

Order of Worship

Our Spirit Waits

December 3, 2023 10:00 AM

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

Please fill out the red attendance pad located at the end of each pew.

** At this sign you are invited to rise in body or spirit.*

Prelude

Advent Carol

arr. Hal H. Hopson

Wesley Ringers

Welcome

Rev. Tracy McNeil Wines

Lighting of the Advent Wreath - The Candle of Hope

Reader: In the days of exile and uncertainty, the prophet Isaiah cried out:

*O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence. For when you
did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down,
and the mountains trembled before you. (Isaiah 64:1,3)*

In the midst of our own encounters with uncertainty and upheaval
and our longing for deliverance, Jesus comes into our lives in new
and surprising ways.

**People: Our hearts quicken in expectation of what God is preparing to do
in and through us.**

Reader: We light this candle as a sign of our hope. In this time of Advent,
may our waiting be active, as we stay awake to God's activity in the
world. Even now, God is inviting us not only to see what has been,
but also what can be.

People: Come, again, Emmanuel—God with us!

Hymn

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Merciful Jesus,
we confess that we are not ready for your arrival.

**People: We call on you to come and transform our lives,
then close ourselves off to the idea of change.**

Leader: We want a real encounter with you,
but we hold back in fear of what you will find in us.

People: You are ready to offer healing, strength, and fullness of life,
but we live as those not worthy of those gifts.

Leader: Forgive us, Lord.

Forgive us for keeping our expectations of you so low.

People: Forgive us for not placing our hope in your infinite power,
limitless grace, wise counsel, and enduring peace.

Leader: Ignite our faith and free us to live in joyful expectation
of what wonders you will do in and through us.

Words of Forgiveness

Rev. Wines

Leader: Hear the good news:

God's mercies are new every morning
and in Christ, our souls are secure.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

Anthem

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Taylor Davis

Youth Choir

Children's Message

Scripture

Mark 13:24-37

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Whaddya Expect?

Rev. Wines

Baptism and Reception of New Members

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE

The pastor makes the following statement to the congregation:

Siblings in Christ:

Through the Sacrament of Baptism

we are initiated into Christ's holy Church.

We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation

and given new birth through water and the Spirit.

All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

Isabella Eloise Corry

Zachary Scott Highbanks

Cheryl Lynn Neusch

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

The pastor addresses the persons coming into membership and their sponsors.

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,
Reject the evil powers of this world,
and repent of your sin?

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you
to resist evil, injustice, and oppression
in whatever forms they present themselves?

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior,
put your whole trust in his grace,
and promise to serve him as your Lord,
in union with the church which Christ has opened
to people of all ages, nations, and races?

I do.

The pastor addresses the candidates:

According to the grace given to you,
will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy church
and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

I will.

The pastor addresses the sponsors:

Will you who sponsor these candidates
support and encourage them in their Christian life?

I will.

The pastor addresses the congregation:

Do you, as Christ's body, the church,
reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these
persons now before you in your care?

**With God's help we will proclaim the good news
and live according to the example of Christ.**

**We will surround these persons
with a community of love and forgiveness,
that they may grow in their trust of God,
and be found faithful in their service to others.**

**We will pray for them,
that they may be true disciples
who walk in the way that leads to life.**

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith
as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments,

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
[who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.]**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
[the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.]**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Eternal Father: when nothing existed but chaos,
you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light.
In the days of Noah you saved those on the ark through water.
After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow.
When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt,
you led them to freedom through the sea.

Their children you brought through the Jordan
to the land which you promised.

**Sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Tell of God's mercy each day.**

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb.
He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit.
He called his disciples
to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection
and to make disciples of all nations.

Declare his works to the nations,

his glory among all the people.

Pour out your Holy Spirit,
to bless this gift of water and those who receive it,
to wash away their sin and clothe them in righteousness throughout their lives,
that, dying and being raised with Christ, they may share in his final victory.

**All praise to you, Eternal Father,
through your Son Jesus Christ,
who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns forever. Amen.**

BAPTISM WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

Isabella Eloise, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Holy Spirit work within you,
that being born through water and the Spirit,
you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Zachary Scott, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Holy Spirit work within you,
that being born through water and the Spirit,
you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Now it is our joy to welcome our new siblings in Christ.

**Through baptism
you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit
into God's new creation
and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood.
We are all one in Christ Jesus.
With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you
as members of the family of Christ.**

RECEPTION INTO THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The pastor addresses the persons coming into membership.

As members of Christ's universal church,
will you be loyal to Christ through the United Methodist Church,
and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

I will.

RECEPTION INTO THE LOCAL CONGREGATION

As members of this congregation,

will you faithfully participate in its ministries
by your prayers, your presences, your gifts,
your service, and your witness?

I will.

COMMENDATION AND WELCOME

The pastor addresses the congregation:

Members of the household of God,
I commend these persons to your love and care.
Do all in your power to increase their faith,
confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

The congregation responds:

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you
and we welcome you in Christian love.**

**As members together with you
in the body of Christ
and in this congregation
of The United Methodist Church,
we renew our covenant
faithfully to participate
in the ministries of the church
by our prayers, our presence,
our gifts, our service, and our witness,
that in everything God may be glorified
through Jesus Christ.**

The pastor addresses the new members:

The God of all grace,
who has called us to eternal glory in Christ,
establish you and strengthen you
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
that you may live in grace and peace.

Personal Testimony

Sean Maurice Furtado-Gilliam

Prayer of the People

Offering

*You are invited to make your offering to support the ministry and mission of Clarendon UMC.
There are offering baskets at the front of the communion table
and at each entrance of the sanctuary. Alternatively, you may text to give at 84321 or
use the QR code on the pew in front of you to give online.*

Sending Forth

Hymn

People, Look East

UMH 202

Benediction

Rev. Wines

Postlude

Carol of the Bells

arr. Wagner/Ryan

Wesley Ringers

We welcome back Annelisa Crabtree as our organist.

Acolytes: Emerson Houff, Maggie Moore

Communion Steward: Jennifer Owen

Greeters: Jamie Seward, Kevin Sweeney

Usher: Dianne Swanson

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" words and music by Meredith Andrews and Jacob Sooter

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