

Quarantine Quatrains

~ Malcolm Guite

At close of day I hear the gentle rain

Whilst experts on the radio explain

Mind-numbing numbers, rising by the day,

Cyphers of unimaginable pain

Each evening they announce the deadly toll

And patient voices calmly call the roll

I hear the numbers, cannot know the names

Behind each number, mind and heart and soul

Behind each number one beloved face

A light in life whom no-one can replace,

Leaves on this world a signature, a trace,

A gleaning and a memory of grace

All loved and loving, carried to the grave

The ones whom every effort could not save

Amongst them all those carers whose strong love

Bought life for others with the lives they gave.

The sun sets and I find myself in prayer

Lifting aloft the sorrow that we share

Feeling for words of hope amidst despair

I voice my vespers through the quiet air:

O Christ who suffers with us, hold us close,

Deep in the secret garden of the rose,

Raise over us the banner of your love

And raise us up beyond our last repose.

calendar of events

All activities inside the church building are cancelled until further notice! We are open virtually.

worship schedule

Join us next week at 11:00 a.m. via Livestream: <media.sligochurch.org> or on YouTube as Senior Pastor, Charles A. Tapp shares a message titled, "The Disruption of God."

profile of giving - September 5

CHURCH BUDGET: This offering pays for the outreach and nurture ministries of the church and the church school, along with necessary expenses such as utilities and maintenance of the church building.

<u>Last Year:</u>		<u>This Year:</u>	
Sept. 7	\$ 9,106	Sept. 5	\$ 10,606
Sept. 7 YTD	\$ 347,940	Sept. 5 YTD	\$ 347,970

BUDGET FOR SEPTEMBER 5 YTD: \$371,525

CHURCH BUILDING IMPROVEMENT:
Sept. 5 YTD \$ 12,292

BOONSBORO CAPITAL FUND:
Aug. 2019 - Sept. 5 \$ 28,098

TITHE: All of these funds are sent to the Potomac Conference to help expand the Kingdom of God throughout our region and the world.

<u>Last Year:</u>		<u>This Year:</u>	
Sept. 7	\$ 62,557	Sept. 5	\$ 60,784
Sept. 7 YTD	\$1,637,397	Sept. 5 YTD	\$1,616,325

Today's designated offering goes to Local Church Budget. Loose offering goes to Church Budget.

welcome



Welcome to Sligo. Whether you have actually read A Tale of Two Cities, the classic novel by Charles Dickens, or simply skimmed through the Cliff Notes version, like many of us did while in high school, I'm sure that you are at least familiar with the title. A Tale of Two Cities begins with what is probably one of the most famous lines in all of literary history, "It was the best

of times, it was the worst of times..." Although A Tale of Two Cities it is a story about two European cities of London and Paris in the late eighteenth century, during the time of revolution, its overall theme is that of having to deal with the existence of duality in our world. Dickens painstakingly points out the differences between the two cities by making the observation that while there is light in our world, it does not reign supreme but is forced to exist side by side with the forces of darkness. In today's message, our focus will not be about two cities, but rather two kingdoms. And as we shall learn, just as in Dickens' novel, the challenge will be how to navigate in a world where both kingdoms are vying for our hearts.

- Charles A. Tapp

what we believe

We believe the Bible is the inspired word of God and our only rule of faith and practice. As Scripture teaches, we believe God became man in the person of Jesus Christ, saving us from sin by grace through faith. We believe the seventh-day Sabbath was established by God at Creation and honored by Jesus in His earthly ministry as a gift of rest and rejuvenation for all. We celebrate the church as the diverse "new community" forged through the death and resurrection of Jesus, in which all are called, all are gifted, and all are valued. We anticipate Jesus' personal and visible return to earth to raise the righteous dead, make the earth new, and dwell with His faithful children throughout eternity. We live out our love for Jesus by growing in His likeness and by serving our fellowmen.

how you connect

- Take your next step at "Connection Central" in the Atrium
- Do life together: Join a Journey Group
- Fill out a pew menu card and place it in the offering plate
- Visit sligochurch.org/connect2ministry

who can help

PHONE: 301.270.6777 EMERGENCY: 301.980.1009
FAX: 301.270.3518 www.sligochurch.org
Domestic Violence Hotline: 240.777.4000
National Suicide Hotline: 1.800.273.8255

SENIOR PASTOR
Charles A. Tapp, ext. 126 ctapp@sligochurch.org

PASTOR FOR ADMINISTRATION & ADULT MINISTRIES
Don McFarlane, ext. 116 dmcfarlane@sligochurch.org

PASTOR FOR DISCIPLESHIP & CONGREGATIONAL CARE
Pranitha Fielder, ext. 127 pfielder@sligochurch.org

PASTOR FOR YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS
TBD

PASTOR FOR CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES
Hazel Marroquin, ext. 136 hmarroquin@sligochurch.org

PASTOR FOR WORSHIP
Cheryl Wilson-Bridges, ext. 123 cbridges@sligochurch.org

ADVENTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES
Ken Flemmer 301.585.6556

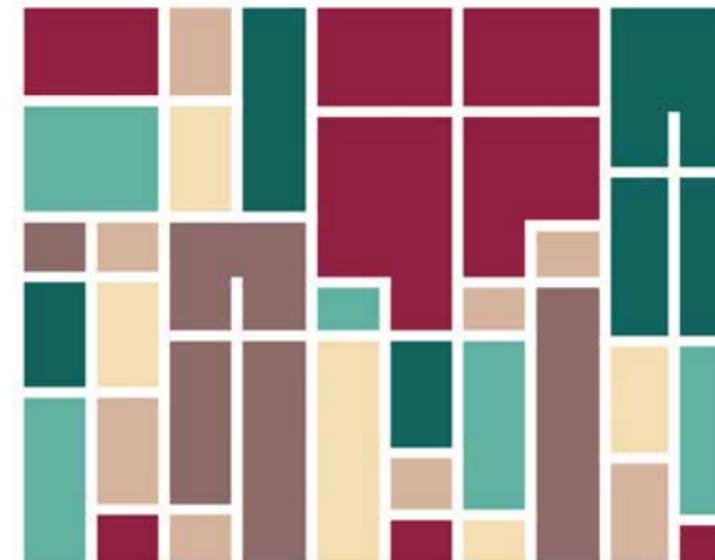
HEAD ELDER
Erwin Mack 301.434.1622

HEAD DEACON
Manuel Rosette 301.370.1255

HEAD DEACONESS
Carol Hooker

7700 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912

THE CHURCH at worship



CHRIST FIRST

SEPTEMBER 12, 2020

8:45 & 11:00 A.M.



The Washington Adventist University Church

OUR MISSION

We seek to grow passionate disciples of Jesus through worship of God, nurture of one another, and outreach to the world.

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

we gather in his name

Song of Gathering

Draw Me Nearer / No. 306

Sligo Live

Don McFarlane

Beyond the Walls

Welcome & Church Life

Gerry Lopez

we honor and praise him

Hymn of Praise

O Worship the King / No. 83

Prayer

Robert Browning

we reflect

Children's Message

Gerry Lopez

Scripture Reading

Relyd Browning

Matthew 6:28-33 (NKJV)

"So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you

Music for Meditation

The Center of My Joy / Richard Smallwood

Sligo Story

A Tale of Two Kingdoms

Sermon

Charles A. Tapp

A Tale of Two Kingdoms

Invitation to Give

Charles A. Tapp

we go to serve

Benediction

Charles A. Tapp

Postlude

Nun danket alle Gott / Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Leading our music today are:

Paul Byssainthe, Jr., organist

Aaron Wilson, chorister

Kelli Collins, vocalist

**"The righteousness of God's Kingdom is the product of God's reign in the human heart. God must reign in our lives now if we are to enter the Kingdom tomorrow." "Love does not mean the abandonment of justice and right; nor is it a sentimental benevolence which does not have the capacity for holy wrath."
– George Ladd**

**"The only way the kingdom of God is going to be manifest in this world before Christ comes is if we manifest it by the way we live as citizens of heaven and subjects of the King. There can be no Kingdom of God in the world without the Kingdom of God in our hearts."
– R. C. Sproul**

**"If the deepest ground of my being is love, then in that very love itself and nowhere else will I find myself, and the world, and my brother (and sister) in Christ. It is not a question of either-or but of all-in-one,...of wholeness... wholeheartedness and unity...which finds the same ground of love in everything."
– Thomas Merton**

THE CHURCH AT STUDY

The Transformative Power of Personal Testimony:

John and James, the sons of Zebedee, were known as the " 'Sons of Thunder' " (Mark 3:17, NKJV). In fact, it was Jesus who gave them their nickname. An illustration of John's fiery disposition took place when Jesus and His disciples were traveling through Samaria. When they tried to find a place of lodging for the night, they met with opposition due to the prejudice of the Samaritans against the Jews. They were refused even the humblest of accommodations.

James and John thought they had the solution to the problem. "When His disciples James and John saw this, they said, 'Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?' " (Luke 9:54, NKJV). Jesus rebuked the brothers, and they all left the village quietly. Jesus' way is the way of love, not combative force. In the presence of Jesus' love, John's impetuosity and anger were transformed to loving-kindness and a gentle, compassionate spirit.

When we are committed to Christ, His love will shine through us to others. The greatest testimony of Christianity is a changed life. This does not mean we will never make mistakes and that we might at times not be the conduits of love and grace that we are supposed to be. But it does mean that, ideally, the love of Christ will flow from our lives, and we will be a blessing to those around us.



sabbath devotional

"The greatest issue facing the world today, with all its heartbreaking needs, is whether those who, by profession or culture, are identified as 'Christians' will become disciples – students, apprentices, practitioners – of Jesus Christ, steadily learning from him how to live the life of the Kingdom of the Heavens into every corner of human existence."
– Dallas Willard

OUR LIFE TOGETHER



Simple Truths for Life: Sligo's Radio Ministry, can be heard each Sabbath morning from 8:30 - 9:00 a.m. on WGTS 91.9 FM. Listen with friends, then invite them to come to church in person at 11:00 a.m. Download past episodes or subscribe to future episodes for free from Simple Truths for Life by Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church from the iTunes Store. You can also go to simpletruthsforlife.org/podcast.

Prayer Requests:

Families of these deceased:

Alex Joseph, Annie Marie Sullivan, Stella Jesudason

For Healing:

Cacilda Couto

We regret to announce the passing of Alex E. Joseph. Alex went to sleep with the Lord on September 8, 2020. The viewing will be held on Sunday, September 13 at Collins Funeral Home from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m., followed by a short service. Collins Funeral Home is located at 500 University Boulevard West, Silver Spring, MD, 20901.

Join us for virtual Prayer Gathering – Contact Pr. Cheryl Wilson-Bridges at cbridges@sligochurch.org for access to the Zoom link. Invite your family and friends for this additional prayer time to claim God's power and peace over the giants we are currently facing.

• Wednesdays from 7:00 - 7:30 p.m. (Zoom call)

• Sundays from 11:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Supporting Ministry - Please continue to support the ministries of Sligo Church during the absence of in-sanctuary worship. You can give your tithe and offerings online via the Sligo Church website (sligochurch.org), by mail to 7700 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, MD, 20912, or in person at the church office. If the office is closed, please use the mailbox on the left wall at the entrance.

Adventist Community Services of Greater Washington

remains open to help families: PLEASE help replenish ACSGW's shortages of hand soap, baby wipes and toothpaste for hygiene kits during pandemic. We also need feminine hygiene products. Drop off at ACSGW, 501 Sligo Ave., Silver Spring, MD. Thank you!

Caring for One Another is an integral part of what it means to be a church family. We want to ensure that our elderly members have their basic needs met during this time of social distancing. Please share with Pranitha Fielder pfielder@sligochurch.org, our congregational care pastor, the name of any elderly member who in your opinion needs the support of the church during these challenging times.