

November 29, 2020 • Volume 65, No. 48 Zoom Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. & Worship: 10:00 a.m.



First Sunday of Advent: Those who dream do not fall asleep to the realities of the world. God prompts us to pay attention to where God's dreams for change and new life are emerging. In Advent, we remember that God's ultimate dream is to be intimately connected to us — to come down and dwell among us. As we keep awake, we join Isaiah and the psalmist in pleading for restoration and for God to draw near.

Gathering & Praising God

Those Who Dream

"Those Who Dream" song written and recorded by The Many | Art by Lauren Wright Pittman, Hannah Garrity, & Lisle Gwynn Garrity | Video by Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Call to Worship
Candle Lighting
Prayer for Illumination
Longing for Light (SJ 54)

Dawn Kaczor Good Family Dawn Kaczor

Hearing God's Voice

Scripture: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Children's Time
Scripture: Mark 13:24-37
Sermon: "Being Woke"
Dawn Kaczor
Pastor Dawn Ranck-Hower

Responding

Prayer of Confession Pastor Dawn Ranck-Hower

Original Dreamer,

Over and over again in scripture,

we hear your dream for a beautiful world.

We hear your dream for peace and reconciliation.

We hear your dream for harmony and togetherness.

We hear your dream for community and hope.

We hear your dreams, and yet we do not open our eyes.

We continue to live with the curtains drawn,

the covers pulled tight,

eyes shut to the realities of the world.

Forgive us.

Kindle a hope in us

that will burn through the darkest nights.

Give us the strength and the will

to keep awake in this sleeping world.

With hope we pray, amen.

Keep your lamps trimmed (SS 118)

Sharing and Announcements Pastor Dawn Ranck-Hower

Congregational Prayer

Prayer for Tithes and Offerings

Sending

A Celtic Prayer Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church (Song submitted for zoom worship by Dawn Kaczor)
Benediction: Affirmation of Faith Dawn Kaczor

November 22 (Zoom)

Attendance: 51 • Church Offering: \$1,100.00

As you are able, please mail your offerings to the church office.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

December 4: Eva May

Upcoming Events

All activities are on zoom unless otherwise stated.

Wednesday, December 2: "Shine Bright Club" Zoom, 7 p.m.

Sunday, December 6

Youth/Adult Sunday School: 9-9:50 a.m.

Worship: 10:00 a.m. *Sermon:* Sylvia Shirk

Worship Lead: Brenda Martin Hurst Children's Time: Dawn Ranck-Hower

Congregational Prayer: Dawn Ranck-Hower
Tuesday, December 8: Congregational Meeting
Tuesday, December 15: Congregational Meeting
Monday, December 21: 7 p.m. Longest Night Service
Thursday, December 24: 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
Friday, January 22, 7 p.m. Movie and Chat

Church News

Congregational Meetings (Zoom): Tuesday, December 8 AND December 15. 7 p.m. A meeting to discuss the possibility of renovating the church sanctuary into a multipurpose room in order to share the space with the Early Learning Center children. Attendees and Covenant Members are invited to participate. The final vote (ballot handed out after the December 15 meeting) will be made by Covenant Members who participated in the meetings OR who watch the video of the meeting AND talk to one of the Leadership Team members (Wade Esbenshade, Steven Lantz, Dawn Ranck-Hower, Lois Zimmerman)

Longest Night Service, Monday, December 21, 7 p.m. There's an Advent tradition within Western Christianity of inviting people to come together for the Longest Night, a night around the time of the winter solstice, when there are more hours of dark-

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ness than light. It's a time to come together for prayers and laments, to mourn the losses and griefs of the year, to let the tears flow for the hurting places in our own lives, as well as for our country and our world. Known also as "Blue Christmas," a Longest Night Gathering is a safe and sacred space to share anguish, to plead with God to remember us, to pray for justice and restoration, even to hope against hope, through our doubts and tears and fears, that "God will set things right all over the earth."

Christmas Eve Service, December 24: Outdoors (weather permitting), 5 p.m. A service of singing carols and scripture reading.

Movie and Chat: Bring your popcorn to watch "White Savior: Racism in the American Church" on your computer through zoom (consider hooking it up to your TV). A conversation with others to follow. About "White Savior": Despite the progress many see in the US over the years, it's become increasingly clear that the deep roots of racism and white supremacy continue to run through our political, cultural, and religious institutions. White Savior explores the historic relationship between racism and American Christianity, the ongoing segregation of the church in the US, and the complexities of racial reconciliation.

Community News

Send God's love through MCC hygiene kits: When you purchase and donate basic hygiene items to MCC, you are sending God's love to people affected by war and disasters. MCC and its partners are in need of hygiene kit donations as we continue responding to the most vulnerable people affected by COVID-19. Will you help us? For more information and a full list of hygiene kit contents, visit mcc.org/kits