

**December 21, 2025 10:00 AM**

<b>Prelude</b>	<b>Ukrainian Bell Carol</b>	arr. Linda Scholes
	Chapel Bells	

**Welcome** Rev. Nilse Furtado-Gilliam

## Greeting & Lighting of the Advent Wreath

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

Leader: As we light the fourth candle, the candle of love,  
we remember the words of Jesus:  
"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,  
if you have love for one another."

**People:** God of Promise, come into our darkness,  
renew your hope, peace, joy, and love in us,  
for we are your beloved children.

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

**People:** Our hearts trust in you, and we are helped.  
Our hearts leap for joy and we give thanks to you in song.

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

**Hymn** **Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

## Prayer of Confession

**People:** Lord God, we confess that we are not ready for Christmas.  
We may be ready with the gifts and the meals,

but our hearts and minds are still a million miles away.  
We have been distracted, we have been careless and  
we have come full tilt into the season, forgetting whose birthday it truly is.  
Forgive us O Lord; forgive us.  
Still our hearts and our minds and prepare us for this time.  
May this time of worship be our Christmas preparation  
and may it be a precious gift to you. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon**

Rev. Scott Duncan Hopkins

Leader: The Prince of Peace comes to redeem all things.  
Know that you are forgiven and have the courage and grace  
to forgive one another and be at peace.

**People: Amen.**

**Anthem**

**Will You Be Ready?**

Mark Patterson

Children's Choir

**Children's Message**

*Lessons and Carols*

**Anthem**

**Rejoice, Emmanuel**

William Schoenfeld

Chancel Choir and Handbell Ensemble

**Reading**

**John 1:1-5**

Rev. Rodrigo Dacri Lima

**Carol**

**The People Who Walked in Darkness**

**Reading**

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

Rev. Furtado-Gilliam

**Anthem**

**The Lamb**

Bryan Greer

Chancel Choir

**Reading**

**Luke 1:26-38**

**Carol**

**My Soul Gives Glory to My God**

**Reading**

**Luke 2:1-7**

<b>Anthem</b>	<b>The First Noel</b>	Traditional/Pachelbel
	Chancel Ringers	arr. Brenda Austin

Traditional/Pachelbel  
arr. Brenda Austin

## Luke 2:8-14

**Today the Virgin**  
Chancel Choir

John Tavener

Chancel Choir

## John 3:16-17

Rev. Hopkins

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Hope Will Not Fail

David Bjorlin and Mark Miller

Chancel Choir and Praise Band

Rev. Furtado-Gilliam

*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."*

Rev. Lima

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

The Great Thanksgiving prayer is offered, concluding with:

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

**Amen.**

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.

**Communion Anthem**

**I Wonder As I Wander**  
Chapel Bells

arr. Cathy Moglebust

**Sending Forth**

Rev. Lima

**\*Hymn**

**Glory (Let There Be Peace)**

**\*Benediction**

Rev. Hopkins

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*Bulletin cover art by Ben*

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

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

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