



Advent at MCCC: 2023

Theme & Devotional: “How does a weary world rejoice?”

MISSION: Donations for the 4C’s and Kids Weekend Meals

Our theme this year--“How does a weary world rejoice” pays homage to a beautiful lyric in “O Holy Night” --“A thrill of hope, a weary world rejoices. From yonder breaks a new and glorious morn...”. In life we are accompanied by both joy and weariness and in this advent season we will acknowledge both. The writers from Sanctified Art powerfully articulate the theme:

“Joy is often a companion to many other emotions. We can feel joy in addition to feeling many other things at once: grief, anticipation, anxiety, excitement, disappointment, exhaustion. Perhaps many of us live with the myth that joy is not something we deserve—or that it is wholly out of reach. But our joy is rooted in the truth that we belong to God. Can you tether yourself to that deep truth? You deserve to feel joy—fully. The world needs your joy, even if you are weary. Our joy is better when it is shared.”

The work of God is always unfolding—in and through us. This Advent season, let’s acknowledge our weariness and express our joy in the midst of the struggles in the world. God’s gifts are all around us and we are called to share hope, peace, joy, and love with one another. May you be greatly blessed this Christmas season.

9:30am Sunday Advent Worship Services

Sanctuary Worship and YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/mantuacentercc/>)

ADVENT CALENDAR

- Sunday, Dec 3 Advent **Hope** - We acknowledge our weariness (Luke 1:1-23)
- Sat, Dec 9* *3-7pm MCCC Christmas Party 🎉 (Childcare Provided)*
Bring a wrapped hand-made gift and a dish to share
- Sunday, Dec 10 Advent **Peace** - We find joy in connection (Luke 1:24-45)
- Sunday, Dec 17 Advent **Joy** - We allow ourselves to be amazed (Luke 1:57-66)
Children’s Pageant 🎄
- Thurs, Dec 21* *7:00pm Longest Night: A Service for the Weary*
Making space for sorrow and grief during the season of joy
- Sunday, Dec 24 Advent **Love** - We sing stories of hope (Luke 1:46-55)
- Sunday, Dec 24 6:45pm - Carol Sing - Join us to sing carols before the service
7:00pm - MCCC Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Traditional Candlelight worship with carols, poetry, and scripture