peace.

People: Amen.

Anthem

O Come, Little Children

Traditional

Angel Ringers & Clarendon Ringers

Children's Message

Scripture

Isaiah 40:1-11

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Voice of Peace

Rev. Wines

Prayer of the People

Offering

You are invited to make your offering to support the ministry and mission of Clarendon UMC.

*You may text to give at 84321 or go to the Online Worship page of our website
and click "Make your online offering."*

Sending Forth

Rev. Wines

Hymn

Glory (Let There Be Peace)

Benediction

Rev. Wines

Prayer of Confession: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2014/11/advent-prayer-awaken-us-to-action.html>.

Words of Forgiveness written by Mary Scifres and published in the 2023 Abingdon Worship Annual.

Prayer of the People adapted from a prayer written by Nancy C. Townley and posted on Ministry Matters:

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/8605/worship-connection-december-10-2023>

"Glory (Let There Be Peace)" words and music by Chris Stevens, Matt Maher and Rachel Popadic

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