



*“Love first. Love always,  
and we’ll figure out the rest of it as we go along.”<sup>i</sup>*



*Second Sunday of Advent  
December 7th, 2025  
11:00 a.m.*

*North Chevy Chase Christian Church is an Open and Affirming Congregation  
Connecting Faith with Community.*

## *The People of God Gather*

*If you're new to North Chevy Chase Christian Church, please consider filling out the Feedback Card you will find in the Pew pocket. We'll follow up with a brief phone call or email to say thank you for worshipping with us and to answer any question you may have. We are glad you're here with us today!*

**WELCOME**

Rev. Stephen Tickner

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

**“Something’s Coming”**

*from West Side Story*

*by Leonard Bernstein & Stephen Sondheim*

Matt Amling, Tenor

Glenn Pearson, Piano

*Congregation standing in body or spirit*

**Call to Worship and Opening Prayer<sup>1</sup>**

Charlene Smith  
Worship Leader

One: We're waiting for One who is coming.

**ALL: Why wait for someone when we don't know how long to wait?**

One: We wait in anticipation, for the Coming One is filled with God's Spirit.

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<sup>1</sup> Call to Worship provided by Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church. Opening Prayer written by John Birch on [faithandworship.com](http://faithandworship.com).

**ALL: A spirit of wisdom and understanding in a confusing world.**

One: A spirit of counsel and knowledge;

**ALL: we stand on tip-toe, eager to welcome the One who is coming, for the whole earth will be brimming, knowing God as ALIVE with us.**

One: Now with our hearts open to God, let us pray...

**OPENING HYMN            "O Day of God Draw Nigh"            CH 700**

# O Day of God, Draw Nigh

700

1. O day of God, draw nigh in beau - ty  
2. Bring to our trou - bled minds, un - cer - tain  
3. Bring jus - tice to our land, that all may  
4. Bring to our world of strife your sov - ereign  
5. O day of God, draw nigh as at cre -

1. and in power; come with your time - less  
2. and a - fraid, the qui - et of a  
3. dwell se - cure, and fine - ly build for  
4. word of peace, that war may haunt the  
5. a - tion's birth; let there be light a -

1. judg - ment now to match our pres - ent hour.  
2. stead - fast faith, calm of a call o - beyed.  
3. days to come foun - da - tions that en - dure.  
4. earth no more, and des - o - la - tion cease.  
5. gain, and set your judg - ments on the earth.

WORDS: Robert B. Y. Scott, 1937  
MUSIC: *Genevan Psalter*, 1551; arr. William Crotch, 1836

ST. MICHAEL  
SM

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Congregation seated*

## THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES<sup>2</sup>

Sarah Casseday  
Wilsonia Cherry

Sarah: In a world full of fear, where do you see glimmers of peace?

**All: We see glimmers of peace in the quiet of early morning, when people shake hands, when loved ones say they're sorry, and when the church sings together.**

Sarah: You are right. Even in a fearful world, peace is all around us.

Wilsonia: Today we light the candle of peace as a reminder of this good news.

*Sarah Light candle.*

Wilsonia: May this flicker of light help us remember that even in a fearful world, peace is present. We only have to look for it.

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

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<sup>2</sup> Candlelighting liturgy written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Wilsonia: Let us sing the second verse of "One Candle is Lit" found on page 128.

**CANDLE-LIGHTING HYMN**      "One Candle is Lit"      CH 128  
Verse 2

*Come quickly, shalom, teach us how to prepare  
For a gift that compels us with justice to care.  
Our spirits are restless till sin and war cease.  
One candle is lit for the reign of God's peace.*

**PASTORAL PRAYER & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**  
Rev. Stephen Tickner

**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.**

## *Proclaim*

### **A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES**

Isaiah 11:1-10

**11** A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow<sup>[a]</sup> out of his roots.

**2** The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

**3** His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see  
or decide by what his ears hear,

**4** but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor  
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the  
earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

**5** Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

**6** The wolf shall live with the lamb;  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;  
the calf and the lion will feed<sup>[b]</sup> together,  
and a little child shall lead them.

**7** The cow and the bear shall graze;

their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

<sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's  
den.

<sup>9</sup> They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup> On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to  
the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his  
dwelling shall be glorious.

## **CHOIR ANTHEM**

### **“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”**

tune: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, *13<sup>th</sup> Century Plainchant*,  
arr. Paul Wohlgemuth

Bob Solomon, Handbell

## **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL**

Luke 1:39-45, 56

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a  
Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup> where she entered  
the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> When  
Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her

womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup> and exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup> And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup> For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

<sup>56</sup> And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

**MESSAGE**

“I Am Mary: Meeting Elizabeth”

Rev. Stephen Tickner

**HYMN**

“O How Shall I Receive You”

## O How Shall I Receive You

102

Paul Gerhardt, 1653

Transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, and others; alt.

1 O how shall I re - ceive you, how meet you on your way,  
 2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you un - to me;  
 3 You come, O Christ, with glad - ness, in mer - cy and good - will,

blessed hope of ev - ery peo - ple, my soul's de - light and stay?  
 your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.  
 to bring an end to sad - ness and bid our fears be still.

O Je - sus, Je - sus, give me now by your own pure light,  
 O love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace  
 In pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion we live for that great day

to know what-e'er is pleas - ing and wel - come in your sight.  
 in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race.  
 when a re - newed cre - a - tion your glo - ry shall dis - play.

## *We Give and Receive*

*Communion is the central act of community within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in remembrance of the life, death and resurrection of Christ. The invitation to the Table is extended to all who wish to follow Jesus and to share in the community of God's people.*

*Everyone is invited to eat from this Table.*

**THE INVITATION TO GIVE AND RECEIVE**

Rev. Stephen Tickner

**PRAYER BY THE ELDER**

Jerry Rice

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### ***COMING FORWARD TO GIVE, AND TO RECEIVE THE BREAD AND THE CUP***

*We come forward to bring our physical bodies and our financial gifts to God. You are invited to come forward down the center aisle to place your tithes & offerings in the trays available; and to receive the elements of bread and cup, taking them and returning to your seats down the side aisle, to consume the elements in silent reflection.*

**MUSIC FOR REFLECTION**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

*...And Go Forth to Serve*

**SHARING OF JOYS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Congregation standing*

**CLOSING HYMN**      “While We are Waiting, Come”

# WHILE WE ARE WAITING, COME 190

The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!  
Revelation 22:20

1. While we are wait - ing, come;  
2. With pow'r and glo - ry, come;  
3. Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come;

While we are wait - ing, come.  
With pow'r and glo - ry, come.  
Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come.

Je - sus, our Lord, Em - man - u - el,

While we are wait - ing, come.

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

Glenn Pearson, Pianist/Organist

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*Please join us for coffee hour in Harlow Hall  
following the conclusion of the Postlude*

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### SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Stephen Tickner, Minister  
Glenn Pearson, Pianist/Organist  
Christine Schadeberg Wydro, NC4 Adult Choir Director  
NC4 Choir  
Matt Amling, Tenor  
Bob Solomon, Handbell  
Sarah Casseday, Advent Reader  
Wilsonia Cherry, Advent Reader  
Charlene Smith, Worship Leader  
Jerry Rice, Elder at the Table  
A/V Team - Yvonne McGee, Lydia Oladapo,  
Devi Rambarran

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*HEARING ASSISTANCE HEADPHONES are available in the Narthex.*

*Please set all pagers and cell phones to vibrate at this time.*

*CH = Chalice Hymnal (found in the pew racks)*

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### **Acknowledgment of Native Americans: A Statement toward Reconciliation**

For thousands of years indigenous people have walked in this land, on their own country. Their relationship with the land is at the center of their lives. We gratefully acknowledge them, past and present, and their stewardship of this land on which we stand.

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<sup>i</sup> Quote from Chaplain Owen Chandler at the 2023 General Assembly. Attribution for Cover Art:

"I Am Mary" series based off of Carol Howard's Advent Devotional, *I Am Mary*. Graphic designed by Kelly Guo specifically for use by North Chevy Chase Christian Church.



Join us next Sunday, December 14th for  
special choir music:  
"Ceremony of Carols", by Benjamin Britten  
With guest harpist Nadia Pessoa