

Order of Worship

January 18, 2026 10:00 AM

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

Prelude

Prelude on Slane

Gilbert Martin

Steve McBride, organ

Welcome

Rev. Scott Duncan Hopkins

Greeting

Leader: Grace and peace to you in the name of God, whose wisdom confounds the world and whose love reshapes our lives. The world tells us that strength is found in dominance and worth is measured by status.

**People: We come seeking a wisdom deeper than success,
stronger than power, and rooted in love.**

**We gather to hear a different word,
a word that may seem foolish, yet brings life.**

Leader: For the message of the cross is not built on human pride, but on God's transforming grace.

**People: We open our hearts to a wisdom that humbles us, frees us,
and calls us to justice.**

Leader: On this weekend when we remember the witness of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., we recall a life shaped not by worldly power, but by courageous faith.

**People: We commit ourselves again to love that resists injustice
and truth that refuses to be silenced.**

Leader: Come, not because you are strong, but because God chooses what the world overlooks.

**People: We come to worship the God whose foolishness is wiser than human
wisdom, and whose weakness is stronger than human strength.**

Amen.

Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

Prayer of Confession

Leader: God of wisdom and compassion, we come as we are—tired, guarded, and afraid. In uncertain times, fear has shaped our choices more than trust, more than love.

People: We confess that we have pulled back when You called us forward,

**and protected ourselves when You invited us into courage and care.
Forgive us for the ways fear has narrowed our vision.
Teach us again the wisdom of the cross,
a wisdom that meets us in weakness
and leads us toward healing and justice. Amen.**

Words of Forgiveness

Rev. Nilse Furtado-Gilliam

Leader: Hear the good news:

God does not meet us with judgment, but with steady love.

In Jesus Christ, fear does not have the final word.

Grace restores us, and God's wisdom gently leads us into freedom.

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

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

arr. Roy Ringwald

Chancel Choir

George Allen, Joyce Merman

Children's Message

Scripture

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Foolishness vs. Wisdom

Rev. Furtado-Gilliam

Morning Prayer

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. Rodrigo Dacri Lima

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

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:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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 risen; Christ will come again.

The pastor continues...

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.**

