

National Avenue is a brave place for all people. We celebrate our diversity of race, creed, religion, cultural backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions. We extend a warm welcome to all this morning, especially those who are worshipping at National Avenue for the first time. Your presence enriches us in this time of celebration together~

will guide us as we strive to live as followers of the way of Jesus.


Silence

Centering Music *Come, Light of Hope* PAGE & SCHAFFERMAN
CHANCEL CHOIR


ReflectionThe Language of the WearyRev. Simmons

Music of ResponseO Come, O Come Emmanuel119

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes and Our Gifts



You are invited to share offering via Paypal (using the QR code on the left) or in the plate as it is passed. You are also invited to share your estimate of giving for 2024 using the QR code on the right.



We invite you to share your offerings of time, passion, energy, and resources. Thank you for investing in Spirituality, Justice, and Community as it comes to life at NACC.

Music of ReflectionThe Advent RoadWAGNER
CHANCEL CHOIR

*Advent DoxologyTHE FIRST NOEL

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.
Noel, noel, noel, noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

Prayer of GratitudeNeil Guion

Sharing the Lord’s Supper

Rev. Jody Furnas-Wright, Rev. Jenn Simmons
with Elders & Deacons

Prayer at the Table

In God, we have a constant source of hope.
Hope as a rainbow for a world in chaos.
Hope as bread for wanderers in the desert.
Hope as a land restored and renewed.
Hope as a baby born long ago.
Hope at a table set with symbols.
It is at this table we remember the child and the man.
A child born in poverty.
A man rich with grace.
The child, a promise of love and salvation.
The man, an invitation to practice forgiveness and grace.
In his last hours, as in his first, Jesus was surrounded by love.
He celebrated the meal
and shared a wonderful new birth of hope.
He said, eat every one of you of this bread.
For this is my body, which is given for you.
He said, drink every one of you of this cup.
For this is the cup of love.
This cup is a new covenant
that is being made new in each season with us.
A covenant of hope,
a covenant of peace,
a covenant of love,
a covenant of joy.

[adapt/lldubrevil]

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Etta Madden

This morning we will receive communion by intinction. You are invited to come forward and to take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup, eat, and leave your toothpick in the bowl. The bread is gluten, nut, and dairy free so all may share at the table. If you would prefer a pre-packaged communion, remain seated and we will bring one to you. All are welcome to share at the table set by Jesus.

Communion Music

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

134

Sending Song

Comfort, Comfort You My People

122

Words for the Journey

Rev. Simmons

So may we know the hope
that is not just for someday
but for this day—
here, now, in this moment
that opens to us:
hope not made of wishes
but of substance,
hope made of sinew and muscle and bone,
hope that has breath and a beating heart,
hope that will not keep quiet and be polite,
hope that knows how to holler
when it is called for,
hope that knows how to sing
when there seems little cause,
hope that raises us from the dead—
not someday, but this day,
every day,
again and
again and
again.

[janrichardson]

Postlude

National Avenue Christian Church

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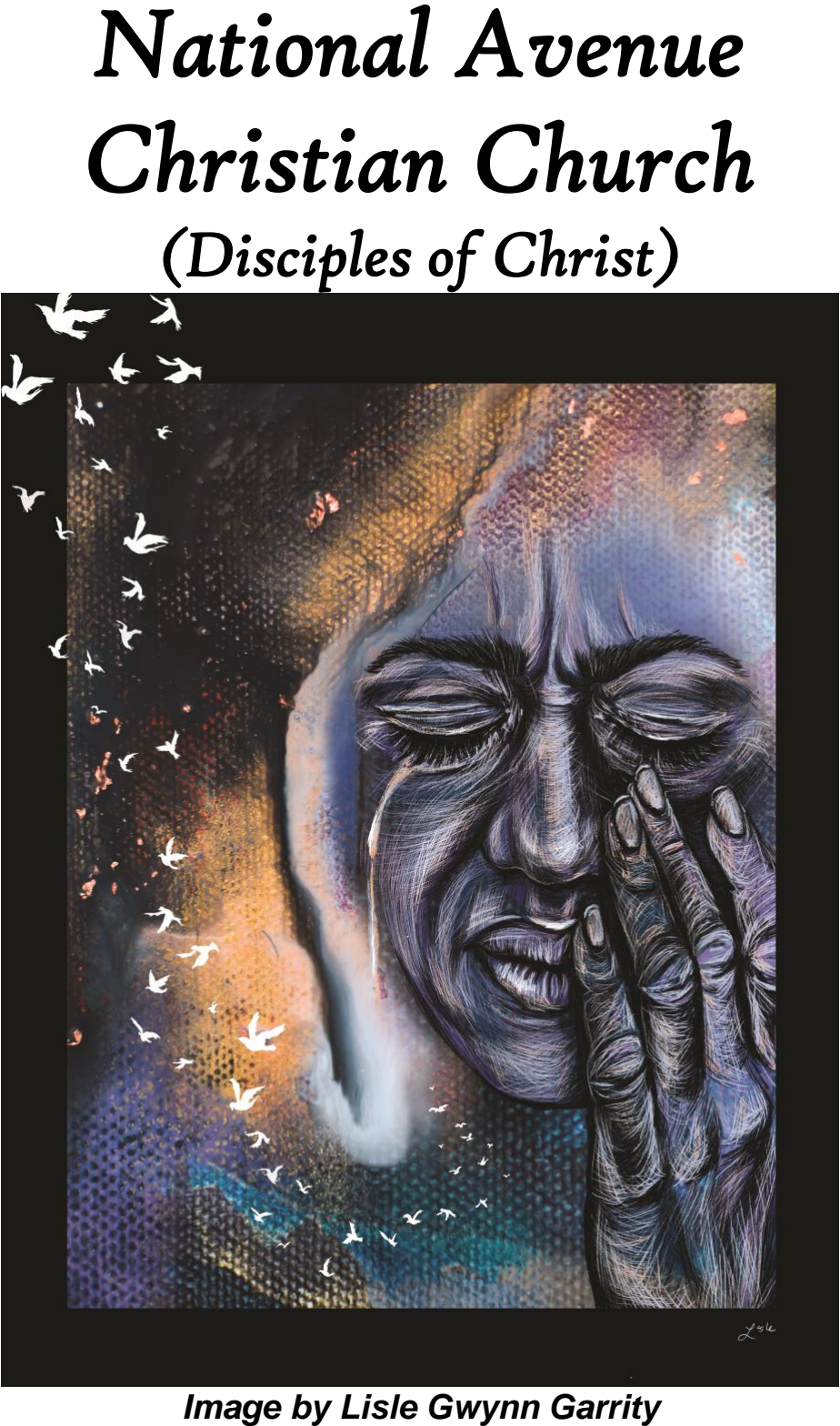
Rev. Jenn Simmons, Lead Pastor | Ashley Quinn

Rev. Jody Furnas-Wright, Adjunct Pastor for Faith Formation with Families

Hayley Norton, Communication Coordinator,

Rohit Choudhary, Technical Director | Sarah Cybulski, Finance Coordinator,

Rev. Dr. John White, Theologian in Residence | Jonathan Raney, Music Director



How Does a Weary World
Rejoice?
Advent Week One: Hope
26 November 2023