

Order of Worship

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025 10:00 AM

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

Prelude

Veni Emmanuel

John Ferguson

Steve McBride, organ

Welcome

Rev. Nilse Furtado-Gilliam

Greeting & Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Leader: Year after year we light Advent candles
in preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ.

People: We wait and watch for Jesus, the Light of the World.

Leader: As we light the second candle, the candle of peace,
we remember the words of the prophet Isaiah:
"Those of steadfast mind you keep in peace,
in peace because they trust in you."

**People: God of Promise, come into our darkness,
renew your hope and peace in us,
for you bring order to our chaos.**

Leader: Let the light of your face shine upon us, O Lord.

**People: We will lie down and sleep in peace,
for you alone make us dwell in safety.**

All: We wait. We watch. Come, Lord Jesus!

Hymn

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Prayer of Confession

Leader: As we wait and watch, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

**All: When our faith is rooted deeply in you, O God,
our lives reflect your kingdom values of justice and righteousness,
but sometimes our lives become so entangled
with the values of the world, that your values take second place.**

Leader: Forgive us, O God,
and reconnect us to the Holy Spirit,
source of power and life.

**All: Merciful God, strip our hearts and minds
of all that prevents our lives being firmly rooted in you.
May our lives bear fruit worthy of our faith in you,
as we watch and wait for your breaking into our world once more,
in the person of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

Words of Assurance

Rev. Scott Duncan Hopkins

Leader: Blessed be the Lord our God, who does wondrous things.
The most wondrous of all being God's entry into our world in Jesus Christ,
"not to condemn the world,
but that the world might be saved through him."
"Those who believe in him are not condemned."
Thanks be to God!

All: Amen!

Scripture

Isaiah 11:1-10

Rev. Rodrigo Dacri Lima

Anthem

Creator of the Stars of Night

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

Wesley Ringers

arr. Bruce W. Tippet

Children's Message

Scripture

Matthew 3:1-12

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Believe It Or Not — This is Very, Very Good News!

Rev. Hopkins

Offering

*You are invited to make your offering to support the ministry and mission of Clarendon UMC.
You may go to the Online Worship page of our website and click "Make your online offering."*

Holy Communion

Rev. Hopkins

*In the United Methodist tradition, all who seek to lead a Christian life,
together with their children, are invited to receive communion.*

Leader *All*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Leader *All*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader *All*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The pastor continues...

And so,
 with your people on earth
 and all the company of heaven
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord; God of pow-er and might.

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san-na in the high-est! Ho - san-na in the high-est! Ho - san-na in the high - est!

Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san-na in the high-est! Ho - san-na in the high-est! Ho - san-na in the high - est!

The pastor continues...

And so,
 in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
 we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
 as a holy and living sacrifice,
 in union with Christ's offering for us,
 as we proclaim the mystery of faith.



The pastor continues...

All honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



And now with the confidence of children of God,
let us pray as our Lord taught us:

Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread

and forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil,

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory forever. Amen.

Morning Prayer

Rev. Furtado-Gilliam

Sending Forth

Hymn

Light of the World

Benediction

Rev. Hopkins

Bulletin cover art by James.

Greeting & Advent Wreath lighting adapted from prayers by Lisa Ann Moss Degrenia

<https://thepastorsworkshop.com/blog/advent-wreath-prayers-hope-peace-joy-love-2>