



The People of
 Washington Avenue
 Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)
 gather for the
Worship of God
 December 3, 2023, 9:30am:
 The First Sunday of Advent

Chiming the Hour

The Atwood Carillon

Greeting

The Spirit of God is with you...
And also with you!

Glennis Covault

Call to Worship

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

Glennis Covault

Prelude

Communion (Vierne)

Sol Rizzato & Greg Hamilton

Meditation for Preparation

"Listen to the mustn'ts, child. Listen to the don'ts. Listen to the shouldn'ts, the impossibles, the won'ts. Listen to the never haves, then listen close to me... Anything can happen, child. Anything can be."
 –Shel Silverstein, *Listen to the Mustn'ts*

Hymn of Praise 122

Comfort, Comfort You My People

GENEVA 42

Invocation

Debbie Walker

Hymn of Advent 128 v. 1

One Candle Is Lit

CRADLE SONG

Come sure - ly, Lord Je - sus, as dawn fol - lows night, our a hearts long to
 greet you, as ros - es, the light. Sal - va - tion, draw near us, our
 vi - sion en - gage. One can - dle is lit for the hope oe the age.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candle

The Hange Family

Hymn of Prayer

View the Present Through the Promise¹

AR HYD Y NOS

View the pres - ent through the prom - ise, Christ comes a - gain.
 Probe the pres - ent with the prom - ise, Christ comes a - gain.
 Match the pres - ent to the prom - ise, Christ comes a - gain.

Trust de - spite the deep - ening dark - ness, Christ comes a - gain.
 Let your dai - ly ac - tions wit - ness, Christ comes a - gain.
 Make this hope your guid - ing prem - ise, Christ comes a - gain.

Lift the world a - bove its griev - ing through your watch - ing and be - liev - ing
 Let your lov - ing and your giv - ing and your jus - tice and for - giv - ing
 Pat - tern all your cal - cu - lat - ing and the world you are cre - a - ting

in the hope past hope's con - ceiv - ing: Christ comes a - gain.
 be a sign to all the liv - ing: Christ comes a - gain.
 to the ad - vent you are wait - ing: Christ comes a - gain.

Prayers of the People

God of present and future promise...
Come again to us.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Mother/Father/Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin*dom 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 kin*dom, and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN.

Sung Response

Wait for the Lord

WAIT FOR THE LORD

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord; be strong take heart.

Invitation to Stewardship

Mark Mathes

Offertory

6 English Folksongs: V (Ralph Vaughan Williams) Sol Rizzato & Greg Hamilton

Doxology

Advent Doxology

VENI EMANUEL

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God all crea-tures here be - low.

Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly hosts: Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to us and with all peo-ple dwell.

The Reading

Isaiah 12:1-5

Nathan A. Russell

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

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Advent(ure): From Singular to Plural

Nathan A. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"Our past is bleak. Our future dim. But I am not reasonable. A reasonable man adjusts to his environment. An unreasonable man does not. All progress, therefore, depends on the unreasonable man. I prefer not to adjust to my environment. I refuse the prison of 'I' and choose the open spaces of 'we'."

-Toni Morrison, *Mouth Full of Blood*

Hymn of Communion

*Now the Heavens Start to Whisper*³ (see reverse)

JEFFERSON

Invitation to Commune

Nathan A. Russell

Prayer at the Table

Abe Reshad

Words of Institution

Nathan A. Russell

Invitation to Discipleship

Nathan A. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship 130

My Soul Gives Glory to My God

MORNING SONG

People, Look East! (Kristina Langlois)
 And all the people said...
AMEN!

Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.
 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to drift a - way.
 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,

Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with - in:
 Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day.
 come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.

seed of prom - ise, deep - ly plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!
 Christ, the morn - ing star of splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim.
 In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view:

Like the soil be - neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.
 Heav - en's em - ber fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.
 child who comes to grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

¹Lyrics by Thomas H. Troeger, 1986

²Lyrics by Taize Community, 1984

³Lyrics by Mary Louise Bringle, 2005

Today's artwork is *Comfort, O Comfort* by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

EVENTS THIS WEEK

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|-----------------------|--|
| Sunday, December 3 | 11:00am: Hanging of the Green & Bread for the World Discussion |
| | 6:00pm: YouTube premiere of morning worship |
| Tuesday, December 5 | 5:30pm: Stewardship Committee meeting (Zoom) |
| Wednesday, December 6 | 9:00am: Sabbatical Committee Meeting |



We are thrilled that you are worshiping God with us! Scan this QR code to register your attendance, submit a prayer request, and make a contribution.

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

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