

# 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 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*

\*Hymn of Praise 129

What Are Those Bells†

TRURO

What are those bells that call to us to o - pen  
 What are those bells that call to us to o - pen  
 What are those bells that call to us to dance, to  
 What are those bells that call to us to praise the

up our bro - ken hearts? Bells that con - nect, bells  
 hands to those in need? The bells of - jus - tice,  
 laugh, to em - brace life? The bells of joy, for  
 Christ whose birth we sing? The bells of faith, our

that u - nite Bells of the sea - son, ring so bright.  
 God's new day! Bells of the sea - son, help, we pray.  
 God's great gift. Bells of the sea - son, will up - lift.  
 Sav - ior's here! Bells of the sea - son, sing with cheer!

\*Invocation

Ms. Kimberly Wilhelm

Hymn of Advent

One Candle Is Lit†

CRADLE SONG

Come, fes - tive - ly sing while a - wait - ing the birth, join an - gels in  
 danc - ing from heav - en to earth. Wave ban - ners of good news, lift  
 high thank - ful praise. One can - dle is lit for the joy of these days.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles

Val Collins, Cindy Johnson, Sheila Smith, Dawna White

Special Music

Pat-A-Pan

EHS Madrigals

Hymn of Prayer 132

*When God Is a Child*

MOON BEAMS

Prayers of the People

Rev. Russell

God of Advent...  
**Grant us hope, peace, and joy.**

The Lord's Prayer

All

**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, 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

Hymn of Communion 420

*I Come with Joy*

DOVE OF PEACE

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*

EHS Madrigals

And all the people said...

**AMEN!**

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, 12/15: 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

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