

# Advent

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Hope Peace Joy Love

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

## Worship of God

December 9, 2018  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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

"We, Angels and Mortals, Believers and Non-Believers,  
Look heavenward and speak the word aloud.  
Peace. We look at our world and speak the word aloud.  
Peace. We look at each other, then into ourselves  
And we say without shyness or apology or hesitation.  
Peace, My Brother.  
Peace, My Sister.  
Peace, My Soul."

--Maya Angelou, *Amazing Peace: A Christmas Poem*

\*Hymn of Praise 125      *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*      HYFRYDOL

\*Invocation      Ms. Deanna Marley

\*Gloria Patri 155      *Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*      GLORIA

Lighting of the Advent Candles      Worship Committee

Special Music      The WACC Women's Ensemble  
*Shepherds Lullaby*

The Gospel Reading      Luke 1:68-79      Ms. Marley  
This is the Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Prayer 133      *Like A Child*      LIKE A CHILD

Prayers of the People      Rev. Russell and Congregation  
God, whose arrival we await...  
Grant us hope and peace.

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.

Congregational Response 312                      *Amen*                      AMEN

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts                      Ms. Marley  
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                      *Angels from the Realms of Glory*                      Chancel Choir

The Hebrew Bible Reading                      Malachi 3:1-4                      Rev. Russell  
For the Word of God in its promise and covenant,  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon                      He Shall Purify                      Rev. Russell

### Discipline of Silence

“The peace [Christ] brings is dangerous, subversive, and a contradiction of all that is usual. Advent is a freighted time in which to acknowledge that what we anticipate in the prophetic oracle of Isaiah deeply contradicts the expectation of ancient Israel. It deeply contradicts the expectation of those who trusted the Roman Empire, Jews, and others. And it overrides the expectations of our society, which awaits a peacemaker who will ensure our advantage in the world. The Christ child who is born, coronated, and worshiped is innocent, but he is not innocuous.”

—Walter Brueggemann, *Names for the Messiah: An Advent Study*

Hymn of Communion 391                      *These I Lay Down*                      LAYING DOWN

Invitation to Commune                      Rev. Russell

The Elder’s Prayer                      Ms. Lauri Warfield

The Words of Institution

Mr. Mark Mathes

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

**We thank you, God, for renewing faith, strengthening hope, and granting peace. Through the power of the living Christ who comes to us as the babe of Bethlehem, grant that we shall walk in newness of life. AMEN.**

\*Hymn of Discipleship 136

PLEADING SAVIOR

*Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming*

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.

### THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Today, 12/9: *Deadline for Cleveland Christian Home gifts and Bible recipient names*

Mon., 12/10: 9:30 a.m. - Crafty Christians gathering  
4:00 p.m. - Outreach Committee meeting

Tue., 12/11: 4:15 p.m. - Staff meeting  
5:30 p.m. - Elders' supper meeting  
7:00 p.m. - Board meeting

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

Fri., 12/14: Church office closed (Office Administrator's vacation day)

Sat., 12/15: 11:00 a.m. - Memorial service for Helen Farrar  
4:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall in use

Hot Meal served at Elyria Salvation Army (Jeff & Sharon Evans and youth team)