

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

Worship of God

December 15, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.: Third Sunday of Advent

Chiming the Hour

Mr. Evan Collins

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

Rev. Russell

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

Prelude

Ding Dong Merrily on High

**EHS Madrigals** 

Meditation of Preparation

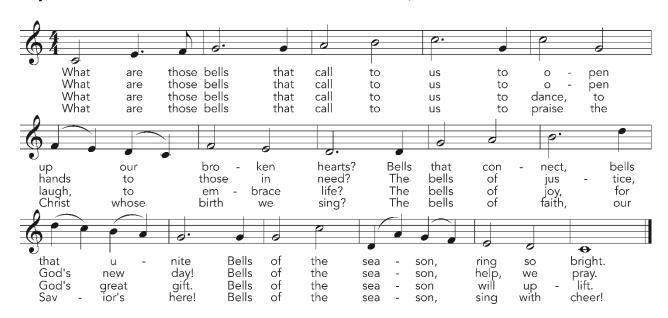
"Ring the bells that still can ring / Forget your perfect offering / There is a crack, a crack in everything / That's how the light gets in."

--Leonard Cohen, Anthem



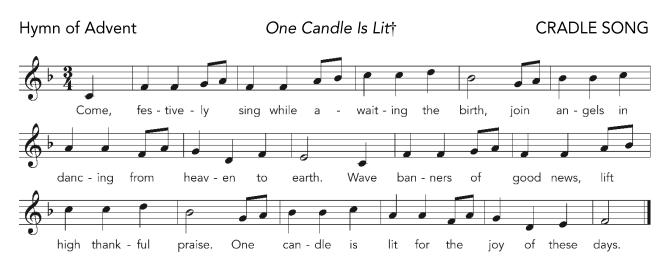
## What Are Those Bells†

**TRURO** 



\*Invocation

Ms. Kimberly Wilhelm



Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles

Val Collins, Cindy Johnson, Sheila Smith, Dawna White

Special Music

Pat-A-Pan

**EHS Madrigals** 

Prayers of the People

Rev. Russell

God of Advent...

Grant us hope, peace, and joy.

The Lord's Prayer

ΔII

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 305

CHILDREN PRAYING

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts

Ms. Wilhelm

Our regular tithes and offerings support the budgeted ministries of WACC.

Anthem

Zither Carol

EHS Madrigals

\*Doxology 528

VENI EMMANUEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to us and with all people dwell.

(Children age three through fifth grade depart for Children: Worship & Wonder.)

The Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

Rev. Russell

For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...

Thanks be to God.

Sermon Rev. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"The day is on its way, it couldn't wait no more / Here it comes, ready or not, ready or not Ready or not, ready or not / The day is on its way, it will not wait another day No more, no more / The day is on its way, I cannot wait, here it's to stay / No more, no more The day is on its way, it couldn't wait no more / Here it is."

--Chance the Rapper and Daniel Caesar

Invitation to Commune

Rev. Russell

The Elder's Prayer

Ms. Janet Stevens-Brown

The Words of Institution

Rev. Russell

Please come forward to share in Communion. Partake by breaking off a piece of bread and dipping it in the cup. (The bread is gluten-free.) If you are unable to come forward, someone will come to you.

Invitation to Discipleship

Rev. Russell

\*Hymn of Discipleship 143

Joy to the World

**ANTIOCH** 

Affirmation of Responses 341

Rev. Russell

Pastoral Benediction and Charge

Rev. Russell

Postlude

The Lord Bless You and Keep You And all the people said... **AMEN!** 

EHS Madrigals

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

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Today, 12/15: 10:45 a.m. - Sunday school

4:00 p.m. - Combined Choir rehearsal for Christmas Concert

6:00 p.m. - Christmas Concert

Mon., 12/16: 3:30 p.m. - Outreach Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room

6:30 p.m. - Advent study in the youth rooms

Tue., 12/17: 10:00 a.m. - Advent study in the youth rooms

6:00 p.m. - Joanna Circle Christmas party in the parlors

Wed., 12/18: 12:00 noon - WACC hosts the Elyria Senior Women's Fellowship Holiday Luncheon

5:30 p.m. - Youth group (gr. 6-12) Christmas party in Fellowship Hall and youth rooms

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary

Thu., 12/19: 10:45 a.m. - Sarah Circle Christmas gathering in the youth rooms

Sat., 12/21: Fellowship Hall in use (private event)

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

†Hymn text by Karen Oliveto

<sup>\*</sup>The people may rise in body and spirit as able.