

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

Worship of God

November 28, 2021, 9:30am: First Sunday of Advent

Chiming the Hour

The Atwood Carillon

Greeting

The Spirit of God is with you!

And also with you!

Rev. Nathan A. Russell

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

Rev. Russell

Prelude

Mr. Evan Collins

Meditation for Preparation

"Did the Blessed Virgin say, 'me too'? There is a moment in the Annunciation story when an ordinary girl on the cusp of womanhood is approached by a powerful male figure who tells her what is going to happen to her body, in its most intimate spaces. Sit with me in this moment, this uncomfortable moment, before rushing to find proof of her consent, or argue that contemporary notions of consent do not apply to ancient texts, or God knew she'd say yes so it was prophetic, or contend that (human) gender does not apply to divine beings, Gabriel or God, and the Holy Spirit is feminine anyway. Hold those thoughts and just sit in the moment with this young woman."

--Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney, Did Mary Say "Me Too"?

Hymn of Praise (Insert)

Savior of the Nations, Come!+

TRURO

Hymn of Advent 128

Invocation

One Candle Is Lit (v. 1)

CRADLE SONG

Ms. Jane Hutson

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candle

Jane Hutson, Brenda Keenan, Lauri Figueroa

Hymn of Prayer 184

Sing of Mary, Pure and Lowly

PLEADING SAVIOR

Prayers of the People

God incarnate...

Come to earth.

The Lord's Prayer

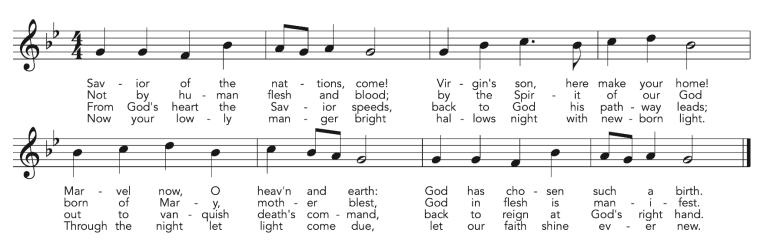
ALL

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.

God Almighty, We Are Waiting



Savior of the Nations, Come!



Congregational Response Wait for the Lord FRANCE
Wait for the Lord, his day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts Rev. Russell
Our regular tithes and offerings support the budgeted ministries of WACC.

Offertory How Great Our Joy Quartific

Doxology 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.

The Reading Luke 1:26-38 Rev. Russell For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...

Thanks be to God.

Sermon An Unexpected Announcement Rev. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"The Annunciation was not so much a vision as an earthquake in which God moved the universe and unsettled the spheres, and the beginning and end of all things came before her in her deepest heart. And far beneath the movement of this silent cataclysm Mary slept in the infinite tranquility of God, and God was a child curled up who slept in her and her veins were flooded with His wisdom which is night, which is starlight, which is silence. And her whole being was embraced in Him whom she embraced and they became tremendous silence."

--Thomas Merton

Hymn of Communion 397 (Insert)

nsert) HOLY MANNA God Almighty, We Are Waiting**

God Aimighty, we are waiting

Invitation to Commune Rev. Russell

Prayer at the Table Ms. Lauri Warfield

Words of Institution Rev. Russell

Invitation to Discipleship Rev. Russell

Benediction and Charge

Rev. Russell

Postlude

Mr. Collins

And all the people said... **AMEN!**

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

Today's artwork is *The Annunciation: Gabriel and Mary.* JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings was selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings.

Quartific is comprised of Evan Collins, Mark Mathes, Alan Petersen, and Bob Rieth

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today, 11/28: 9:30am - Energetic, liturgical worship in the sanctuary

11am - Hanging of the Greens, soup luncheon, and Community Choir rehearsal

6pm - YouTube premiere of the 9:30am worship service

Mon., 11/29: 7pm - YouTube premiere of *Children's Corner: Lessons from the Heart* Tue., 11/30: 7:45am - Devotional gathering for *The Upper Room* (on Zoom)*

7:45am - Devotional gathering for *The Upper Room* (on Zoom)*
4pm - Church Life & Growth Committee meeting (hybrid)

4pm - Church Life & Growth Committee r Wed., 12/1: 9am - Audit Committee meeting (hybrid)

7pm - YouTube premiere of theAlternative

Thu., 12/2: 10am - All-Church Social Hour (on Zoom)**

5:30pm - Stewardship Committee meeting (on Zoom)

Prayer requests may be submitted by contacting the church office or online at: waccelyria.org/pray Contributions may be submitted to the church office or online at: waccelyria.org/give

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^{*}Words by Ambrose of Milan

⁺⁺Words by Ann Bell Worley

^{*}First-timers may register at <u>waccelyria.org</u> for these online, weekly devotional gatherings.

^{**}Contact the church office for the link to this bi-weekly, online chat.