



Words for the Beginning

at Clarendon United Methodist Church

DON'T FORGET TO LAUGH

What to Expect During the Worship Service

Offering

- Offering baskets are located in front of the communion table and at each entrance. Or you may give online using the QR code.



Nursery

- Available in room 209 from 9:30 until 11:30am for ages 0 to 3.

Children's Message

- Children will be invited forward for the Children's Message. They will be dismissed to the Nursery, Cherub Class or Children's Church right after the message. The children will return in time to take communion with their families.

Middle and High School Students

- Middle and High School Students are invited to participate in a special Christian education time just for them in the youth room immediately following the Children's Message.

Communion

- The usher will indicate when it is time to come forward to receive the communion elements.
- When you approach, the pastor will hand you a piece of bread which you then dip into the juice. **Please be sure to not let your fingers touch the juice.**
- Prepackaged elements are available for those who would prefer not to receive communion from the pastors. Please throw away the packing in a trash receptacle, available at the exits.
- Gluten free communion elements are available from the communion stewards standing on the right side, in front of the pulpit.
- You may kneel for prayer at the chancel rail if you like.

Prayer Requests



If you would like to request prayer, please fill out one of the cards found in the pews and place it in a Prayer Request box (found just outside the sanctuary as you exit). You may also submit your request via our website or by email to prayerteam@clarendonumc.org. Your request will remain confidential unless otherwise noted.

Resources

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal (red or blue)

TFWS - The Faith We Sing (thin black book)

W&S - Worship & Song (thin green book)

Order of Worship

Words for the Beginning

December 29, 2024 10:00 AM

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

Welcome

Rev. Tracy McNeil Wines

*Greeting

Kasey Glynn

Leader: We have named our joy out loud, and it is clear—

People: God is in our joy.

Leader: God is in our midst.

People: We have reason to celebrate.

Leader: We have a reason to sing.

People: Thanks be to God for the bright hope of this day.

*Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

UMH 240

*Prayer of Confession

Kasey Glynn

Leader: Joyful God,

You told us that in order to enter the kingdom of heaven,
we must be like children.

**People: Did you mean that like children, we must practice unhindered joy?
Did you mean that like children, we should lean into laughter,
release our cynicism, and open ourselves to delight?**

Leader: In a world as broken and battered as ours, we admit,

People: this often seems easier said than done.

Leader: Forgive us, patient God, for the moments

when we are so focused on the bad that we miss the good.

**People: Forgive us for hearing the nativity story and staying in our seats
instead of jumping for joy.**

Leader: We know that even now you are sowing delight in our lives.

People: Open our hearts up to it. With gratitude we pray, amen.

***Words of Forgiveness**

Rev. Nilse Furtado-Gilliam

Leader: Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:

People: **We are seen. We are loved. We are forgiven. Glory to God in the highest!**
Amen.

Sharing Our Joy

Listen for Joy

Isaiah 9:2-3, Luke 2:10

Evie Worster

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sing with Joy

selected carols

Practice Joy

Children's Message

Jon White

*At the conclusion of the message, children and youth
are invited to participate in a special Christian education time just for them.*

*Nursery (children under 3) - Room 209; Cherub Class (age 3 through 1st grade) - Praise Room;
Children's Church (2nd-5th grades) - Room 301; Youth (6th-12 grades) - Youth Room*

Listen for Joy

Isaiah 55:12-13, Psalm 126:1-3

Korben Worster

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sing with Joy

selected carols

Practice Joy

Prayer of the People

Rev. Furtado-Gilliam

Offering

*You are invited to make your offering to support the ministry and mission of Clarendon UMC.
There is an offering basket at the front of the communion table
and at each entrance to the sanctuary. Alternatively, you may text to give at 84321 or
use the QR code on the pew in front of you to give online.*

Listen for Joy

Psalm 148, Matthew 2:9-10

Noreen Quill

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sing with Joy

selected carols

*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

Rev. Wines

***Hymn**

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

UMH 251

***Benediction**

Rev. Furtado-Gilliam

Postlude

Acolytes: Naya Gilliam, Caleb Vincent
Greeters: Linda Holz, Kevin Sweeney
Organist: Steve McBride

Communion Steward: Noreen Quill
Usher: Jennifer Owen



About the bulletin cover: Each week of our Advent and Christmas series has a different quilt pattern associated with it. This week's theme is *DON'T FORGET TO LAUGH* From a center point, tulip-like flowers stretch and bloom, referencing the Ralph Waldo Emerson quote, "The Earth laughs in flowers."



Church office hours: Mon - Thurs, 9AM - 2PM 703-527-8574 or office@ClarendonUMC.org

Items for the Friday email/Clarendon Happenings are due by Noon on Wednesday.

Please submit all calendar and room requests to Fran Underwood at the office email.



Facebook - @ClarendonUMC
Instagram - @ClarendonUMCVA
Church Center app



www.clarendonumc.org
Youtube - Clarendon UMC
AmplifyMedia.com - Church code: **WSRTFZ**

Sources of *JOY*

1. God, thank you for...

2. God, thank you for...

3. God, thank you for...

In need of *GOOD NEWS*

1. God, I pray for...

2. God, I pray for...

3. God, I pray for...

Clarendon Happenings

Two Mitten Trees Support Arlington School Students

Last Week of Collections - All due by January 5

The Mitten Trees will appear December 1! Will you help Clarendon's Women in Faith bring comfort and joy to kids at an Arlington elementary school? The harvest from the trees will be given to children who need winter coats, hats, gloves and socks during the upcoming winter months. Look for the Mitten Trees at both entrances to the Sanctuary December 1 through January 5.



Adult Small Groups for 2025

- Sunday **Good News Class** meets after worship in room 206.
CUMC's Young Professionals is for 18-35ish year olds to grow in faith and community together. We meet on Sundays after church from 11:30AM-noon in the Library for a brief hello and devotion. Our study is drop-in when you can - we'd love to have you join us! We also meet for various events throughout the year, with recent examples including post-church lunches, board game nights, hiking, and Friendsgiving.
- Monday **Morning Glories Women's Bible Study**, 10AM in the library
Evening Lady's Bible Study will be studying the Parables beginning in January. We meet weekly via zoom. Contact Sally Gabler via the office for more information
- Tuesday **Reconciling Ministries Book Group** - Please join us for our new book, beginning Jan. 7 at 7:30PM online. We will be reading *One Coin Found: How God's Love Stretches to the Margins* by Emmy Kegler. Please sign up via Church Center or our website.
- Wednesday **Disciple Class: The Christian Believer**, 7:30PM in the Library
- Saturday **Murky Men** - Please join us for our discussion of Thomas Cahill's *Desire of the Everlasting Hills*. We meet at Kaldi's, soft start at 7:30AM, hard start at 8AM.

Sponsor Altar Flowers or Coffee Hour

Sponsoring altar flowers and coffee hour is easy! Dedicate the flowers or coffee hour in honor or memory of a loved one or friend and the dedication will be listed in the Sunday bulletin. You may take your flowers home after Sunday worship. The cost is \$35 for the flowers and \$50 for coffee hour. You may sign up using the links at the bottom of the Friday newsletter and then pay by check or through the church website. Questions? Contact Fran at office@clarendonumc.org.

Holiday Closure

The church office will be closed through Jan. 1, 2025 in order to give our staff richly deserved time off. The office email will be monitored for urgent needs.