

My Times of Sorrow and of Joy

- Benjamin Beddome

My times of sorrow and of joy,
Great God, are in Thy hand.
My choicest comforts come from Thee,
And go at Thy command.

If Thou shouldst take them all away,
Yet would I not repine;
Before they were possessed by me,
They were entirely Thine.

Nor would I drop a murmuring word,
Though the whole world were gone,
But seek enduring happiness
In Thee, and Thee alone.

What is the world with all its store?
'Tis but a bitter sweet;
When I attempt to pluck the rose
A pricking thorn I meet.

Here perfect bliss can ne'er be found,
The honey's mixed with gall;
Midst changing scenes and dying friends,
Be Thou my all in all.

calendar of events (Children & Family Ministries)

August 14 SWAG-Memorial Chapel 11:00 am
September 11 Children's Church-Memorial Chapel 11:00 am
October 9 SWAG-Memorial Chapel 11:00 am
November 13-Children's Church-Memorial Chapel 11:00 am
December 11-SWAG-Memorial Chapel 11:00 am

VBS Supply Pickup

Virtual VBS July 19-23 6:30-7:30 pm
VBS After Party July 24 Church Parking Lot

worship schedule

Join us next week at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary, via Livestream: <media.sligochurch.org> or on YouTube as Sligo's Pastor for Youth & Young Adults, Jonathan Gantt, shares a message with us.

profile of giving - July 17

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.

Last Year:		This Year:	
July 18	\$ 7,641	July 17	\$ 7,070
July 18 YTD	\$286,074	July 17 YTD	\$ 246,389

BUDGET FOR JULY 17 YTD: \$ 292,973

CHURCH BUILDING IMPROVEMENT:
July 17 YTD \$ 18,143

BOONSBORO CAPITAL FUND:
Aug. 2019 - July 17 YTD \$ 37,812

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

Last Year:		This Year:	
July 18	\$ 58,065	July 17	\$ 39,377
July 18 YTD	\$1,255,703	July 17 YTD	\$1,163,524

Today's designated offering goes to Conference Evangelism/ Education.
Loose offering goes to Church Budget.

worship.nurture.outreach

welcome



Welcome to Sligo Church today. If you are visiting with us, please fill out a pew card and drop it in the offering plate, as we would like to reach out to you in order to become better acquainted. I have had the privilege of working as a pastor in three different parts of the world, namely the Caribbean, the United Kingdom, and now the United States. I have also traveled to at least 60 countries as vacation destinations or in the course of my serving the church. Returning home from one of my trips to Israel, while serving as Field Secretary and Global Missions Director for the Trans-European Division, I said to my wife, Mary, "I discovered that land is land everywhere and people are people everywhere." As human beings we have divided the world along national, political and tribal lines, yet our hopes, aspirations fears and anxieties are generally the same everywhere. For example changing weather patterns are affecting people everywhere, whether or not they have embraced the concept of Climate Change. Ask Germany, Holland and Belgium that recently lost scores of people as a result of flooding, or Oregon and California that have been struggling to contain wildfires. Whatever the size of a community, whether it be the world, a city, a village or even a church, it is imperative for us to work together to achieve common objectives. Our strength as human beings is in acting in solidarity. We welcome to the pulpit today, Dr. Michail Kulakov from the Religion Department of Washington Adventist University, who will enlarge on the concept of our shared origins, our corporate struggles and our common destiny.
- Don McFarlane

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

INTERIM SENIOR PASTOR
Don McFarlane, ext. 116 dmfarlane@sligochurch.org

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

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

PASTOR FOR YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS jgantt@sligochurch.org
Jonathan Gantt, ext. 119

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

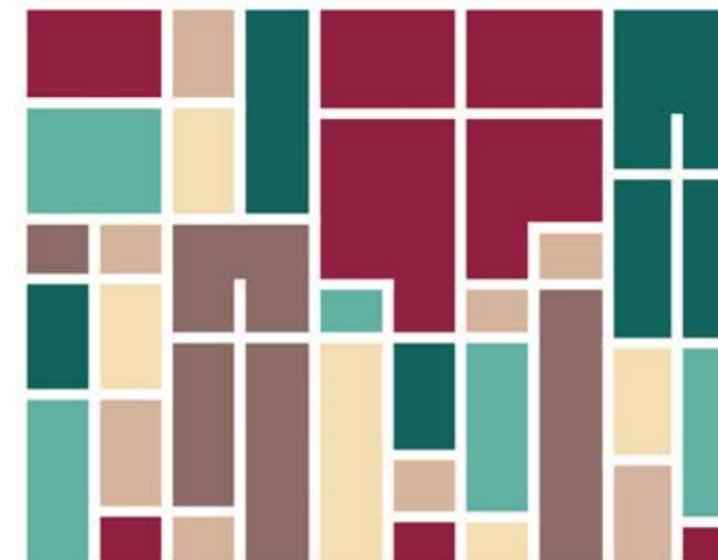
PASTOR FOR WORSHIP
Cheryl Wilson-Bridges, ext. 123 cbridges@sligochurch.org

ADVENTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES HEAD ELDER
Ken Flemmer 301.585.6556 Erwin Mack 301.434.1622

HEAD DEACON HEAD DEACONESS
Manuel Rosette 301.370.1255 Carol Hooker

7700 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912

THE CHURCH at worship



CHRIST FIRST

JULY 24, 2021
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

Morning Has Broken / No. 44

Sligo Live

Don McFarlane

Search Committee

Welcome & Church Life

Hazel Marroquin

we honor and praise him

Hymn of Praise

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise / No. 21

Prayer

Joan Francis

we reflect

Child Dedication

Don McFarlane

Jaxon Myles Webb

Scripture Reading

Ron DeClerck

1 John 4: 19-21 (NRSV)

We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters

James 2:8-9 (NRSV)

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

Music for Meditation

O Divine Redeemer / Charles Gounod

Sermon

Mikhail Kulakov

"Them," "Us" and the Cross

Invitation to Give

Hazel Marroquin

Offertory

Deep River / arr. Moses Hogan

we go to serve

Closing Hymn

Not I, But Christ / No. 570

Benediction

Mikhail Kulakov

Postlude

God of Grace / Paul Manz

Leading our music today are:

Paul Byssainthe, Jr., organist

Aaron Wilson, chorister

Denique Isaac, soloist

“Ultimate reality is a community of persons who know and love one another. That is what the universe, God, history, and life is all about. If you favor money, power, and accomplishment over human relationships, you will dash yourself on the rocks of reality [...]

[it is] impossible [...] to stay fully human if you refuse the cost of forgiveness, the substitutional exchange of love, and the confinements of community.

[...] We believe the world was made by a God who is a community of persons who have loved each other for all eternity. You were made for mutually self-giving, other directed love. Self-centeredness destroys the fabric of what God has made.”

- Timothy Keller

“Jesus Christ lived in the midst of his enemies. At the end all his disciples deserted him. On the Cross he was utterly alone, surrounded by evildoers and mockers. For this cause he had come, to bring peace to the enemies of God. So the Christian, too, belongs not in the seclusion of a cloistered life but in the thick of foes. There is his commission, his work. “The kingdom is to be in the midst of your enemies. And he who will not suffer this does not want to be of the Kingdom of Christ; he wants to be among friends, to sit among roses and lilies, not with the bad people but the devout people. O you blasphemers and betrayers of Christ! If Christ had done what you are doing who would ever have been spared’ (Luther).”

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

THE CHURCH AT STUDY

The Cost of Rest:

Many people seem desperate to find a little peace and quiet. They are willing to pay for it too. In many big cities there are internet-free rooms, which can be rented by the hour. The rules are strict—no noise, no visitors. People are willing to pay to be able to sit quietly and just think or nap. There are sleep pods that can be rented in airports, and noise-reducing earphones are popular items. There are even canvas hoods, or collapsible privacy shields that you can buy to pull over your head and torso for a quick workplace break.

True rest also has a cost. While the spin doctors of the self-help media would like to make us believe that we can determine our own destiny and that rest is just a matter of choice and planning, yet, at least when we consider this honestly, we realize our inability to bring true rest to our hearts. In the fourth-century, Augustine put it succinctly in his famous Confessions (Book 1) as he considered God's grace: “You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless, until they can find rest in you.”

The victorious Christian life is not all about us. It is all about Jesus. We yearn for His presence; we crave His Spirit; we want His joy of salvation. We recognize our need for renewal and restoration. We need His rest—a divine act of re-creation. Creation rest is not far from forgiveness. “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me” (Ps. 51:10, NKJV) uses Creation terminology. In the Old Testament only God can “create” (bara)—and once we have been re-created, we can rest.



sabbath devotional:

“ ... the end is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of the beloved community. It is this type of spirit and this type of love that can transform opponents into friends. ... It is the love of God working in the lives of men.”

- Dr. Martin Luther King

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: Henry & Sharon Fordham, David Foulkes, Mildred Graham, George W. Ssemwezi, Stephania Nayiga, Mary Kintu Ssemwezi

For Healing and Comfort: Fordham family, Elizabeth Tomenko, Mary Nawanga

Receptionists Needed for Church Office: We are looking for members who are willing to volunteer a few hours each week to serve as receptionists in the church office. Duties include answering phones, checking messages, greeting visitors, accepting deliveries and providing support to the pastors and staff as directed by the Office Manager. For further information, please contact Kathleen Driscoll on 301-270-6777, ext. 239 or via <kdriscoll@sligochurch.org>

Join us for virtual Prayer Gathering – Contact Myrna Bas at <myrnarbas@gmail.com> 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. & 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.

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 Praniitha 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.

Adventist Community Services of Greater Washington

(ACSGW) is as essential as ever. Thanks for your faithful & generous support during these past 15 months. You have made a difference for so many neighbors in need. Hygiene items and laundry soap “PODS” requests outstrip the supply. Drop donations in the blue collection bins at 501 Sligo Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Thank you!

Cactusville Virtual Vacation Bible School: Registration is now open at <https://sligochurch.org/vacation-bible-school-2021/> The Bible says in 2 Timothy 1:9, “God has saved us and called us to a holy calling.” The Cactusville program is all about our calling. The children will learn that all of us have been called to follow Jesus... Called to be Different, to be Faithful, to Forgive, to Serve, and to Give. We look forward to exploring Cactusville with you!

Sligo Book Club: Please join us at 7:00 p.m. on 8/11/21 for our Zoom book club discussion. This month we will be discussing Pachinko by Min Jin Lee. Please contact Kay Rosburg at <rosburgkay@gmail.com> to receive the Zoom invite. We look forward to seeing you!