Special Music (10:30 am) | "The First Song of Isaiah" | Grace UMC Chancel Choir
*** Epistle Lesson** | 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (NRSV)
Hymn of Response | "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" | TFWS #2100
Sermon | Rev. Dr. Kendrick D. Weaver
Moment of Absorption
Tithe & Offering
Offertory (10:30 am)
Doxology (10:30 am) | "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" | UMH #95
Prayer of Dedication (10:30 am) | All that we are, and all that we have, come from you, O God. Amen.
Morning Prayer
The Lord's Prayer (10:30 am)
***Closing Hymn** | "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" | UMH #196
Sending Forth
Benediction
Postlude

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GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

119 North Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877 | graceumc.org | 301-926-8688

Order of Worship

1st Sunday of Advent, November 29, 2026 | 8 am

Prelude

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Wreath
Reading | Isaiah 60:2-3
We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope. May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel.
Light the first candle of the Advent wreath.

Call to Worship
Like generations upon generations before us, we enter Advent with longing for hope to reign where despair feels entrenched, for peace to rule where conflict and destruction overwhelm.
Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
We gather, wondering whether joy will return when we have experienced so much heartbreak, whether love can make a difference when hate and apathy seem so widespread.
Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
We gather to join our voices with the psalmists and musicians, the travelers, and the faithful from long ago, who also longed for restoration and salvation, who felt God was far away or perhaps felt how far they had wandered away from God.
Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, The United Methodist Church. May 2026.

Opening Hymn | "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" | UMH #211

Prayer of Confession (8:00 am)
God of justice and peace, from the heavens you rain down mercy and kindness, that all on earth may rise in awe and wonder before your marvelous deeds. Raise our heads in expectation, that we may yearn for the coming day of the Lord and come without blame before your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (8:00 am)
Jesus Christ, who loved us enough to leave heaven and live among us, hears our prayers and forgives heartfelt confession. Live now as people restored by the Lord, empowered to live as children of God. Amen. *Kwasi I. Kena in The Africana Worship Book, Year B (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2007), 147, 166.*

Sharing of the Peace

*** Epistle Lesson |** Ephesians 1:15-23 (NRSV)

Hymn of Response | "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" | TFWS #2100

Sermon | Rev. Dr. Kendrick D. Weaver

Moment of Absorption

"The Great Thanksgiving" (8:00 am)

The Lord's Prayer (8:00 am)

The Giving of the Bread and Cup (8:00 am)

Tithe & Offering

Morning Prayer

***Closing Hymn** | "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" | UMH #196

Sending Forth

Benediction

Postlude

** Please rise if you are able.*

Bold text indicates portions read in unison by the congregation.

We welcome you to sign in using the red binders in your pew.

Thank you for silencing cell phones and electronic devices during worship services.

Order of Worship

1st Sunday of Advent, November 29, 2026 | 10:30 am

Carillon (10:30 am)

Prelude

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Opening Hymn | "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" | UMH #211

Opening Prayer (10:30 am)
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Sharing of the Peace

Children's Moment (10:30 am)

Sending of the Children (10:30)