



The People of Washington Avenue Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
gathered for a

Service of Worship and Installation

Sunday, March 3, 2019, 3 p.m.
Transfiguration Sunday

Chiming the Hour

Dr. Al Travis

Greeting

Ms. Kimberly Wilhelm

The Lord is with you. **And with you also.**

Call to Worship

Ms. Wilhelm

Lift up your hearts...
We lift them to the Lord.

Prelude

Dr. Travis

Meditation of Preparation

"The call to ministry in the church is God's act, and that fact must not be compromised. In choosing and calling the church, and through the church choosing and calling ministers as servants of the Word, God reveals Godself. This is the event of election. Success is not the measure of the call of God, nor a substitute for it."

--Stephen V. Sprinkle, *Ordination: Celebrating the Gift of Ministry*

*Hymn of Praise

Love Divine All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav'n, to earth come down,
fix in us Thy humble dwelling; all Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love Thou art;
visit us with Thy salvation; enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all Thy life receive;
suddenly return and never, nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
pray and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

Peace abundant, grace fulfilling, mercies daily new we find.
Patient God, O make us willing to bestow such gifts in kind.
Wasteful love that Thou hast given, freely serving all humankind.
As we count ourselves forgiven, may we so give love divine.

Finish then Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee.
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

*Invocation

Ms. Wilhelm

The Hebrew Bible Reading

Exodus 34:29-35

Rev. Dr. Valerie Forstman

Hymn of Prayer 305

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

CHILDREN PRAYING

Prayer

Ms. Wilhelm

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN.

Anthem

Be Thou My Vision

Chancel Choir

The Epistle Reading

2 Corinthians 3:12-13, 17-18; 4:1-2

Rev. Dr. Katie Hays

Sermon

With Unveiled Faces

Rev. Dr. Hays

Discipline of Silence

"On the occasion of his retirement, Harry Emerson Fosdick said, 'If I had a thousand lives to live in this century, I would go into parish ministry with every one of them.' ...I'm not sure I could go quite as far... But with just one life to live on this earth, I am grateful that God has called me to be a pastor. And I am staying."

--Martin Copenhaver, *This Odd and Wondrous Calling* by Copenhaver and Lillian Daniel

The Presentation

Ms. Wilhelm

Covenant of Installation

Rev. Eugene James, Congregation, and Rev. Nathan A. Russell

EJ: There are different gifts,

All: But it is the same Spirit who gives them.

EJ: There are different ways of serving God,

All: But it is the same God who is served.

EJ: Each one is given a gift by the one Spirit,

All: To use for the common good.

EJ: Together we are the body of Christ,

All: And individually members with one another.

EJ: Within our common ministry some members are chosen for particular work as ministers of the Word. They are ordained to a representative ministry and charged:

to lead in transmitting the Christian tradition from one generation to another;

to interpret the scriptures and proclaim the gospel of Christ;

to administer the sacraments, serving to maintain a company of Christians in continuity with the life and faith of the apostles;

to serve God's people with pastoral care and to share in the strengthening of the church in its life and mission; and,

to act as pioneers and leaders in the church's reconciling work in the world.

We now come to this moment in which one of the church's ordained ministers, having been called with due seriousness to minister within this congregation, is to be officially received and installed to this office.

**The congregation will stand.*

EJ: Having called the Rev. Russell to be your minister, do you renew your baptismal vow and commit yourself to support him with your prayers and shared responsibilities?

All: We reaffirm our baptism and our commitment to Jesus the Christ and our loyalty to Christ's church. We covenant to uphold our pastor with our prayers; to share his joys and sorrows; to attend to his preaching and teaching of God's word; to welcome his pastoral care; and, honor his leadership.

NR: Standing with you, I promise to be your pastor; and in the strength and grace of Jesus Christ I covenant to serve this congregation in all faithfulness for the glory of God.

*Installation Prayer

Rev. James

Life-giving, loving, and liberating God, give us the grace to do the work to which you have called us in Jesus Christ. Fill this community of faith by your Spirit, that it may work together as one people to be the body of Christ in his reconciling ministry. Blend together the variety of gifts manifested within this congregation to strengthen its fellowship for service to the world. In solidarity with all your people of every time and place we pray that your will may be done here on earth through our worship, witness, and work. We ask this in the spirit of Jesus Christ, who gave his life that others may live. Amen.

*The Declaration

Rev. James

In the name of Jesus Christ, the head of the church, I declare you properly installed as minister of this congregation; and I commend you to the grace of God in the discharge of all your duties as a minister of the gospel. May God count you worthy of your calling and bring to fulfillment in you every good purpose and every act inspired by faith.

Hymn of Communion 403

In Remembrance of Me

RED

Invitation to Commune

Rev. Russell

The Elder's Prayer

Ms. Lauri Warfield

Words of Institution

Rev. Russell

Hymn of Sending 2

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

Benediction

Rev. Russell

Postlude

Dr. Travis

And all the people said...

AMEN!

*The people will rise as able in body or in spirit.