

Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

December 19, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Advent

At Wesley we foster a sanctuary culture by creating a safe environment where all feel welcomed, loved, accepted, valued, and affirmed for who they are, through intentional practices such as empathy, compassion, generosity, hospitality, and inclusion.

For the safety of every worshipper, please observe the following guidelines regardless of your vaccine status.

- **Wear a mask covering your mouth and nose all the time during worship.**
- **Keep social distancing in your sanctuary seating.**
- **Remain seated as we sing our hymns and praise songs.**
- **Please let an usher know if you have questions, need assistance, or have a concern about health or safety.**

Prelude

William Ness, organ

Proclamation on *Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying*

A. D. Miller b. 1972

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

C. Phillips b. 1961

Toccata on *Veni Emmanuel*

A. Carter b. 1939

Greeting & Announcement

*Advent Candle Lighting

Gifty Bentum-Asante, Liturgist

One: The Mighty One has done great things! Holy is God's Name! The Light of the World is coming

Many: With Mary, our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

The first three Advent candles are relit.

One: God's mercy endures from generation to generation for those who are in awe of God.

Many: The proud, the rich, the mighty no longer have power over us.

One: The lowly are lifted up, and the hungry are satisfied.

Many: We see the light of God shining over the land.

One: We light a fourth candle in anticipation of the wondrous birth.

The fourth Advent candle is lit.

All: We will open our hearts that Love may have a place to dwell.

* Please stand in body or in spirit

My soul gives glory to my God. My heart pours out its praise.
 God lifted up my lowliness in many marvelous ways.

My God has done great things for me: yes, holy is this name.
 All people will declare me blessed, and blessings they shall claim.

From age to age, to all who fear, such mercy love imparts,
 dispensing justice far and near, dismissing selfish hearts.

Advent Prayer (*unison*)

God of grace, your eternal Word took flesh among us when Mary placed her life at the service of your will. Prepare our hearts for his coming again; keep us steadfast in hope and faithful in service, that we may receive the coming of his kingdom, for the sake of Jesus Christ the ruler of all, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Praise Songs

Desmond Cheatham, keyboard

I Will Lift Up Your Name Higher

I will lift up your name higher...

Great Jehovah you are wonderful
 I will lift up your name higher...

Me yi N'ayε (I Will Praise Him)

Me yi n'ayε, Me yi Nyamea' yε...

Me yi Nyamea' yε, Halleluyah, Halleluyah, Halleluyah...

English:

I will praise God, I will praise my God...

I will praise my God, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah...

Choral Call to Prayer

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Choral Amen

*Gospel Reading

Luke 1:39-55

Anthem

Wesley Ghanaian Choir

Tie! Tie! Abofo Reto Dwom - Hark! Hark!

Sam Asare Bediako

The Angels are singing

Hark! Hark! The Angels are singing,
Hark! Hark! The Angels are singing,
Hark! The Savior is born for us,
The sheep of the Lord has been born unto us
Hark! Jesus, The Savior has brought peace
Hark! Jesus, the Savior has brought happiness.

Hark! Hark! The Messiah is born
Hark! Hark! He is Bethlehem.
Hark! Hark! Glory in the highest,
Peace is here on earth.
He is our Savior,
He has brought happiness,
Hark! Jesus, the Savior has brought peace,
Hark! Jesus, the Savior has brought happiness.

Message

Rev. Byungmoo Lee

Prayer of Abandonment (*unison*)

**O Lord, I abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will.
Whatever you may do, I thank you: I am ready for all, I accept all.**

**Let only your will be done in me, and in all your creatures.
I wish no more than this, O Lord.**

**Into your hands I commend my soul;
I offer it to you with all the love of my heart,
for I love you, Lord,
and so need to give myself,
to surrender myself into your hands,
without reserve,
and with boundless confidence,
for you are my God. Amen.**

* Please stand in body or in spirit

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind.
From dust thou brought us forth to life; deliver us from earthly strife.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Benediction

Postlude

O Come, All Ye Faithful

David Cherwien b. 1957

On your way out you may leave your tithe/offering and attendance slip in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary. You can also mail your offering to the church or give online via church website (wesleyworc.org).

Advent Candle Lighting – by F. Richard Garland, The UMC Discipleship Ministries, Resources,
Advent Wreath Meditations

Advent Prayer - *Book of Common Worship*, Westminster/John Knox Press, 1993, p. 177.

Prayer of Abandonment – by Charles de Foucauld, ALT.

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