



December 4, 2022
2nd Sunday of Advent

9:30 am Worship • Sanctuary & Online

WORSHIP GUIDE



WELCOME

Welcome to Clearview United Methodist Church. Each and every week we look forward to this time to gather as a community. We are glad YOU are here today with us!

You can use this worship guide to help lead through worship and throughout the week. We truly hope you enjoy your time here this morning and hope you return soon.

Some logistics you may find helpful:

- Masks are **OPTIONAL** on campus.
- Worship runs about an hour, sometimes a bit shorter & sometimes a bit longer.
- Grab a nametag from the table in the East Wing. If you are a guest, our Hospitality Team will happily make one for you.
- Childcare is available for non-school aged children (6 Weeks-Age 4) in the nursery at the right of the front of the sanctuary.
- The restroom is located in the Care & Share Room to the right of the front of the Sanctuary.
- Prayer Cards are available in the pew in front of you and at all entrances. Please place your prayer card in the offering plate or in a prayer box. It is our joy and privilege to be praying with and for you.
- We have 4 ways you can give financially to support the mission of Clearview.
 1. Place cash/check in the offering plate/boxes or mailed to the church.
 2. Text any amount to (727) 513-5557.
 3. Visit clearviewumc.org/give.
 4. Use your bank's bill payer system.
- For more information, visit our website (clearviewumc.org).

OUR MISSION

This is the reason we exist as a church:

Living an embodied faith, sharing God's love for all.

OUR VALUES

These concepts define who we are, what we are committed to, and how we participate in community together: We are...

**Caring and Compassionate
Serving-focused
Community-focused
Kingdom-minded
Open-minded
Team-based
Innovative**

OUR RHYTHM OF LIFE & TRANSFORMATION

This rhythm moves us toward individual and communal transformation:

Look Up to God • **Look In** to Ourselves • **Look Out** to our community

OUR VISION

How we see God's preferred future lived out:

God's love reaches Saint Petersburg and beyond.

HOW IT ALL WORKS TOGETHER

As we are *living an embodied faith, sharing God's love for all;*
being guided by our *values;*
and becoming people who *Look Up, Look In and Look Out;*
the Holy Spirit will fulfill the vision where,
God's love reaches Saint Petersburg and beyond.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

UMH: The United Methodist Hymnal

TFWS: The Faith We Sing

** please stand as you are able*

WE GATHER

WELCOME

***WORSHIP MUSIC**

O Come All Ye Faithful (UMC #234)

WE PROCLAIM

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

PRAYER

***WORSHIP MUSIC**

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (UMH #211)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Esther 3:2; 5-6; 8; 10-14; 15

² All the royal workers at the King's Gate would kneel and bow facedown to Haman because the king had so ordered. But Mordecai didn't kneel or bow down. ⁵ When Haman himself saw that Mordecai didn't kneel or bow down to him, he became very angry. ⁶ But he decided not to kill only Mordecai, for people had told him Mordecai's race. Instead, he planned to wipe out all the Jews, Mordecai's people, throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus.

⁸ Then Haman said to King Ahasuerus, "A certain group of people exist in pockets among the other peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom. Their laws are different from those of everyone else, and they refuse to obey the king's laws. There's no good reason for the king to put up with them any longer.

¹⁰ The king removed his royal ring from his finger and handed it to Haman, Hammedatha the Agagite's son, enemy of the Jews. ¹¹ The king said to Haman, "Both the money and the people are under your power. Do as you like with them." ¹² So in the first month, on the thirteenth day, royal scribes were summoned to write down everything that Haman ordered. The order commanded people to wipe out, kill, and destroy all the Jews, both young and old, even women and little children. This was to happen on a single day—the thirteenth day of the twelfth month (that is, the month of Adar). They were also to seize their property. ¹⁵ Driven by the king's order, the runners left Susa just as the law became public in the fortified part of Susa. While the king and Haman sat down to have a drink, the city of Susa was in total shock.

Esther 4:1-3; 5-8; 10-16b

When Mordecai learned what had been done, he tore his clothes, dressed in mourning clothes, and put ashes on his head. Then he went out into the heart of the city and cried out loudly and bitterly. ² He went only as far as the King's Gate because it was against

the law for anyone to pass through it wearing mourning clothes. ³ At the same time, in every province and place where the king's order and his new law arrived, a very great sadness came over the Jews. They gave up eating and spent whole days weeping and crying out loudly in pain. Many Jews lay on the ground in mourning clothes and ashes.

⁵ Esther then sent for Hathach, one of the royal eunuchs whose job it was to wait on her. She ordered him to go to Mordecai and find out what was going on and why he was acting this way. ⁶ Hathach went out to Mordecai, to the city square in front of the King's Gate. ⁷ Mordecai told him everything that had happened to him. ⁸ He also gave Hathach a copy of the law made public in Susa concerning the Jews' destruction so that Hathach could show it to Esther and report it to her. Through him Mordecai ordered her to go to the king to seek his kindness and his help for her people.

¹⁰ In reply Esther ordered Hathach to tell Mordecai: ¹¹ "All the king's officials and the people in his provinces know that there's a single law in a case like this. Any man or woman who comes to the king in the inner courtyard without being called is to be put to death. Only the person to whom the king holds out the gold scepter may live. In my case, I haven't been called to come to the king for the past thirty days."

¹² When they told Mordecai Esther's words, ¹³ he had them respond to Esther: "Don't think for one minute that, unlike all the other Jews, you'll come out of this alive simply because you are in the palace. ¹⁴ In fact, if you don't speak up at this very important time, relief and rescue will appear for the Jews from another place, but you and your family will die. But who knows? Maybe it was for a moment like this that you came to be part of the royal family."

¹⁵ Esther sent back this word to Mordecai: Then, even though it's against the law, I will go to the king; and if I am to die, then die I will."

Leader: The Word of God for the World.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

No Justice, No Peace

WE RESPOND

INVITATION, CONFESSION & PARDON (UMH #12)
SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (UMH #13-15)

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow (UMH #95)

WE GO OUT

***WORSHIP MUSIC**

Come Alive

***BENEDICTION**

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CLEARVIEW?

Not Feeling So Joyful This Holiday Season?

When your life has been turned upside down by difficult seasons and circumstances, it may not feel like the most wonderful time of the year. But on Sunday mornings, we tend to put aside our problems and sufferings, greet our fellow worshippers with a smile, sing, and pretend all is well. All the while, we may be suffering physically or emotionally. We may even think, "as followers of the risen Lord, how can we be anything else but happy?" But the reality is that we are not immune to the hurt, pain, and turmoil in our lives.

Blue Christmas worship will be a time to acknowledge those challenging situations, losses, and grief. In the center of it all, we will worship Jesus, who surrounds us with comfort, peace, and hope for the future. **We hope you will join us for this quiet, reflective service on Thursday, Dec 8, at 6:30 pm.**

Membership Orientation

Interested in becoming a member of Clearview? Want to know more about the church and United Methodism? Come to our next Membership Orientation on Tuesday, Dec 13, from 6:30 to 8 pm in the Care & Share Room. Pastor Erick will share about Clearview and the United Methodist Church, as well as answer any questions you may have. Attendance at the orientation is required to join.

Snacks will be served, and childcare will be available by reservation. Sign up using the clipboard at the front of the sanctuary, online at clearviewumc.org/signup, or by contacting the Church Office. After the orientation, you will have the option to join the church during worship on Dec 18.

Coffee & Conversation Sunday School is Back!

Grab a cup of coffee and head to the Care & Share Room for a time to connect with one another and the scripture text from worship. We will talk about what parts intrigued us, what parts confused us, and what we might take with us in the week ahead. We hope you will join us at 10:45 am.

Toy Drive for the Florida Dream Center

We will be collecting toys for teenage boys and girls in need to prepare for the 3rd annual Adopt-A-Claus, which will be hosted on our campus on Dec 17, by our mission partner, the Florida Dream Center. For gift ideas, please see the box in the sanctuary or contact Samantha.

Celebrating the Ministry of Bishop Ken & Rev. Pam Carter

You are invited to the Farewell Celebration for Bishop Ken Carter and Rev. Pam Carter. At the recent Southeastern Jurisdiction Meeting, it was announced that Bishop Carter has been assigned to serve the Western Carolina Annual Conference. Join us as we celebrate their ten years of service for the Florida Annual Conference on Dec 11, 4-6 pm at Hyde Park UMC in Tampa.

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY, Dec 4 – 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- **Worship**, 9:30 am – Sanctuary & Online
- **Coffee & Conversation**, 10:45 am – Care & Share Room

MONDAY, Dec 5

- **Monday BS (Bible Study)**, 6:45 pm – Care & Share Room

TUESDAY, Dec 6

- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Spanish)**, 8 pm – Module #31

WEDNESDAY, Dec 7

- **Emotionally Healthy Relationships**, 2 pm – Care & Share Room
- **Emotionally Healthy Relationships**, 6:30 pm – Care & Share Room
- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Recovery Begins)**, 8 pm – Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY, Dec 8

- **Alcoholics Anonymous**, 11 am – Module #31
- **Blue Christmas Worship**, 6:30 pm – Sanctuary & Online

FRIDAY, Dec 9

- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Spanish)**, 8 pm – Module #31

SATURDAY, Dec 10

- **Adopt-A-Block Food Distribution**, 9 am-12 pm – Pavilion Field

SUNDAY, Dec 11 – 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- **Worship**, 9:30 am – Sanctuary & Online
- **Coffee & Conversation**, 10:45 am – Care & Share Room
- **Farewell Celebration for Bishop Ken Carter**, 4 pm – Hyde Park UMC

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Dec 4	2 nd Sunday of Advent	9:30 am
Dec 8	Blue Christmas Worship	6:30 pm
Dec 11	3 rd Sunday of Advent	9:30 am
Dec 11	Farewell Celebration For The Carters	4 pm
Dec 13	Membership Orientation	6:30 pm
Dec 17	Adopt-A-Claus Festival	11 am
Dec 18	4 th Sunday of Advent	9:30 am
Dec 24	Christmas Eve Worship	6:30 pm
Dec 25	Christmas Day Worship	9:30 am
Jan 1	New Year's Day Worship – <i>A Wesleyan Covenant Service</i>	9:30 am

CURRENT PRAYER LIST

December 4, 2022

*Pray For Our World Endangered By The Coronavirus Pandemic
Pray For Peace In Ukraine*

New December 4th: Eleanor Benware-sympathies to Benware Family on sister-in-law Eleanor's recent passing; Gene Benware-prayers for health issues and travel mercies to and from NY state; Walter Gay-recovering from fall/fractured ribs (G. Fulkman); John Glick-prayers for strength and healing of GI/heart issues, currently hospitalized (father-T. Glick); Bobby Hoffman-sympathies to Hoffman, Henisa and Strid families on Bobby's recent passing; Effie Mowry-moving to FL east coast 12/3, travel mercies and adjustment to new life situation.

New November 27th: Austin Dahmer-prayers for easing of pain and successful hernia surgery scheduled in December (V. Cochran); Mike and Christina-prayers for family strength and Mike's cancer issues (T. Glick); Paula Koren-prayers for daughter's successful hip surgery on Monday 11/28 (C. Klotzbach).

Ongoing: David Allen, Diana Anderson, Baby Logan Landry Lassiter, Chris Benware, Elaine Billings, Carrie Brown, Kelly Brown, Bev Burns, Linda Clark, Paul Croft, Jean Daddis, Delores Davis, Tim Deacon, Robert Eldred, Bill & Lois Godfrey, Brian Goude, Jim Goude, Phyllis Greenwood, Elizabeth Holmes, Karen Piper Klotzbach, Vickie & Kevin Knight, Carolyn & Jerry McGovern, Bertis & Don McMillan, Mike, George Moore, Richard Morneault Family, Sandy Morneault, Chris Petry, Nancy Plato, Rob Plato, John Powers Family, Linda & Bill Register, Renee, Ed Shatto, Ruth Tiberini, Ashton Waite Family, Linda Whyte, Phyllis Zwick, Students, Parents, Teachers & School Personnel, Pastor Erick Ashley & Family, Clearview UMC & Leadership, our country and leaders.

Our Mission Partners: Our sister church in Cuba: Iglesia Metodista de Guareiras – Matanzas Cuba District; Florida Dream Center; Florida United Methodist Children's Home.

Clearview United Methodist Church

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St. Petersburg, FL 33713

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Office Hours: Monday-Thursday • 9 am-1 pm
Pastor Erick is available by appt. on Sundays-Thursdays

Pastor – Rev. Erick Ashley – pastor@clearviewumc.org
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