



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

## Worship of God

January 5, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.: Epiphany Sunday

Chiming the Hour

Mr. Evan Collins

Greeting

Rev. Nathan A. Russell

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

We pass the friendship register as a way of welcoming one another to this time of sacred worship.

Call to Worship

Rev. Russell

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

Prelude

*We Three Kings*

The Whitechapel Ringers

Meditation of Preparation

"I wonder if it was the Star itself / That hid in the night's sky when / The wise men rode their camels / Into Jerusalem asking everyone / Who would talk / Where they might find Him / Who was born king of the Jews / For heaven knows / No Herod can abide light / So the Light hid in darkness / And the darkness, / To its credit, / Did not out it"

--Ryon Price

\*Hymn of Praise 173

*As With Gladness*

DIX

\*Invocation

Mr. Bob Rieth

Honoring of Acolytes and Bible Presentation

Ms. Debbie Walker

Hymn of Prayer

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*O God of Light, May Our Light Shine†*

O God of light, may our light shine in ways that serve and hon - or you.  
 God, where your peo - ple are op - pressed and where they cry out in des - pair,  
 Christ, when your way is pushed a - side by those who trust in wealth and might,  
 O Spir - it, in this world of doubt, we of - ten sin and drift a - way;

May we be lov - ing, just, and kind, pro - claim - ing Christ in all we do.  
 Make us your light to heal, to bless, a wit - ness, Lord, that you are there.  
 Make us your lamps that we may guide a search - ing world to your love's light.  
 When our own faith is flick - ring out, shine on our path and light our way.

Prayers of the People

Rev. Russell

When our own faith is flickering out...  
**Shine on our path and light our way.**

The Lord's Prayer

All

**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.**

Congregational Response 312                      *Amen*                      AMEN

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts                      Mr. Rieth  
Our regular tithes and offerings support the budgeted ministries of WACC.

Anthem                      *Seekers of Light*                      Chancel Choir

\*Doxology 149                      *Doxology*                      REGENT SQUARE  
**All creation, join in praising God the Parent, Spirit, Son;  
Evermore our voices raising to th' eternal three in one.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Worship Christ, the one who reigns.**  
(Children age three through fifth grade depart for Children: Worship & Wonder.)

The Reading                      Matthew 2:1-12                      Rev. Russell  
For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon                      Learning to Walk in the Dark                      Rev. Russell

Discipline of Silence  
"When the song of the angels is stilled, / When the star in the sky is gone, / When the kings  
and the princes are home, / When the shepherds are back with their flocks, / The work of  
Christmas begins: / To find the lost, / To heal the broken, / To feed the hungry, / To release  
the prisoner, / To rebuild the nations, / To bring peace among people, / To make music in  
the heart."  
--Howard Thurman

Hymn of Communion 415                      *Now the Silence*                      NOW

Invitation to Commune                      Rev. Russell

The Elder's Prayer                      Ms. Barbara Terrell

The Words of Institution                      Rev. Russell  
Please come forward to share in Communion. Partake by breaking off a piece of bread and dipping it  
in the cup. (The bread is gluten-free.) If you are unable to come forward, someone will come to you.

Invitation to Discipleship                      Rev. Russell

\*Hymn of Discipleship 605

CHARLESTOWN

*For Each New Day of Life We Thank You*

Affirmation of Responses 341

Rev. Russell

Pastoral Benediction and Charge

Rev. Russell

Postlude

*Seek Ye First*  
And all the people said...  
**AMEN!**

Mr. Collins

We Go to Love and Serve from Our Doorsteps to the Ends of the Earth

\*The people may rise in body and spirit as able.

†Hymn text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

#### CALENDAR

- Today: 10:45 a.m. - Sunday School followed by removal of the greens (refreshments available)  
*January speakers include—*  
5—*Chrissy Stonebraker-Martinez, InterReligious Task Force*  
12—*Dale Jones, Salvation Army's Mentoring Program*  
19—*Liyana Asmar, Genesis House ("Silent Witnesses" traveling memorial will be on premises for viewing January 15-22)*  
26—*Rev. Kris Eggert, God Before Guns*
- Mon., 1/6: 11:00 a.m. - Visitation for Shawn Stevens, followed by 1 p.m. service, at Laubenthal Mercado Funeral Home  
6:00 p.m. - Worship Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room
- Tue., 1/7: 6:00 p.m. - Special called Board meeting in the youth rooms (proposed 2020 budget)
- Wed., 1/8: 5:30 p.m. - Weekly youth group (gr. 6-12) supper and gathering in Fellowship Hall and the youth rooms  
7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary

Today's image is *The Three Kings* by He Qi, [www.heqiart.com](http://www.heqiart.com).

