



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

Worship of God

March 8, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.: Second 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!

Prelude

Reflection

Mr. Collins

Meditation of Preparation

"I'm trying to be a Christian... I'm always amazed when people walk up to me and say, 'I'm a Christian.' I think, 'Already? You already got it?' I'm working at it, which means that I try to be as kind and fair and generous and respectful and courteous to every human being."

--Maya Angelou, 2010 Presidential Medal of Freedom Recipient

*Hymn of Praise 14

Womb of Life, and Source of Being

IN BABILONE

*Invocation

Mr. Abe Reshad

Hymn of Prayer 212

In Suffering Love

BELMONT

Prayer of Confession

All

Gracious God, we come before you in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not. We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers, preferring old habits to risky change. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to be born again into the life of Christ, trusting that you have included us by grace in the family of faith.

Prayers of the People

Gracious God...
Let us be born again.

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 306

Hear Our Prayer

HEAR OUR PRAYER

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

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts		Mr. Reshad
	Our regular tithes and offerings support the budgeted ministries of WACC.	
Anthem	<i>God So Loved the World</i>	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	John 3:1-17	Rev. Russell
	For the Word of God in its promise and covenant... Thanks be to God.	
Sermon	Nick at Nite	Rev. Russell
Discipline of Silence		
	"When the teacher asks you a question, you are supposed to give the right answer, for which you will get points, or strokes, or both—the explicit and implicit rewards of knowing the right answer. But what if Jesus is not that kind of teacher? What if his purpose is not to enlighten Nicodemus but to endarken him, establishing the limits of what humans can know about God and what we cannot?"	
		--Barbara Brown Taylor, <i>Holy Envy</i>
Hymn of Communion 486	<i>Who Is My Mother, Who Is My Brother?</i>	KINDRED
Invitation to Commune		Rev. Russell
The Elder's Prayer		Ms. Carol McIntyre
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 (insert)		NETTLETON
	<i>Who on Earth Can Find God's Kingdom?†</i>	

Affirmation of Responses 341

Rev. Russell

Pastoral Benediction and Charge

Rev. Russell

Postlude

Orchestra Dismissal
And all the people said...
AMEN!

WACC Orchestra

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 *Born Again*, © Lauren Wright Pittman, www.lewpstudio.com.

†Hymn text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

CALENDAR

- Today, 3/8: 11:00 a.m. - Sunday School in the youth rooms: *The Parables of Jesus*
- Whitechapel Ringers rehearsal in the chancel
5:55 p.m. - Livestream worship with Galileo Church in the youth rooms
- Mon., 3/9: 4:00 p.m. - Christian Education Committee meeting in the Elders' conference room
- Tue., 3/10: 5:30 p.m. - Elders' supper meeting in the Elders' conference room
7:00 p.m. - Board meeting in the youth rooms
- Wed., 3/11: 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. - Lenten vespers service
7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary
- Sat., 3/14: 4:00 p.m. - *Jesus and Dr. Seuss* (final class)

