



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

## Worship of God

November 8, 2020, 9:30am: The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Chiming the Hour

Mr. Evan Collins

Greeting

Rev. Nathan A. Russell

The Spirit of God is with you!  
**And also with you!**

Call to Worship

Rev. Russell

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

Prelude

*All Are Welcome*

Mr. Collins

Meditation for Preparation

"Think about that the next time someone says we don't need the Old Testament, that's the old covenant, God has given us a new covenant in Christ Jesus. Jeremiah spoke of a new covenant and it's not in the back of our pews. That new covenant is a new beginning in an old relationship. It is God's active, guiding, accompanying, leading presence on our journey but we haven't arrived yet. We are not yet where we shall be but we are on our way. We are also not where we were. We have moved forward. And we are still on our journey."

--Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney, *Torah In Our Midst (Again): A New Covenant*

Hymn of Praise 67

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

ST. ANNE

Invocation

Mr. Ken Oblak

Hymn of Prayer

*The Summons*

KELVINGROVE

Prayers of the People

Call us by name, O God...  
**And inspire us to live in covenant with you.**

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 306

*Hear Our Prayer*

HEAR OUR PRAYER

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts

Rev. Russell

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

Offertory

*They'll Know We Are Christians*

Mr. Collins

Doxology 528

*Give Thanks*

GIVE THANKS

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because God's given Jesus Christ, God's son.  
And now let the weak say "I am strong;" let the poor say, "I am rich,"  
Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!**

The Reading

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Rev. Russell

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

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Whom Will You Serve?

Rev. Allen V. Harris

Discipline of Silence

"There is one word in the Hebrew Bible that everywhere describes the character of God. That word is hesed and it is everywhere in the biblical text. For a long time we translated it as "loving kindness." Then we discovered that it is a covenantal word. It refers to a mutual commitment that God has made to God's people, a solemn promise of loyalty through thick and thin. So now we translate it as "steadfast love," not puppy love or romantic love, but the durable commitment of two parties who stay with each other."

--Rev. Dr. Walter Brueggemann, *Two Sided Tenacious Solidarity*

Hymn of Communion 581

*Near to the Heart of God*

McAFEE

Invitation to Commune

Rev. Russell

Elder's Prayer

Ms. Jen Sweeten

Words of Institution

Rev. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship

*Together We Serve*

SAN ANSELMO

Pastoral Benediction and Charge

Rev. Russell

Postlude

*Dear God, Embracing Humankind*

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 artwork is *Joshua 24:15* by Ivan Guaderrama.

### OTHER EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Today, 11/8: 9:30am - Energetic, Liturgical Worship\*
- Mon., 11/9: 6pm - Worship Committee meeting (on Zoom)  
7pm - Online *Children's Corner: Lessons from the Heart* premiere\*\*
- Tue., 11/10: 7:45am - Devotional gathering for *The Upper Room* (on Zoom)\*\*\*  
5:30pm - Elders' gathering (on Zoom)  
7pm - Board meeting (on Zoom)
- Wed., 11/11: 7pm - theAlternative\*

\*Sunday and Wednesday opportunities for worship premiere at their respective times on our website and YouTube channel (see [waccelyria.org/online](http://waccelyria.org/online)). Past services are available on our website and [YouTube channel](#).

\*\**Children's Corner: Lessons from the Heart* premieres online at: [waccelyria.org/childrenscorner](http://waccelyria.org/childrenscorner). Past episodes are available on our [YouTube channel](#).

\*\*\*First-timers will want to register at [waccelyria.org](http://waccelyria.org) for these online, weekly devotional gatherings

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)

