Clinton First United Methodist Church
November 29, 2026
First Sunday of Advent (Purple)

Prelude

"Away in a Manger" UMH #217
"Go Tell It On the Mountain" UMH #251
"Mary Did You Know"
"Because of Bethlehem"

Lighting of the Candles

Welcome & Announcements Pastor Duane Caperton

***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.

Come, you who wait and watch for the coming Messiah, to worship God who invites us to join in the Spirit's restoration song until the day when earth and heaven both reflect the fullness of the kingdom of God.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved. Amen.

Opening Prayer

Passing of the Peace "I've Got the Joy"

***Opening Hymn:** "Angels from the Realms of Glory" UMH #220

Offering
Doxology UMH #95

Praises and Prayer Concerns

Lord's Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Message **Pastor Duane Caperton**

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

Benediction/Postlude