

# Order of Worship

December 28, 2025 10:00 AM

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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

### Bethlehem Lullaby

Malcolm Archer

Steve McBride, organ

## Welcome

Rev. Rodrigo Dacri Lima

## Greeting

Leader: We gather to worship the Word made flesh,  
who fled from the wrath of human powers into Egypt.

**People: The God we worship was a refugee.**

Leader: We remember the children,  
from the time of Christ to today,  
caught in the cross-fires of fear and greed.

**People: The boy Jesus we adore was a refugee.**

Leader: We gather to dream and build a better world  
where all children grow up, all exiles return home.

**People: The God we worship welcomes all to this place this morning**

Leader: Make visible to us the ties that bind  
us to each other, to all creatures, and to you.  
Move us to guard each other's well-being  
and to treat each other's struggles as our own,  
that we may live into the perfect kinship  
already ours through Jesus our brother,  
woven together by his Spirit.

**People: For all You have called us to, we thank you God.**

**Welcome us into your Presence this day**

**All: Amen.**

## Carols

### Angels from the Realms of Glory

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

## **Prayer of Confession**

Leader: We live fractured lives, and God seeks not to punish us for those faults and fault lines, but to reconcile and restore us. Trusting in God's grace and mercy, let us then make our confession together, first in silent prayer.

[silence]

**All: Loving God, help us.**

**When we have run away,  
when we have turned our backs on love,  
when we have sought immediate satisfaction  
and not long-term healing, help us.**

**Merciful God, forgive us.**

**When we have been selfish,  
when we have been mean,  
when we have closed our ears to the cries of others, forgive us.**

**Powerful God, heal us.**

**When we are so broken we cannot move,  
when we don't know how to stem the bleeding of our wounds,  
when we are too ashamed to seek community, heal us.**

**Give us the courage, the strength, and the hope  
to accept your grace and hear your call in Christ.**

**Amen.**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

Rev. Scott Duncan Hopkins

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins,  
strengthen us in all goodness,  
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

**People: Amen.**

## **Scripture**

**Isaiah 63:7-9**

Rev. Lima

## **Anthem**

**Angels' Canon**

arr. Michael Larsen

## **Children's Message**

## **Scripture**

**Matthew 2:13-23**

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Sermon**

**Innocence Gives Birth to Wisdom**

Rev. Hopkins

Carol

## What Child Is This

## Morning Prayer

Rev. Lima

## 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.

*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:

*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.

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain.

*The pastor continues...*

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

A - men. A - men. A - men.

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.**

**Sending Forth**

Rev. Lima

**\*Carol**

**Hark! the Herald Angels Sing**

UMH 240

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

**Grand Fantasia on Joy to the World**

Marc E. Cheban

Steve McBride, organ

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Today's altar flowers are given by Kasey Glynn in honor of her dad who celebrated his birthday yesterday and her mom who celebrates her birthday tomorrow.

Acolytes: Micah Vincent

Greeters: Jason Harrington, Attila Lantos

Communion Steward: Pam Gibert

Usher: Dianne Swanson

*JESUS MAFA. Flight into Egypt, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48313> [retrieved December 23, 2025]. Original source: <http://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr> (contact page: <https://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr/contact>).*