

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

Meditation of Preparation

*Hymn of Praise 119

*Gloria Patri 155

"For outlandish creatures like us, on our way to a heart, a brain, and courage, Bethlehem is not the end of our journey but only the beginning - not home but the place through which we must pass if ever we are to reach home at last." — Frederick Buechner, The Magnificent Defeat

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*Invocation Ms. Lydia Ward

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Lighting of the Advent Candle **Property Committee**

Special Music My Lord, What a Mornin' Quartific+

The Gospel Reading Luke 21:25-36 Ms. Ward

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Prayer 700 O Day of God Draw Nigh

VENI EMMANUEL

GLORIA

ST. MICHAEL

Prayers of the People Rev. Russell and Congregation

God, in your mercy... Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN.

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts Ms. Ward Our regular tithes and offerings support the budgeted ministries of Washington Avenue Christian Church.

Offertory 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

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

Rev. Russell

Invitation to Commune Rev. Russell

The Elder's Prayer Mr. Brad Thimke

The Words of Institution

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.

MERLE'S TUNE

^{*}Hymn of Discipleship 135 Blessed Be the God of Israel

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)

2:00 p.m. - Elders' budget sub-committee meeting 6:00 p.m. - Stewardship Committee meeting Tue., 12/4:

5:30 p.m. - Youth group (grades 6-12) weekly gathering 7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsal Wed., 12/5:

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

(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