



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

Worship of God

December 11, 2022, 9:30am: The Third 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 |
| Call to Worship | Lift up your hearts... We lift them to the Lord! | Rev. Russell |
| Prelude | Savior of the Nations, Come | Mr. Evan Collins |
| Meditation for Preparation | <p>"Joy is distinct not only from pleasure in general but even from aesthetic pleasure. It must have the stab, the pang, the inconsolable longing." —C.S. Lewis, <i>Surprised by Joy</i></p> | |
| Hymn of Praise 139 | <i>All Earth Is Waiting</i> | TAULÉ |
| Invocation | | Ms. Jan Moore |
| Hymn of Advent 128 | <i>One Candle Is Lit</i> (v. 3) | CRADLE SONG |
| Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candle | | Ms. Kristen and Dr. Steve Mayer |
| Hymn of Prayer 638 | <i>In the Bulb There Is a Flower</i> | PROMISE |
| Prayers of the People | God of Promise and Possibility... Show us what you see. | |
| Congregational Response | <i>Wait for the Lord</i> | WAIT FOR THE LORD |
| | Wait for the Lord, his day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart! | |
| 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. | |
| Invitation to Stewardship | | Rev. Janet Long |
| | Our regular tithes and offerings support the budgeted ministries of WACC. | |

Offertory

Ms. Kristen and Mr. Joel Schmittgen
Before the Marvel of This Night

Doxology

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

Ruth 4:11-17

Rev. Russell

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Be Ready: Joy

Rev. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"Those who are familiar with Scripture will recognize that yearning for a future free from surprises is, down deep, actually a desire to be free of God. If our predicting the future is really only a projection of what we already know and who we already are, then we are imagining a future inhabited only by our powers and desires, one that we humans can dominate and control. But the living God seen in the Bible is a God full of surprises, one who since Eden has frustrated all human efforts to eliminate unpredictability.

–Thomas G. Long & Donyelle C. McCray, *A Surprising God*

Hymn of Communion 404

A Hymn of Joy We Sing

BOYLSTON

Invitation to Commune

Rev. Russell

Prayer at the Table

Mr. Bob Maxwell

Words of Institution

Rev. Russell

Invitation to Discipleship

Rev. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship 132

When God Is a Child

MOON BEAMS

Benediction and Charge

Rev. Russell

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 *Genealogy of Christ* (2022) by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Today, 12/11: 11am - Two or More scripture discussion group (Gibbens room)
 6pm - YouTube premiere of morning worship
- Mon., 12/12: 4:30pm - Stewardship Committee meeting (on Zoom)
 7pm - YouTube premiere of Children's Corner: Lessons from the Heart
- Tue., 12/13: 7:45am - Devotional gathering using *The Upper Room* (on Zoom)*
 5:30pm - Elders' meeting (hybrid)
 7pm - Board meeting (hybrid)
- Wed., 12/14: 7pm - YouTube premiere of theAlternative
- Thu., 12/15: 10am - All-church online Social Hour (on Zoom)**
 7pm - Advent Study (on Zoom)***

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

**Contact the church office for that link

***Register at waccelyria.org/adventstudy/



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.

WACC is a **Green Chalice Congregation** in covenant care of God's creation.



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