

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 10, 2017

10:00am

Hymns can be found in the New Century (black) hymnal.

\*Please stand as you are able.

### PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Amy Harris

### CALL TO WORSHIP & ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

*Adapted from Isaiah 52:7-9* Sonja Sharp, Jeb, Benjamin, Christian & Jason Keiper

Pastor: As the days grow shorter and the nights longer, as the world seems to grow darker, we gather in the light of Christ,

One: Even as we await the coming of the Christ Child.

**All: We gather to be sustained and restored with joy for this Advent journey.**

Two: How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings!

One: Listen! The faithful are lifting their voices and proclaiming: God reigns!

Two: Burst into songs of joy together, for God will comfort God's people; God will redeem Jerusalem.

**All Singing: Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.**

WELCOME & PRAYER OF INVOCATION Sarah Sarchet Butter

\*OPENING HYMN NO. 104 "We Hail You God's Anointed" (vs 1-3) ELLACOMBE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Liz Garrigan-Byerly

One: Child of Bethlehem,

**All: You were born to a poor family in a harsh world. We confess the harsh realities of our time: poverty, exclusion, misconduct, hunger and homelessness abound. We confess our reflexes are quick to protect our privilege and slow to compassionate action. Solvable problems remain unsolved; resolvable issues remain unresolved. (silence)**

One: In the midst of challenge, Mary and Joseph created a household, cared for one another and faced uncertainty with faith.

**All: We confess our lack of patience for those in our own households. We are not always generous in spirit or supportive in action. We are quick to criticize and slow to forgive. We create barriers, make excuses, and defend our positions, rather than risk honest listening, open sharing, sacrificial love, or the intimacy of true connection with another. (silence)**

One: O God, You are the giver of good gifts.

**All: You promise us hope, peace, joy and love. Oh, how we long for hope in our homes and for our world. Oh, how we yearn for peace in our hearts and among all peoples. Oh, how we crave joy beyond the material happiness our culture advertises. Oh, how we long for love to be real. Come to us, Emmanuel, and make your home among us again. (silence)**

**Sung: O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray,  
Cast out our sin and enter in: be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell,  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.**

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

### \*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The peace of Christ be with you,     **All: and also with you.**

*Please stand and share a greeting of peace with one another.*

*Children may proceed to Children's Church through the doors on piano side of the chancel.*

## ORGAN RESPONSE

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

## SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 11:1-9, responsively

*pew bible page 558*

## MEDITATION IN WORD & SONG



## OUR VILLAGE LIFE AND OFFERINGS

*Please sign and pass the fellowship book, which is located at the end of each pew.*

*Please use the prayer request slips, connection cards, and offering cards found in the blue folders, and place them in the offering plate.*

### Offertory

#### \*Doxology and Presentation

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God all creatures here below;**

**Praise God for all that love has done;**

**Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.**

#### \*Prayer of Dedication

## 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.**

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN NO. 102**

**"O How Shall I Receive You"**

**ST. THEODULPH**

### \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

**"Sonata"**

**Hugo Distler**

*At conclusion of postlude, ALL ARE INVITED TO share in refreshments and conversation in Village Common, located through the doors nearest the pulpit. Please come!*

*Thank you to the Alternative Gift Fair Ministry for hosting today.*

†††

**Alternative Gift Fair -9:30am - 1:00pm**

Purchase meaningful alternative gifts for friends and family by donating to life changing organizations. We hope you've brought your checkbook and you'll give generously!

**Chancel flowers** are given today by Nancy and Bob Payne in loving memory of Nancy's mother.

## Today ~ Advent III

- 9:00am**      **Worship** in the *Chapel*
- 9:30 - 11:30am** **Christmas Sunday Pageant Dress Rehearsal** in the *upper room*  
*Grades 1-5, 6th & 7th grade youth group, Youth Choir*  
and all Christmas Sunday Youth Pageant Participants! (for those youth not in the pageant, we will have a regular youth group on the 2nd floor). Please pick up your child at 11:30am on the 2nd floor.
- 9:30am**      **Parents' Gathering** on *2nd floor* for fellowship and food
- 9:30am-1:00pm** **Alternative Christmas Fair** in *Village Common*
- 10:00am**      **Worship** in the *Sanctuary*  
**Adult Choir Cantata**  
The choir will sing Hugo Distler's "Advent Music", for choir, soloists, oboe, flute, violin, organ and narrator.  
**Children's Church** for Kindergarten and younger in the *Pre-K / K room on the 2nd floor*
- 1:00**            **Wellesley Chinese Language School**, *Upper Level*
- 5:00**            **Christian Meditation Practices**, *Parlor*
- 7 - 8:30pm**    **High School Youth Group**, *Youth Room*

## This Week

- Village Churchwomen Annual Holiday Tea**, *Tuesday, December 12th, 1pm*  
*RSVP by Dec. 11th* to [sallykellogg@verizon.net](mailto:sallykellogg@verizon.net) or sign up in the church office lobby.
- The Village Churchmen's luncheon**, *Thursday, Dec. 14 at noon* (rather than the usual *third Thursday*). All men are invited to these informal gatherings where each brings his own lunch and beverage and joins in spirited conversation with others.
- Men's Book Group**, *Saturday, Dec. 16th, 9am - 11am*, discussing *Zealot* by Reza Aslan  
This group meets regularly. If you're interested in joining please contact Ron Smith at [rwsmithdd@yahoo.com](mailto:rwsmithdd@yahoo.com).

## **“LITTLE ADVENT MUSIC” NOTES**

Hugo Distler was born in Nuremberg and attended Leipzig Conservatory studying piano, organ, conducting and composition. As an established teacher, he taught in Württemberg, then in Berlin. He is known today primarily for his sacred music in the Neo-Baroque style.

“Little” only refers to the number of instruments employed in Advent Music. Distler conducted the first performance on November 29, 1931 at the St. Jacobikirche in Lübeck. He had come to this position directly from his study at the Leipzig Conservatory. At this time Lübeck was highly resistant to Nazi pressures against the church, therefore life for a church musician was difficult for a rising composer. His music was often labeled “degenerate” from some party officials. Distler moved his family to Stuttgart in 1937 and focused more on secular music. There he became more and more depressed over the death of friends, mounting aerial attacks, the daily threats living under Nazi rule, and the pressures of attempting to serve God while trying to appease authorities. Tragically, Distler took his own life at age 34.

*Little Advent Music* is based on the Chorale tune “Nun Komm der Heiden Heliand”, a chorale used during Advent in German churches. The chorale tune appears in our New Century Hymnal, #64, but with a completely different text. The use of flute, oboe and violin provide charm and color as singers and narrators tell the story of Advent.

We hope the intimate chamber music-like quality of this contemplative piece will enrich your Advent.

**David Carrier, Director of music**



# O Come Let Us Adore Him!

## Dec. 17 ~ "Christmas Sunday"

- 10 am Youth Pageant w/ Dr. Mac, Rev. Pam Emslie  
& Michaela McDonald *Sanctuary*
- 5:30 pm "Blue Christmas" w/ Rev. Eric Ogi *Chapel*

## Dec. 24 ~ Christmas Eve


- 10 am Communion & Carols *Chapel*
- 4 pm Children & Family Service *Sanctuary*
- 8 pm Candlelight Service w/ David Carrier  
& Choir *Sanctuary*
- 10 pm Candlelight Service w/ David Carrier,  
Jodi Hitzhusen & Special Music *Sanctuary*

### Giving Notes

Envelopes in the Sanctuary are for offerings to the UCC "Christmas Fund", which supports retired Pastors and Church workers in need. Please consider a gift, perhaps in gratitude for a Pastor or Church worker who has touched your life.

**A special year-end gift** to Wellesley Village Church is a wonderful way to express gratitude for the blessings of the past year and to help the church end the year with financial strength. Please visit our website at [www.wellesleyvillagechurch.org](http://www.wellesleyvillagechurch.org) or call Shawn Doung at: 781-235-1988 ext. 18.

Thank you for ALL of your gifts to Village Church!



"new life starts in the dark"

*BLUE CHRISTMAS:  
A SERVICE OF HEALING*



Sunday, December 17th, 5:30pm  
Wellesley Village Church, Chapel

*a contemplative service for all  
a space to hold darkness, grief, and simply be  
silence, song, scripture, anointing, poetry, prayer*

contact: Rev. Eric Ogi, [eric@wellesleyvillagechurch.org](mailto:eric@wellesleyvillagechurch.org)