



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

Worship of God

December 10, 2023, 9:30am: The Second 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

Sol Rizzato

Meditation for Preparation

"I will be a ring of fire around her / And I will be the glory in her midst / And the power of my presence / Will bring her to her knees / And I will lift her up again / For I'm the God who sees / I'm the God who sees"

-Kathie Lee Gifford & Nicole C. Mullen, *The God Who Sees*

Hymn of Praise 138

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

REJOICE, REJOICE

Invocation

Janet Stevens-Brown

Hymn of Advent 128 v. 2

One Candle Is Lit

CRADLE SONG

Come quick - ly, sha - lom, teach us how to pre - pare for a gift that com -
pels us with jus - tice to care. Our spir - its are rest - less till
sin and war cease. One can - dle is lit for the reign of God's peace.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candle

Kathy & Ken Oblak

Hymn of Prayer 133

Like a Child

LIKE A CHILD

Prayers of the People

God who comes to us as a child...
Show us the way.

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 Lord¹

WAIT FOR THE LORD

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

Invitation to Stewardship

Debbie Walker

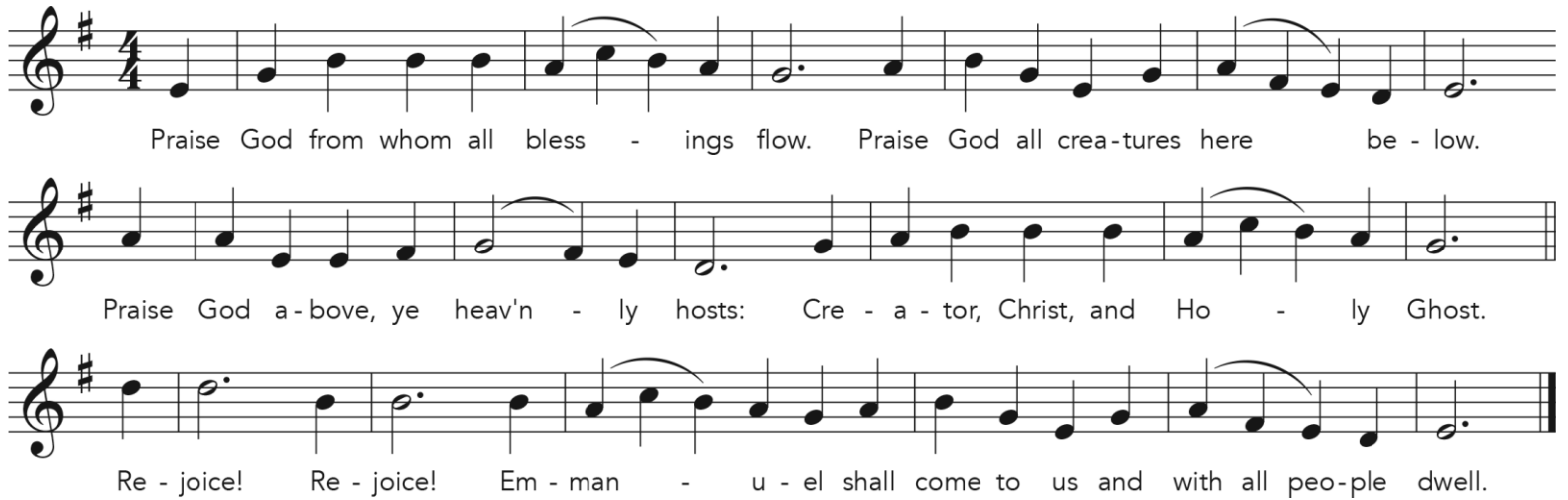
Offertory

Sol Rizzato

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

Genesis 16:7-13

Nathan A. Russell

For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...
Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Advent(ure): What's In A Name?

Nathan A. Russell & Sol Rizzato

Discipline of Silence

"Names are significant because they point to a child's divine call... John means "God is gracious/merciful," and Emmanuel means "God with us." We might be tempted to think that being so intentional and reflective about what we name our children is taking it all too seriously... There is value in thinking about the power that names can have in our lives, whether it is our birth names, or the names people assign us later in life, or the names we claim for ourselves. A name is an identifier. It is how we recognize who we are and who others are... The names we bear or endure can hint at both beautiful truth and debilitating falsehoods."

—Enuma Okoro, *Silence and Other Surprising Invitations of Advent*

Hymn of Communion

Oh, How Shall I Receive You?

ST. THEODULPH



Oh, how shall I re - ceive you, how meet thee on your way, bless'd hope of ev' - ry
 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; Love brought you here to us, Your thirst for our sal -
 You ent - er Christ, with glad - ness, in mer - cy and good will, to bring an end to
 na - tion, our soul's de - light and stay? O Je - sus, Je - sus, give us now
 va - tion pro - cured our lib - er - ty. Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, that
 sad - ness and bid our fears be still. We wel - come you, our Sav - ior; come
 by your own pure light to know what-e'er is pleas - ing and wel - come in your sight.
 led you to em - brace, in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our trou - bled hu - man race.
 gath - er us to you, that in your light e - ter - nal, our joy - ous home is true.

Invitation to Commune

Nathan A. Russell

Prayer at the Table		Lauri Warfield
Words of Institution		Nathan A. Russell
Invitation to Discipleship		Nathan A. Russell
Hymn of Discipleship	<i>Canticle of the Turning</i> ³	STAR OF COUNTY DOWN
Benediction and Charge		Nathan A. Russell
Postlude		Sol Rizzato
	And all the people said... AMEN!	

¹Lyrics by Taize Community, 1984

²Lyrics by P. Gerhardt, 1653; trans. A. T. Russell, 1851

³Lyrics paraphrased by Rory Cooney, 1990

Today's artwork is *Clear Vision* by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 10	11:00am: Safe Zone Training in the Fellowship Hall
	6:00pm: YouTube premiere of morning worship
Tuesday, December 12	7:30am: Upper Room Devotional Gathering
	5:30pm: Elders' Meeting (Hybrid)
	7:00pm: Board Meeting (Hybrid)
Thursday, December 14	10:00am: All-Church Social Hour (Zoom)
Sunday, December 17	9:30am: Worship in the Sanctuary with members from the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus
	11:00am: Safe Zone Training in the Fellowship Hall
	6:00pm: YouTube premiere of morning worship
	6:00pm: Holiday party at Chad & Pastor Nathan's home



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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