



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

## Worship of God

May 24, 2020, 9:30 a.m.: Ascension Sunday

Chiming the Hour

Mr. Evan Collins

Greeting

Rev. Nathan A. Russell

Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed!**

Call to Worship

Rev. Russell

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

Prelude

*Now the Spring Has Come Again*

Mr. Collins

Meditation for Preparation

"How can you know what is missing if you've never met it? You must know of something's existence before you can notice its absence."

--E.L. Konigsburg, *The View from Saturday*

Hymn of Praise

*O Christ, When You Ascended<sup>d</sup>*

ST. THEODULPH

Invocation

Rev. Dennis Schmidt

Hymn of Prayer 656

*God of Freedom, God of Justice*

TREDEGAR

Prayers of the People

God of freedom and justice...  
**Open us to each other's needs.**

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 593

*Lead Me, Lord*

LEAD ME LORD

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts

Rev. Russell

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

Offertory

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Mr. Collins

Doxology 715                      *Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven*                      NUN DANKET  
All praise and thanks to God our Father and our Mother,  
to Christ and to the One who binds us to each other,  
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore,  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

The Reading                                      Acts 1:1-11                                      Rev. Russell  
For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon                                      Look Up; Look Out                                      Rev. Russell

### Discipline of Silence

"I don't know, Jesus. I guess I just can't get over how miraculous and infuriating and profound and ridiculous it is that you trust us, that the God of the universe allows sinners to do [the] work. It's quite an unconventional plan. There are days when I'm convinced it's going to fail. But we won't know until we try, right? So I suppose that on Ascension Day, I best quit standing here staring at the bottoms of your feet, Jesus, and instead get to work—feeding, fellowshiping, healing, teaching, loving, hosting, sharing, breaking bread and pouring wine. One day at a time. Ready or not."

--Rachel Held Evans

Hymn of Communion 403                      *In Remembrance of Me*                                      RED

Invitation to Commune    Rev. Russell

Prayer    Ms. Sandy Rieth

Words of Institution    Rev. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship 633                      *Lead On, O Cloud of Presence*                                      LANCASHIRE

Pastoral Benediction and Charge    Rev. Russell

Postlude                                      *How Majestic Is Your Name*                                      Mr. Collins  
And all the people said...  
**AMEN!**

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

Today's image is *The Ascension*, 1973. JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings was selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings.

†Hymn text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Flowers in the chancel are in memory of Patricia Siffert Lewis  
from the Siffert Family and Benny & Kathy Greer.

### OTHER EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today, 5/24: 9:30 a.m. - Online, #VirtualWorship premiere\*  
Mon., 5/25: Memorial Day observed (church office closed)  
7:00 p.m. - Online *Children's Corner: Lessons from the Heart* premiere\*\*  
Tue., 5/26: 7:45 a.m. - Devotional gathering with *The Upper Room* (on Zoom)\*\*\*  
4:00 p.m. - Outreach Committee meeting (on Zoom)  
Wed., 5/27: 7:00 p.m. - Online, #VirtualWorship vespers premiere\*  
Thu., 5/28: 10:00 a.m. - All-Church Social Hour (on Zoom)\*\*\*\*

\*All Sunday morning worship services (9:30 a.m.) and Wednesday vespers (7 p.m.) may be experienced online at: [waccelyria.org/online](http://waccelyria.org/online)  
All services remain online on our [YouTube channel](#) for your viewing convenience.

\*\*All Monday (7 p.m.) *Children's Corner: Lessons from the Heart* premieres may be experienced online at: [waccelyria.org/childrenscorner](http://waccelyria.org/childrenscorner)

\*\*\*Register here for our Tuesday, 7:45 a.m. devotional times (on Zoom) at: [waccelyria.org/upperroom](http://waccelyria.org/upperroom)

\*\*\*\*Contact the church office to obtain the Zoom meeting code for this gathering

Prayer requests may be submitted by contacting the church office or online at: [waccelyria.org/pray](http://waccelyria.org/pray)

Contributions may be submitted to the church office or online at: [waccelyria.org/give](http://waccelyria.org/give)

