

Order of Worship

Words for the Beginning - Advent Week 4

December 22, 2024 10:00 AM

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

Prelude

Carol of the Bells

arr. Alex Guebert

Chancel Ringers

Welcome

Rev. Nilse Furtado-Gilliam

Greeting & Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Leader: In a weary and worn world, how do we begin again?
Where do we start?

People: Let us begin with tenderness.
Let us begin with our hearts on our sleeve.
Let us begin from a place of vulnerability and hope.
Let us begin with love.

Leader: Yes, let us start with love.
Today we light the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love.

People: May the warmth of these lights be our cornerstone.
May the truth in these lights help us begin again.

Leader: May it be so! Amen.

Processional

Once in Royal David's City

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Gracious God,
You paint pictures of what could be,

People: but we declare those visions impossible.

Leader: You speak of the lion lying down with the lamb,

People: but we spout skepticism and uncertainty.

Leader: You dream of a more just day,

People: but we poke holes in the plan, unable to fathom that horizon.

Leader: Forgive us for losing sight of hope.

People: Forgive us for assuming that what we see is all there is.

Leader: Open up our hearts to see the world as you see it.

People: Open up our hearts to risk hope, to dream dreams,
and to not be afraid of either.
With gratitude we pray, amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Rev. Tracy McNeil Wines

Leader: Friends, no matter what you hold onto, and no matter what you let slip
through your hands, God is holding onto you. That good news will never
change. So hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:
Today is a new day. Today, we have reason to hope.
Today, we are forgiven. And the same will be true tomorrow.
Thanks be to God for such a love.

People: Amen.

Children's Message

Lessons and Carols

Reading

John 1:1-5

Anthem

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
Chancel Choir, Chancel Ringers

Donald McCullough

Reading

Isaiah 7:13-14, 11:1-9

Anthem

Maria durch ein Dornwald ging
Chancel Choir

Hugo Distler

Reading

Luke 1:26-38

Anthem

Canticle of the Turning
Praise Band

Rory Cooney

Reading

Luke 2:1-7

Carol

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (vs. 1 and 2)

UMH 216

Reading

Luke 2:8-14

Anthem

Jesus the Light of the World
Chancel Choir

George Elderkin

Reading**John 3:16-17**

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem**Go Tell It on de Mountains!**

H.T. Burleigh

Chancel Choir

H.T. Burleigh was one of the first African-American composers to bring traditional spirituals to the concert stage. The dialect used in this arrangement is his and reflects his understanding of the regional pronunciations used in this Christmas spiritual.

Reflection & Prayer of the People

Rev. Wines

Offering

Rev. Furtado-Gilliam

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. Furtado-Gilliam

Hymn**It Came Upon A Midnight Clear****Benediction**

Rev. Wines

Postlude**Angel Tidings**

arr. Sandra Eithun

Chapel Bells