

# More Love to Thee, O Christ

- Elizabeth P. Prentiss (1856)

More love to Thee, O Christ,  
More love to Thee!  
Hear Thou the prayer I make  
On bended knee;  
This is my earnest plea:  
More love, O Christ, to Thee,  
More love to Thee,  
More love to Thee!

Once earthly joy I craved,  
Sought peace and rest;  
Now Thee alone I seek,  
Give what is best;  
This all my prayer shall be:  
More love, O Christ, to Thee,  
More love to Thee,  
More love to Thee!

Then shall my latest breath  
Whisper Thy praise;  
This be the parting cry  
My heart shall raise;  
This still its prayer shall be:  
More love, O Christ, to Thee,  
More love to Thee,  
More love to Thee!

“A deep sense of love and belonging is an irreducible need of all people. We are biologically, cognitively, physically, and spiritually wired to love, to be loved, and to belong. When those needs are not met, we don’t function as we were meant to. We break. We fall apart. We numb. We ache. We hurt others. We get sick.”

- Brene Brown

### worship schedule

Join us next week at 11:00 a.m. via Livestream: <media.sligochurch.org> or on YouTube as Sligo’s Senior Pastor, Alex Barrientos, shares a message titled, “Freedom’s Urge.”

### profile of giving - January 1

**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.

<b>Last Year:</b>	<b>This Year:</b>
Dec. 31 YTD \$ 561,910 (\$12,849 Budget Booster included)	Dec. 31 YTD \$545,802 (\$5,806 Budget Booster included)

**BUDGET FOR DECEMBER 31 YTD:** \$ 570,000

**CHURCH BUILDING IMPROVEMENT:**

May - Dec. 31	\$ 44,400
Dec. 31 YTD	\$ 49,511

**ORGAN REPAIR:**  
May - Dec. 31 YTD \$ 34,276

**BOONSBORO CAPITAL FUND:**  
Aug. 2019 - Dec. 31 YTD \$ 46,217

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

<b>Last Year:</b>	<b>This Year:</b>
Dec. 31 YTD \$2,632,161	Dec. 31 YTD \$2,454,663

Today’s designated offering goes to Religious Liberty. Loose offering goes to Church Budget.

worship.nurture.outreach

### welcome



Welcome to Sligo. Thank you for joining us for online worship. I pray that you and your family are richly blessed. The early days of 2022 have not been pretty for many. Grief, loss, doubt, fear, anxiety, isolation remain a very real experience in the lives of so many.

Every new year grants to us possibilities of recreating, reappropriating, and reevaluating old customs that were unfruitful for one’s well-being. This year at Sligo we will focus on three themes: Connect. Heal. Trust. God is able to do ‘exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think,’ and it is because of this that we can approach subjects, themes, conversations that need to be had among our community. The attempt is to positively engage personal stories, adjust the reach of the church’s capacity to heal, hear one another, and create connections where we thought there was only empty space. Join us as we introduce our themes this morning. May the Lord lead us this year to Connect. Heal. Trust.

- Alex Barrientos

### 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**  
Alex Barrientos, ext. 126      abarrientos@sligochurch.org

**PASTOR FOR ADMINISTRATION & ADULT MINISTRIES**  
TBD

**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

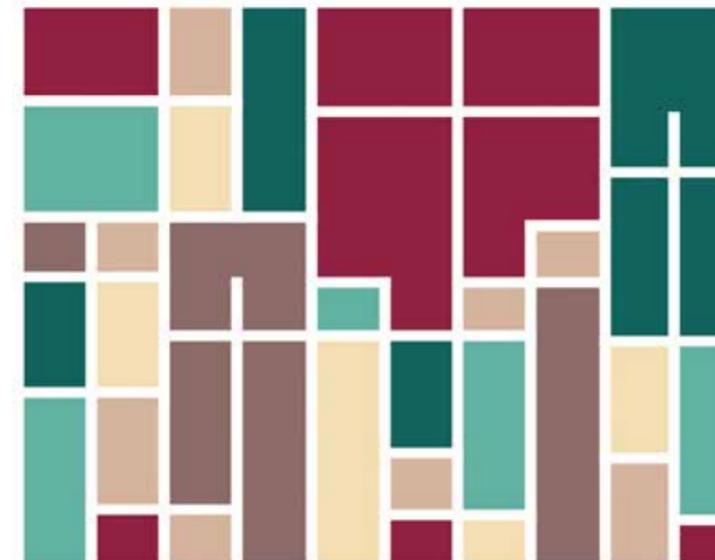
**PASTOR FOR WORSHIP**  
Cheryl Wilson-Bridges, ext. 123      cbridges@sligochurch.org

**ADVENTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES**      **HEAD ELDER**  
Ken Flemmer 301.585.6556      James Gulley

**HEAD DEACON**      **HEAD DEACONESS**  
Manuel Rosette 301.370.1255      Carol Hooker

7700 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912

## THE CHURCH at worship



### CHRIST FIRST

JANUARY 8, 2022  
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

More Love to Thee / No.458

#### Sligo Live

Covid-19 Update

Pranitha Fielder

#### Welcome & Church Life

Terri Jo Hayes

#### Baptism

Damian and Tanika Webb

Hazel Marroquin

### we honor and praise him

#### Hymn of Praise

Holy, Holy, Holy/ No. 73

#### Prayer

Seth Ewoo

### we reflect

#### Children's Message

Hazel Marroquin

#### Scripture Reading

Jessica Ewoo

Revelation 22: 1-4 (NRSV)

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.

#### Music for Meditation

Oh, What a Beautiful City / arr. Edward Boatner

#### Sermon

Alex Barrientos

The Healing of the Nations

#### Invitation to Give

Terri Jo Hayes

### we go to serve

#### Benediction

Alex Barrientos

#### Postlude

Toccata on "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart" / Albert L. Travis

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#### Leading our music today are:

Paul Byssainthe, Jr, organist & pianist

Aaron Wilson, chorister

Denique Isaac, vocalist

## This World is not Conclusion

- Emily Dickinson (1830 – 1886)

This world is not conclusion;  
A sequel stands beyond,  
Invisible, as music,  
But positive, as sound.  
It beckons and it baffles;  
Philosophies don't know,  
And through a riddle, at the last,  
Sagacity must go.  
To guess it puzzles scholars;  
To gain it, men have shown  
Contempt of generations,  
And crucifixion known.

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## The Loadstone

- Francis Quarles (1592–1644)

Eternal God! O Thou that only art  
The sacred fountain of eternal light,  
And blessed loadstone of my better part,  
O Thou my heart's desire, my soul's delight!  
Reflect upon my soul, and touch my heart;  
And then my heart shall prize no good above Thee,  
And then my soul shall know Thee; knowing, love Thee;  
And then my trembling thoughts shall never start  
From thy commands, or swerve the least degree,  
Or once presume to move, but as they move in Thee

## THE CHURCH AT STUDY

## The Message of Hebrews:

A Jewish document written a few decades after Hebrews, around a.d. 100, contains a prayer: "All this I have spoken before you, O Lord, because you have said that it was for us that you created this world. . . . And now, O Lord, behold, these nations, which are reputed as nothing, domineer over us and devour us. But we your people, whom you have called your first-born, only begotten, zealous for you, and most dear, have been given into their hands."—James H. Charlesworth, ed., *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha*, vol. 1 (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1983), p. 536.

The readers of Hebrews probably felt something similar. If they were God's children, why were they going through such suffering?

Thus, Paul wrote Hebrews to strengthen the faith of the believers amid their trials. He reminded them (and us) that the promises of God will be fulfilled through Jesus, who is seated at the right hand of the Father, and who will soon take us home. In the meantime, Jesus mediates the Father's blessings to us. So, we need to hold fast to our faith until the end.



### sabbath devotional:

"it is a relation and nothing else. To be more precise, freedom is a relation between two persons. Being free means "being-free-for-the-other" because I am bound to the other. Only by being in relation with the other I am free."

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Creation and Fall*, p. 63

## 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:** Johnny B. Rayavarapu, Israel Castro

**For Healing & Comfort:** Margarita Cohello, Jesús Llacsa, Jennifer Tyndaal

**Memorial Service:** A celebration of the life of Israel "Tate" Castro will take place on February 12, 2022. The service will be held in the Sanctuary at 3:00 p.m.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Sligo Book Club:** Please join us on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. for our Zoom book club discussion. This month we will be discussing "Sea People: The Puzzle of Polynesia" by Christina Thompson. Please contact Kay Rosburg at <rosburgkay@gmail.com> to receive the Zoom invite. We look forward to seeing you!

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"Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours."

- Teresa of Avila