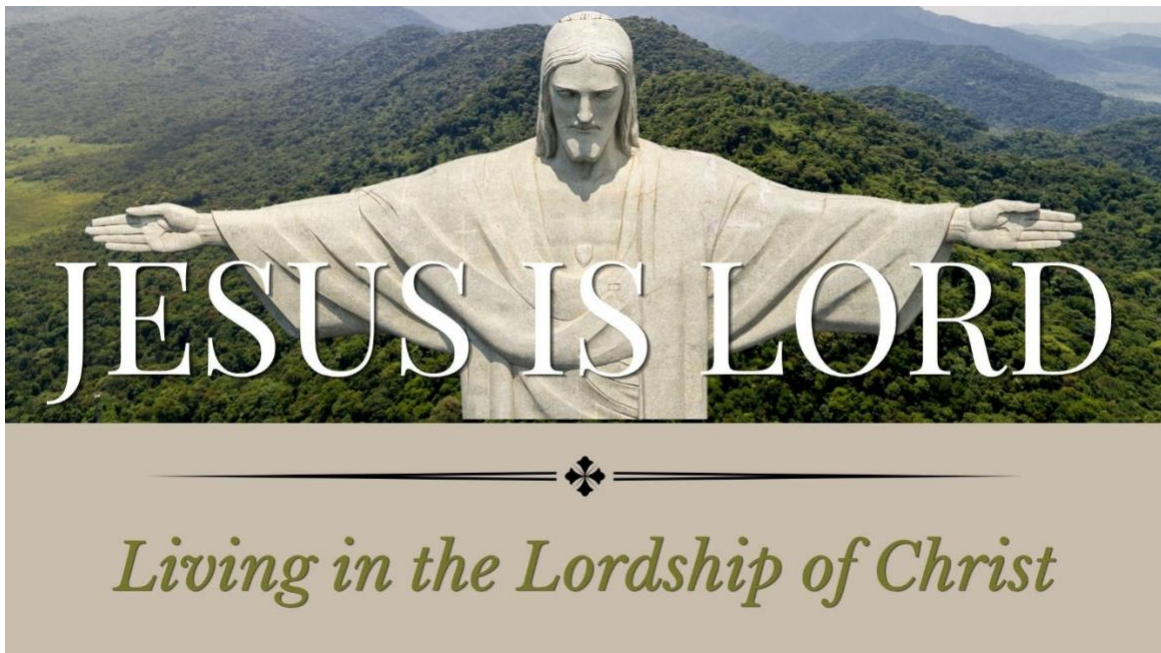




**August 23rd, 2026**  
**9:30 am • Sanctuary & Online**

**CHURCH OFFICE**

4515 38th Ave N • St. Petersburg, FL 33713  
(727) 522-4673 • [clearviewumc.org](http://clearviewumc.org)

Tuesday & Thursday 1-5 pm  
The pastors are available by appointment

**Your Pastoral Team**

Rev. Erick Ashley – [erick@spconnection.org](mailto:erick@spconnection.org)  
Rev. Tracie Ashley – [tracie@spconnection.org](mailto:tracie@spconnection.org)  
Rev. Sue Garcia – [sue@spconnection.org](mailto:sue@spconnection.org)

Administrative Assistant – Patti Redmond-Marshall – [patti@spconnection.org](mailto:patti@spconnection.org)  
Custodian – Bill Givens

Bishop of the Florida Annual Conference – Rev. Tom Berlin  
Gulf Central District Superintendent – Rev. Emily Hotho

# WELCOME

Welcome to Clearview United Methodist Church. 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:**

- Worship runs about an hour and fifteen minutes, 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 (infants through 4 years) in Room #10. Children in Grades K through 5 are invited to worship until after the Children's Moment, then go to Sunday School in Room #11.
  - Help us create the best learning environment we can by leaving toys at home. Snacks for younger children are ok but should not be brought for elementary-aged children.
  - Please encourage your child(ren) to use the restroom before church starts.
- Busy bags are available for children (or adults) who would like to keep their hands busy during the worship service.
- A restroom is in the Care & Share Room to the right of the front of the Sanctuary. Additional restrooms are outside in the courtyard.
- 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 a prayer box. It is our joy and privilege to be praying with and for you.
- We have several ways you can give financially to support Clearview's mission.
  1. Place cash/check in the offering plate/boxes or mail to the church.
  2. Text any amount to (727) 513-5557.
  3. Visit [clearviewumc.org/give](http://clearviewumc.org/give).
  4. Use your bank's bill payer system.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal • TFWS: The Faith We Sing

*\*Please stand as you are able*

## **WE GATHER**

Church Bells & Time of Silence

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship\*

Worship Music\* | *Rejoice The Lord Is King* – UMH 715

## **WE PROCLAIM**

Affirmation of Faith\* | *The Apostles' Creed* – UMH 881

Gloria Patri\* | *Glory Be To The Father* – UMH 70

Pastoral Prayer

Passing of the Peace\*

Worship Music\* | *I Know A Name*

Children's Moment – Children are then dismissed to Sunday School

Prayer For Illumination

Scripture Reading | *Exodus 3:14-15; Acts 2:22-24* CEB

Message | *Jesus Is My Lord* – Rev. Erick Ashley

## **WE RESPOND**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Music | *Turn Your Eyes*

Doxology\* | *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* – UMH 95

Offertory Prayer\*

## **WE GO OUT**

Worship Music\* | *My Jesus*

Benediction\*

---

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

**A Heartfelt Thank You** - What a glorious day! A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped make our Combined Worship Service such a joyful and meaningful celebration. From music and worship to hospitality, food, setup, cleanup, children's ministry, tech, and all the behind-the-scenes work, you made the day special!

What a beautiful picture of our South Pinellas Connection coming together to worship, serve, and celebrate Jesus our Lord! We are so grateful for each of you!

**Save the Date** - The South Pinellas Connection Leadership Summit is coming on **Saturday, September 19, from 8:30 am–12 pm**. All Leadership Board members are asked to attend, and anyone interested in serving in leadership now or in the future is warmly invited. Come ready to connect, grow, and dream together about where God is leading us! Save the date - more details coming soon!

**Jesus Is Lord GROW Groups Begin This Week!** - Come **GROW in faith together** as we study Bishop Tom Berlin’s *Jesus Is Lord!* Choose the group that works best for you—you do not have to attend at your home church.

- **Clearview:** Sundays 10:45 am & Mondays 6:45 pm — Care & Share Room
- **First Gulfport:** Sundays 10 am & Mondays 6:30 pm — Room 7
- **St. Luke’s:** Sundays 10 am & Tuesdays 6:30 pm — Library & Joy Room
- **Lakewood:** Tuesdays 10:30 am — Conference Room

**Sign up in the Narthex.** Books are \$18, but please don’t let the cost keep you from participating. See a pastor if you need a book. **All are welcome!**

**Community Dinner** – Join us for our monthly Community Dinner **TODAY at 5 pm in the Fellowship Hall.** Enjoy a delicious meal, friendly conversation, and a welcoming atmosphere for all ages. Whether you're a longtime friend or a first-time guest, there's always a seat for you at the table. We hope to see you there!

**Pumpkin Patch Meeting & Lunch** - It’s almost Pumpkin Patch time! Everyone is invited to stay after worship on **Sunday, August 30**, for lunch and our Pumpkin Patch Meeting. 🍁🍁

Come hear about what’s ahead as we prepare for Clearview’s 29th year of the Pumpkin Patch! Enjoy lunch, learn about this year’s plans, and discover where you can be part of making the Patch happen! There’s a place for everyone to help.

**SOUTH PINELLAS CONNECTION UPCOMING DATES**

|                   |                                                                                                            |                 |     |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----|
| Week of<br>Aug 23 | <i>Jesus is Lord</i> Grow Groups Begin<br>(All Church Campuses)                                            | See Above       | ALL |
| Aug 23            | FREE Community Dinner                                                                                      | 5 – 6:30 pm     | CV  |
| Aug 30            | 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Offering<br>Residing Hope & Mission Partners                                        |                 |     |
| Sept 1            | Virtual Fall Laity Gathering via ZOOM                                                                      | 10 am           | ALL |
| Sept 5            | United Methodist Men's Breakfast                                                                           | 8:30 am         | SL  |
| Sept 8            | United Women in Faith Meeting & Study                                                                      | 10 am           | SL  |
| Sept 13           | Campus Ministry Sunday                                                                                     | -               | ALL |
| Sept 14-15        | <b>Rooted:</b> Training for Children, Youth, and Family Ministry<br>Warren Willis Camp & Conference Center | -               | ALL |
| Sept 16           | United Women in Faith Luncheon                                                                             | 12 pm           | FG  |
| Sept 19           | SP Connection Leadership Summit                                                                            | 8:30 am – 12 pm | ALL |

**KEY**

|                |                     |               |                 |
|----------------|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Clearview (CV) | First Gulfport (FG) | Lakewood (LW) | St. Luke's (SL) |
|----------------|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|

STEWARDSHIP OF PRESENCE & GIFTS

| Week of Aug 16  |            | 2026 Year To Date |             |
|-----------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Worship         | 46         | Worship (avg)     | 55          |
| Online Worship  | 10         | Online (avg)      | 18          |
| Giving Received | \$1,215.77 | Giving Received   | \$48,386.72 |
| Giving Needed   | \$1,634.62 | Giving Needed     | \$53,942.46 |
| Surplus/Loss    | -\$418.85  | Surplus/Loss      | -\$5,555.74 |

CLEARVIEW WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

- **Worship**, 9:30 am – Sanctuary
- **Nursery (Infants-PK4)**, 9:30 am – Room 10
- **Sunday School (Grades K-5)**, following Children's Moment – Room 11
- **Coffee & Conversation**, 10:45 am – Care & Share Room

MONDAY, AUGUST 24

- **Jesus is Lord Grow Group with Pastor Erick**, 6:45 pm – Care & Share Room
- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Gratitude)**, 8 pm – Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Fe y Esperanza)**, 8 pm – Mod 31
- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Recovery Begins)**, 8 pm – Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

- **Narcotics Anonymous (Her Story)**, 7 pm – Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Serenity, Back to the 40s)**, 11 am – Mod 31
- **Alcoholics Anonymous (A Clear View to the Big Book)**, 7 pm – Mod 32

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

- **Alcoholics Anonymous (Fe y Esperanza)**, 8 pm – Mod 31

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30

- **Worship**, 9:30 am – Sanctuary
- **Nursery (Infants-PK4)**, 9:30 am – Room 10
- **Sunday School (Grades K-5)**, following Children's Moment – Room 11
- **Churchwide Pumpkin Patch Meeting & Lunch**, 10:45ish – Fellowship Hall

# THIS WEEK'S PRAYER LIST

COMPLETE A PRAYER CARD FROM THE PEW AND PLACE IT IN THE OFFERING PLATE

**Clearview:** Ruth Katzen, she is having severe pain in her back, hip, & knee on her left side. She had a MRI last Tuesday and we find out this Wednesday, please pray that they can do something to help her (Andy Cantara); Matt Burdewick is being deployed this week (Karen & Jim Burdewick); my friend Diana, her mom was diagnosed with kidney cancer (Shelly C.); Protect my children and me while we sleep and are unhoused. (Tiffany R.)

**Clearview Ongoing:** Pamela Arnold, Cassie Berg, Eileen Clark, Carol Comerford, Kathy Davis, Stephen Davis, Trevor Davis, Tim Deacon, Genevieve DeHoog, John Goude, Theresa Goude, Amy Gordon, Mary Grauv, Robert “Skip” Hanshe, Ruth Hockersmith, DeeDee Hornby, Marc Jones, Nelson Kimber, Charlotte Klotzbach, Ian Kolaczyk, Carolyn McGovern, Sabrina Mull, Kristie Owens, Jim Patterson, Scott Pierce, Tammi Radcliff, George Roth, Sr., Logan Sullivan, Crystal, Hilary, Kelly, Lydi, Max, Blayne, Amber, George, Steve & Alba

**Gulfport:** No requests this week

**Gulfport Ongoing:** Alice Johnson, Allison (Cindy & Per Lee’s granddaughter), Willie

**Lakewood:** Otha Hudson (Josephine's husband), The family of Brian L., Friend's husband who passed away suddenly (Gloria)

**Lakewood Ongoing:** Joan and family

**St. Luke’s:** Melissa Celurale to find a new job (Carla Clausen); Christine Brockway, having back surgery (Susan Brockway, Mom)

**St. Luke's Ongoing:** Annalise, Bev Becker, Charlie BeVille, Madison Brown, Fred Bunnell, Jr., Lisa Duffy, Judith Fain, Cheryl Fennell, Larry Frye, Eric Harvey, Trudy James, The Lieber family, The Leonard Family, Geraldine Parsons, Buck & Sunny Roberts, Harriett Swartzmiller, Joelle Wells, Justin Wells, Jennifer, JJ

**South Pinellas Active-Duty Military:** Matthew Burdewick, Seth Crist, Will Dudley, Casey Linde-Powers

# THIS WEEK'S "AT HOME" DEVOTIONAL

*Lord of Love: 1 John 4:7–12*

## GATHERING

Light a candle to remind yourselves that God is love and that Christ’s love is present with us and ready to flow through us.

## PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Lord of Love. You welcome us with compassion, meet us in suffering, and lead us toward healing and hope. Help us trust your loving authority, receive your grace, and surrender every trembling part of our lives to you. Let your love take root in us and flow through us to our neighbors, our enemies, and all who need your care. Amen.

## CARING CONVERSATION - Take a few moments to check in with one another.

Highs & Lows

- What is one thing that brought you joy this week?
- When did someone’s love or kindness strengthen you this week?

## THINKING ABOUT THE UPCOMING WEEK’S SCRIPTURE

Dear friends, let’s love each other, because love is from God— 1 John 4:7 (CEB)

We may resist the idea of a lord because human authority can control, exploit, or disappoint. Jesus is different. His authority is the authority of self-giving love. He does not force us into submission; he reaches toward us with grace and invites a trusting response.

- Why can it be difficult to surrender control to Jesus?
- How does knowing that God is love change the way you understand Christ’s lordship?
- Where have you experienced Christ’s presence in suffering or grief?
- Through whom might God’s love need to flow this week?

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS - As you read this week, ask: **How does the love of Christ come to us and flow through us?**

| DAY       | READING               | THEME                              |
|-----------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sunday    | Acts 2:32–36          | <i>Jesus Is Lord and Messiah</i>   |
| Monday    | Psalms 136:1–9        | <i>God’s Love Endures</i>          |
| Tuesday   | Luke 15:11–32         | <i>The Love That Welcomes Home</i> |
| Wednesday | Matthew 5:43–48       | <i>Love Your Enemies</i>           |
| Thursday  | John 13:1–17          | <i>Love That Serves</i>            |
| Friday    | Romans 8:31–39        | <i>Nothing Can Separate Us</i>     |
| Saturday  | 1 Corinthians 13:1–13 | <i>The Way of Love</i>             |
| Sunday    | 1 John 4:7–12         | <i>God’s Love Lives in Us</i>      |

*If your household includes children, feel free to use a children’s Bible or summarize the readings in simple language.*

## DEVOTIONAL

Many people are uneasy with the word ‘lord.’ Human authority often brings control, pressure, and the fear of losing ourselves. Why would anyone willingly surrender their life to another?

Jesus answers that question by revealing what God’s authority is like. God is love. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit exist in a relationship of overflowing love, and that love reaches outward to creation. When we encounter God in Jesus Christ, we encounter compassion, welcome, healing, and hope.

Jesus never used power to dominate. He ate with people others rejected, treated every person as beloved by God, washed his disciples’ feet, and taught us to love even our enemies. At the cross, Jesus did not act as a victim of divine cruelty. He freely offered himself as an agent of healing and restoration, demonstrating that love is stronger than sin and death.

This is why Jesus can be trusted as Lord. His lordship does not force us to become something false. It forms us into people capable of receiving and sharing God’s love. Even in suffering, Christ is present because he knows the way of suffering. He reaches toward us, understands our grief, and offers the strength of hope.

First John says that God’s love is made complete in us when we love one another. The love of Christ comes to us, but it is never meant to stop with us. It flows through our patience, forgiveness, generosity, truthfulness, service, and compassion.

Surrender to the Lord of Love is not a loss of life; it is the beginning of a life shaped by grace. As we trust Christ’s love, fear loosens its grip, relationships can heal, and our lives become pathways through which others encounter the God who is love.

### **PRAY TOGETHER**

Invite each person to name someone who needs to experience God’s love, comfort, or hope. Then pray together:

Lord Jesus, thank you for loving us without limit. When we are afraid to surrender, remind us that your authority is compassionate and trustworthy. Meet those who suffer, grieve, or feel alone with the comfort of your presence. Fill us with your Spirit so that your love may flow through our words, choices, service, and relationships. Make your love complete in us. Amen.

### **MEALTIME PRAYER**

Lord of Love, thank you for this food and for everyone gathered here. Nourish us with your grace and help us share your welcome, compassion, and care with others. Amen.

### **SERVICE CHALLENGE - *This is one way we share God’s love with the world.***

Choose one person who may feel overlooked, burdened, or alone. Offer a concrete act of Christlike love: listen without rushing, share a meal, write an encouraging note, help with a need, or simply remain present. Let God’s love reach that person through you.

### **CLOSING & BLESSING**

Extinguish your candle as a reminder that the love of Christ remains with us and continues to shine through every act of compassion.

With permission, make the sign of the cross on one another’s hands or foreheads and say: **‘Trust the Lord of Love. Receive his grace, walk in his way, and let his love flow through you.’**