

We are an imperfect community striving to live into the beautiful story of God in our wonderful yet broken city. As an historic church with a vibrant future ahead we invite you to join us as we seek God's glory and neighbor's good together!

WORSHIP NOTES:

- Welcome! If you would like to find out more about our community or speak with one of the pastors, text WELCOME to 773.645.9335 or email Pastor Aaron (aaron@rescov.org). We'd love to connect with you.
- Children are welcomed and encouraged to join us in the worship service. We provide a nursery for infants (unstaffed) on the main floor and childcare for toddlers in the basement for the duration of worship.
 - Pre-K Activities: Following the Passing of the Peace, Pre-school through Kindergarten aged children are invited to line up in the Narthex for class lasting until communion.
- "Wait for the Lord" is a song that comes from the Taizé Community in France. Begun in 1940, the community is committed to a vision of ecumenism, simplicity, prayer, and peace. As part of their desire for an international community, they developed congregational song built around very simple, repetitive songs in a variety of languages that could be easily picked up by the novice singer. "Wait for the Lord" is a prime example of this approach. The songs are meant to be sung many times, almost becoming a mantra of sorts that leads to community and individual into meditative prayer.
- "Hope" is a song from The Brilliance album *Advent, Vol. 1* with additional lyrics (life, love) added.
- The bulletin art is entitled "Melting Berry Abstract Print" my former ResCover Elizabeth Ahlem Clark. The paint is made from sarcococca berries and snow forged near her home in Bellingham, WA. To see more of her work, visit <https://collectingcolorways.com/>

Advent (meaning "coming") is the season of anticipation, waiting, and preparation that marks the four Sundays preceding Christmas. During Advent we not only remember how the people of Israel waited for a Messiah to come and deliver them from foreign occupation, but we also wait for and anticipate the second coming of Christ when he will come to inaugurate God's kingdom of love, peace, and justice. We live in hope of Christ's coming, preparing ourselves and the world for God's kingdom. The colors of Advent are royal blue and purple, signifying the royal colors that befit the coming Messiah.

Aaron Johnson, Dave Bjorlin, Jen Gillan, and
Kyle Mecher serve as our pastors.



UNEXPECTED REVERSALS



ADVENT

GATHERING

Call to Worship*

The LORD is my light and salvation;
whom shall I fear?

**The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?**

Teach me your way, O LORD,
and lead me on a level path.

**I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living.**

Wait for the LORD;

**be strong, and let your heart take courage;
Wait for the LORD!**

Procession and Lighting of the Advent Candle

(during the lighting we sing the refrain of "Canticle of the Turning")

Song of Faith and Praise*

*Everlasting God
Wait for the Lord*

Prayer of Lament and Confession

Using the verses of O Come, O Come Emmanuel (#120)

~silent confession~

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Passing of the Peace*

The Lord be with you.
And also with you

Song*

Hope

WORD

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 35:1-10

Gospel Lesson*

Matthew 11:2-11

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Sermon

Pastor Judy Peterson

RESPONSE

Hymn*

Prepare the Way, O Zion! (#128)

Prayers of the People

Lord's prayer (*debts, debtors*)

Offering

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Holy Communion

SENDING

Life Together

Charge & Benediction*

*Stand, as you are able