

# 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 23, 2018  
4<sup>th</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



Congregational Response 312

*Amen*

AMEN

Moment for Mission

Mr. Mark Mathes

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts

Ms. Chris Baumgartner

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*  
Children age three through fifth grade depart  
for Children: Worship & Wonder following the Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Anthem

*My Heart, Your Bethlehem*

Chancel Choir

The Hebrew Bible Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

The Rev. Russell

For the Word of God in its promise and covenant,  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Believe Women

Rev. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"The Magnificat is the great New Testament song of liberation—personal and social, moral and economic—a revolutionary document of intense conflict and victory. It praises God's liberating actions on behalf of [Mary], which are paradigmatic of all of God's actions on behalf of marginal and exploited people."

--Jane D. Schaberg and Sharon H. Ringe,  
*Women's Bible Commentary: Gospel of Luke*

Hymn of Communion 399

*O God, Unseen Yet Ever Near*

BELMONT

Invitation to Commune

Rev. Russell

The Elder's Prayer

Ms. Chris Baumgartner

The Words of Institution

Ms. Barbara Terrell

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

Rev. Russell

**We thank you, God, for renewing faith, strengthening hope, granting peace, kindling joy, and reconciling love. 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 142

*People, Look East*

BESANÇON

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

Mon., 12/24: 4:30 p.m. - Service of Carols and Celebration

7:30 p.m. - Service of Candlelight and Carols

11:30 p.m. - Service of Candlelight and Communion

Tue., 12/25: Merry Christmas! (The church office will be closed through January 1.

Parish Visitor Brenda Keenan will be checking the office voicemail [323-4213] in case of pastoral emergency.)