



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

## Worship of God

March 1, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.: First Sunday in Lent

Chiming the Hour

Mr. Evan Collins

Greeting

Rev. Nathan 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!**

Meditation of Preparation

"We need the tonic of wildness... At the same time that we are earnest to explore and learn all things, we require that all things be mysterious and unexplorable, that land and sea be indefinitely wild, unsurveyed and unfathomed by us because unfathomable. We can never have enough of nature."

--Henry David Thoreau, *Walden: Or, Life in the Woods*

\*Hymn of Praise

O Lord, You Were Sent†

FOUNDATION

Our Lord, you were sent to a place wild and vast  
 How could it be wrong to want bread on the shelf?  
 How could it be wrong to step out and to dare,  
 Our Lord, in your struggle you chose to obey;  
 To ponder your mission, to pray and to fast;  
 To seek in one's serving, to serve one's self?  
 To prove with great drama the depths of God's care?  
 To shake hands with sin and a chieve vic - to - ry?  
 God's word filled your heart and you trust - ed God's way.  
 Then hun - gry and wea - ry, you faced night and day  
 But by God's own word, you re - mained ev - er sure:  
 But you knew God's it, clear word, that since all time be - gan:  
 Yet you made it, clear word, that no mat - ter the cost:  
 Now you rise, you save us, that us from sin that de - stroys;

The sub - tle temp - ta - tions to turn from God's way.  
 It's on - ly in God that our lives are se - cure.  
 It's wrong to ex - pect God to work by our plan.  
 Your path was o - be - dience, your way was the cross.  
 You give us your Spir - it, your peace and your joy.

\*Invocation

Dr. Chad Vickers

Hymn of Prayer 249

Spirit

SPIRIT

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Russell and Congregation

Lord God, you know the ways of good and evil. You know the things that tempt us and the things that give us life. You know our nakedness, and you know our sin. We confess that we have disobeyed your word, denying your providence and care and relying on our own cleverness. Have mercy on us, we pray: cover us with your grace, feed us with the bread of life, and re-create us in your image; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Prayers of the People

Spirit of God...  
Lead us on our Lenten journey.

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.**

Congregational Response 312

*Amen*

AMEN

Children age three through fifth grade depart for Children Worship & Wonder.

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts

Dr. Vickers

Our regular tithes and offerings support the budgeted ministries of WACC.

Anthem

*Walk Along Beside Me, O My Lord*

Chancel Choir

\*Doxology

ST. BRENDAN'S

**All praise to the Sovereign, from whom all things come,  
And all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,  
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.  
This our hymn of thanksgiving, let us sing once again  
This our hymn of thanksgiving, let us sing: Amen!**

The Reading

Matthew 4:1-11

Rev. Russell

For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Led by the Spirit

Rev. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"The number forty carries special significance in Scripture, particularly in its deliverance stories. Rather than an exact enumeration of time, forty symbolizes a prolonged period of hardship, waiting, and wandering—a liminal space between the start of something and its fruition that often brings God's people into the wilderness, into the wild unknown."

--Rachel Held Evans, *Inspired*

Hymn of Communion 387 *Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken* EUCHARISTIC HYMN

Invitation to Commune	Rev. Russell
The Elder's Prayer	Ms. Polly Simmons
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 489 <i>Bless Now, O God, the Journey</i> BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR	
Affirmation of Responses 341	Rev. Russell
Pastoral Benediction and Charge	Rev. Russell
Postlude	Mr. Collins
<i>BWV 674</i>	
And all the people said...	
<b>AMEN!</b>	

## 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.

Today's image is *A Choice* by Lauren Wright Pittman, [www.lewpstudio.com](http://www.lewpstudio.com).

†Hymn text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

### CALENDAR

- Today, 3/1: 11:00 a.m. - Sunday School in Fellowship Hall (Discovery Hour with Rev. Ron Dauphin, *The Parables of Jesus*, plus Whitechapel Ringers rehearsal)  
5:30 p.m. - WACC Orchestra rehearsal  
5:55 p.m. - Livestream worship with Galileo Church
- Tue., 3/3: 6:00 p.m. - Property Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room
- Wed., 3/4: 10:00 a.m. - Lenten study, *A Bigger Table*, in the youth rooms  
5:30 p.m. - Weekly youth group (gr. 6-12) supper and gathering in Fellowship Hall and the youth rooms  
6:30 p.m. - Lent vespers service  
7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary
- Sat., 3/7: 4:00 p.m. - Jesus and Dr. Seuss (faith formational class for ages 3-12 and their parents)  
12:00 a.m. - Daylight Saving Time begins (set clocks *forward* one hour before retiring)

Flowers in the chancel are in memory of Elizabeth "Libby" Hughes on what would have been her 40<sup>th</sup> birthday (2/29/80-12/1/82), with love from Polly Simmons and family.

