

Advent

Hope Peace Joy Love

The People of Washington Avenue Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
gathered for the

Worship of God

December 2, 2018
1st Sunday of Advent
10:45 a.m.

Chiming the Hour

Mr. Tom Day

Greeting

Rev. Nathan A. Russell

The Lord is with you. **And with you also.**

We pass the friendship register as a way of welcoming one another
to this time of sacred worship.

Call to Worship

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Prelude

Mr. Day

*Doxology 46 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH
Children age three through fifth grade depart
for Children Worship & Wonder following the Doxology

Anthem *In the Bleak Midwinter* Chancel Choir

The Hebrew Bible Reading Jeremiah 33:14-16 Rev. Russell
For the Word of God in its promise and covenant,
Thanks be to God.

Sermon The Days Are Surely Coming Rev. Russell

Discipline of Silence
"Openness to God demands our growing acceptance that we cannot create blueprints for our own lives. Though God's character is unchanging, the ways of God are unpredictable, and there is a difference between arbitrariness and unpredictability."
— Enuma Okoro, *Silence and Other Surprising Invitations of Advent*

Hymn of Communion 399 *O God, Unseen Yet Ever Near* BELMONT

Invitation to Commune Rev. Russell

The Elder's Prayer Mr. Brad Thimke

The Words of Institution Mr. Gerald Western
The fish is a symbol of the fellowship of Christian believers. Partake of the bread individually, symbolic of our personal redemption by God through Christ. The cup is received in unison with the prayer that we will forgive others as we have been forgiven by God.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving
Creating God, may the life of our Savior Jesus Christ, which we have received at this table, give us the energy and vitality that we need. Help us use this new life in all that we do and say so that the new world of justice and joy will come. Through Jesus Christ we pray. AMEN.

*Hymn of Discipleship 135 *Blessed Be the God of Israel* MERLE'S TUNE

Affirmation of Responses

Rev. Russell

Pastoral Benediction and Charge

Rev. Russell

Postlude

Mr. Day

We Go to Love and Serve from Our Doorsteps to the Ends of the Earth

*The people may rise in body and spirit as able.

+Quartific is comprised of Mark Mathes, Alan Petersen, Chris Thomas, Bob Rieth, and Nathan Russell (Ken Mundorf, Emeritus and Rosalie Gainer, Emerita)



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Today, 12/2: *Deadline for poinsettia orders and Neighborhood Alliance Family Baskets*

9:15 a.m. - Common Grounds, followed by

9:30 a.m. - Discovery Hour Christmas Crafts

10:45 a.m. - Traditional Morning Worship

12:00 noon - Hanging of the Greens (luncheon and decorating)

Tue., 12/4: 2:00 p.m. - Elders' budget sub-committee meeting

6:00 p.m. - Stewardship Committee meeting

Wed., 12/5: 5:30 p.m. - Youth group (grades 6-12) weekly gathering

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsal

Sat., 12/8: 10:00 a.m. - Salvation Army bell ringing at the Market Square Giant Eagle (ends 8 p.m.)

Church Staff

Tom Day, Organist

Jeff & Sharon Evans, Youth Directors

Brenda J. Keenan, Parish Visitor

Alan Petersen, Chancel Choir Director

The Reverend Nathan A. Russell, Senior Pastor

Phil Smith, Custodian

Becky Thompson, Early Service Pianist

Diana Tyler, Office Administrator

Debra L. Walker, Director of Church School Education