

Advent Preparation Prayer Walk

At the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

Presented by:



COMMUNITY
COVENANT CHURCH
DISCOVER, LIVE, AND SHARE THE LOVE OF JESUS

"Find a quiet, secluded place so you won't be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace."

-Matthew 6:6 The Message

Take this time to prayerfully meditate on the reflections and prayer prompts for each stop on the walk.

You will need a Bible or access to a Bible app.

We recommend stopping at the museum information desk for a map.

The Nelson Atkins Museum hours

Wed: 10am-5pm

Thur: 10am-9pm

Fri: 10am-9pm

Sat: 10am-5pm

Sun: 10am-5pm

Mon-Tues: CLOSED

Go by yourself or with a group. If with a group, this prayer walk was meant to be done quietly.

Snap a pic and share it on our church Facebook page!

facebook.com/communitychurchlenexa/





Stop #1: (Light Trap) by Anselm Kiefer
MAP LOCATION: G, L6

REFLECTION:

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.”

-Genesis 1:1+2

Read the info to the right of this piece. After reading you might think this a strange place to begin. Yet this IS in fact the beginning...chaos, formlessness, emptiness, darkness.

Reflect on that for a moment. What seems chaotic in your life? What seems to have no form, no purpose? What makes you feel empty? Now remember this...God hovers of the dark. He enters in...and you know what comes next.

PRAY:

Eternal God-

Where there is darkness and chaos, in the places and situations that I can't see purpose...bring light. Show me your salvation. For I know that you are good. Amen.

SPEND TIME IN SILENCE BEFORE MOVING ON



Stop #2: Untitled by Iván Navarro
MAP LOCATION: G, L1

REFLECTION:

"When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'" -John 8:12

"In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." -John 1:4+5

What do you see when you look at this piece? Infinite void or infinite light? Isaiah was called the "good news prophet" and yet no one listened to him. Why? Maybe because the Israelites had become too accustomed to bad news. Can you relate? Do you expect good things from God? Do you see infinite light or infinite void?

PRAY:

Good Father-

Teach how to expect and accept good things from you. Show me what it means to SEE and BE the "light of life" as Jesus is. Amen.

SPEND TIME IN SILENCE BEFORE MOVING ON



Stop #3: Water Lillies by Claude Monet
MAP LOCATION: G, P27

REFLECTION:

Read Genesis 1. What does God declare the work of each day to be? Let me give you a hint. It isn't bad :) IT'S ALL GOOD! Even VERY GOOD!

As you view this beautiful painting imagine the painter beginning it in one spot with a single stroke of blue and then imagine the goodness spreading over the entire canvas. This what goodness does.

Remember, Jesus came to this world as a solitary, inconspicuous baby amidst many babies. He came in a solitary, inconspicuous town amongst many towns. Yet his goodness spread, and is still spreading today.

Now imagine yourself as the painter, beginning your painting with a single stroke. How will that beauty spread across the canvas of your life, church, community?

PRAY:

Lord Jesus-

Have mercy on me, a sinner. Cleanse me of my sin and use me to spread you light. Amen.

SPEND TIME IN SILENCE BEFORE MOVING ON



STOP #4 (LAST STOP): Adoration of the Magi
by Gherardo di Jacopo Starna
MAP LOCATION: G, P5

REFLECTION:

Read Luke 2. What correlations do you see between this story and the story of Creation from Genesis. Do you see darkness or chaos? Do you see God entering in?

Take time to walk around this area of the museum. You will see sculptures, paintings, windows, etc. all portraying the story of Jesus. How does this make you feel? As you ponder Luke 2 and know the journey that is to come for the Christ Child do you feel overwhelmed? Sad? Sit with that emotion for a bit.

Then remember that the Advent season is a time for adoration. Isn't it cool to know that during this season we are directed and welcomed to NOT get ahead of ourselves. As we head into Advent let us remember to simply **ADORE HIM!!**

PRAY:

Christ Jesus-

I adore you. You are hope. My strength. My light in the darkness. You give me so much. How could I ask for more? So all I ask now is to learn to love you more. Amen.

SPEND TIME IN SILENCE BEFORE WRAPPING UP YOUR PRAYER WALK EXPERIENCE. PEACE BE WITH YOU