



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

Worship of God

Friday, December 24, 2021, 7:30pm: Christmas Eve

Chiming the Hour		The Atwood Carillon
Greeting	The Spirit of God is with you! And also with you!	Rev. Nathan A. Russell
Call to Worship	Lift up your hearts... We lift them to the Lord!	Rev. Russell
Prelude	<i>Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence</i>	Chime Choir
Meditation for Preparation	"The last collaborator is your audience... When the audience comes in, it changes the temperature of what you've written. Things that seem to work well — work in a sense of carrying the story forward and being integral to the piece — suddenly become a little less relevant or a little less functional or a little overlong or a little overweight or a little whatever. And so you start reshaping from an audience." --Stephen Sondheim	
Remembering Our Advent Journey		Rev. Russell
Hymn of Advent 119	<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>	VENI EMMANUEL
A Christmas Proclamation		Rev. Russell
Hymn of Praise 148	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	ADESTE FIDELES
Invocation		Rev. Russell
Hymn for the Christ Candle 128	<i>One Candle Is Lit (v. 5)</i>	CRADLE SONG
Lighting of the Christ Candle		Ms. Mary and Mr. Gary Siwierka
Special Music	Ms. Kristen Schmittgen, Mr. Joel Schmittgen, and Mr. Evan Collins <i>In the Bleak Midwinter</i>	
Reading	Luke 2:1-7	Rev. Russell

Hymn of Bethlehem 165 *Once in Royal David's City* IRBY

Reading Luke 2:8-20 Rev. Russell

Hymn of the Angels 155 *Angels We Have Heard on High* GLORIA

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

Anthem *Candlelight Carol* WACC Community Choir

Doxology THE FIRST NOEL

**Praise God for gifts of hope and peace, praise God for gifts of joy and love,
praise God for sending Christ to dwell on earth for us – Emmanuel.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel. Born is the king of Israel.**

Sermon *The Final Collaborator* Rev. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"We have been forced en masse into that great spiritual terrain of the wilderness. And the reflections that have poured out of us during this wilderness time—about the importance of community, about how interdependent we are and how we might better care for one another, about equality and dismantling systemic injustice—are all essentially spiritual in nature."

--Martha Tataric, *An Omicron Christmas*

The Lighting of the Candles Rev. Russell

Hymn of the Night 145 *Silent Night* STILLE NACHT

Pastoral Benediction and Charge Rev. Russell

Postlude *Praeludium in D Major* Mr. Collins
And all the people said...
MERRY CHRISTMAS!

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

Tonight's artwork is *God Couldn't Wait* (2019) by Lisle Gwynn Garrity. © A Sanctified Art LLC | Sanctifiedart.org | contact@sanctifiedart.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fri., 12/24: 11:30pm - Worship in-person and livestreamed from theAlternative
Sat., 12/25: MERRY CHRISTMAS!
Sun., 12/26: 9:30am - Energetic, liturgical worship in the sanctuary
11am - *Two or More* scripture discussion group in the Gibbens conference room
6pm - YouTube premiere of the 9:30am worship service
Mon., 12/27: *Church office closed until Mon., 1/3/2022*
7pm - YouTube premiere of *Children's Corner: Lessons from the Heart*
Tue., 12/28: 7:45am - Devotional gathering for *The Upper Room* (on Zoom)*
Wed., 12/29: 7pm - YouTube premiere of theAlternative
Sat., 1/1/2021: HAPPY NEW YEAR!

*First-timers may register at waccelyria.org for these online, weekly devotional gatherings.

If you ordered a poinsettia and plant to take it home after this evening's service, you'll find plastic sleeves on the Welcome Table in the hallway to help protect your plant from the cold during its journey to your home.



We are thrilled that you are worshiping God with us in-person and/or online. Scan this QR code with a smartphone to register your attendance, submit a prayer request, and make an online contribution.

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