

# Order of Worship

January 4, 2026 10:00 AM

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

**Prelude**

**Benedictus**

Alec Rowley

Steve McBride, organ

**Welcome**

Rev. Nilse Furtado-Gilliam

**Greeting**

Leader: The glory of God has now appeared

**People: through Christ our light, in flesh.**

Leader: The reign of God has now arrived

**People: through Christ our king, our eternal ruler.**

Leader: The mystery of God has been revealed

**People: through Christ our peace, ever reconciling.**

Leader: With the stars to lead us and the magi to teach us,

**People: we come, bringing our gifts to worship God. Amen.**

**Hymn**

**We Three Kings**

**Prayer of Confession**

Leader: The light of Christ shines in our lives,  
even in those corners where sin lurks.

Let us seek God's forgiveness as we pray together.

**People: Eternal God, wondrous star,**

**light no darkness can overcome,**

**drive out the sin in our hearts.**

**Forgive us for turning from your way,**

**for denying your truth,**

**for resisting the life you would have us live.**

**Refresh us and restore us.**

**Focus us on the brilliant light of Jesus Christ**

**that we may see him more clearly and follow him more nearly,**

**this day and every day.**

## Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Scott Duncan Hopkins

Leader: God of light,  
whose wisdom shines like stars in the midnight sky,  
make these holy words clear to us  
so that our eyes will see your salvation  
and our lives will be radiant before you.  
We pray expectantly.  
Grace, mercy, and love—  
these are the gifts God has given us in Jesus Christ.  
This is good news!

**People: Amen**

## Anthem

### Hope Will Not Fail

Mark A. Miller

Combined Choirs, Andrew London, soloist

David Bjorlin

## Children's Message

## Scripture

### Matthew 2:1-12

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

### Journeying with the Magi

Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson

## Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Furtado-Gilliam

## 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

Bishop Hauptert-Johnson

*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.**

**Sending Forth**

**Hymn**

**You Are a Light on My Path**

**Benediction**

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Bulletin cover: Tissot, James, 1836-1902. *Journey of the Magi*, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56277> [retrieved December 29, 2025].

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