



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

Worship of God

March 7, 2021, 9:30am: Third Sunday in Lent

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

Gather Us In

Mr. Collins

Meditation for Preparation

“In order to rise from its own ashes, a Phoenix first must burn.”

--Octavia Butler, *Parable of the Sower*

Hymn of Praise 672

Where Restless Crowds Are Thronging

MEIRIONYDD

Invocation

Ms. Jan Moore

Hymn of Prayer

When Christ Went to the Temple

LLANGLOFFAN

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, how fickle we are; we sin against you without even knowing it. Clear us, we pray, of any unknown sin, and save us from willfully ignoring your way. Let your commandments rule and guide us. Forgive us for worshiping anyone or anything except you; keep us faithful. Forgive us for failing to honor all our relationships—with those closest to us and those who are distant neighbors. Help us to speak words of blessing and kindness, rather than words that belittle or demean, or destroy. Turn us away from violence, falsehood, and selfishness. Forgive us for thinking everything depends on our efforts and power, for you are the God who made us, led us out of enslavement, and has brought us into the community of faith. Help us to depend on you alone and to rest in your peace. In Christ’s name we pray.

Prayers of the People

God who loves the nations...

Call us all to pray.

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

Hear Now the Prayer We Offer

PASSION CHORALE

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts

Rev. Russell

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

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| Offertory | <i>Grace Moves in Rhythms</i> | Mr. Collins |
| Doxology 200 | <i>Doxology</i> | WONDROUS LOVE |
| <p>To God and to the Lamb we will sing, we will sing, to God and to the Lamb we will sing! To God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I AM," while millions join the theme, we will sing, we will sing, while millions join the theme, we will sing!</p> | | |
| The Reading | John 2:13-22 For the Word of God in its promise and covenant... Thanks be to God. | Rev. Russell |
| Sermon | <i>From Memory to Hope</i> | Rev. Russell |
| Discipline of Silence | <p>"Memory believes before knowing remembers. Believes longer than recollects, longer than knowing even wonders." --William Faulkner, <i>Light in August</i></p> | |
| Hymn of Communion | <i>Come to the Table of Grace</i> | TABLE OF GRACE |
| Invitation to Commune | | Rev. Russell |
| Elder's Prayer | | Ms. Carol McIntyre |
| Words of Institution | | Rev. Russell |
| Hymn of Discipleship | <i>With a Word, You Birthed Creation</i> | VERBUM |
| Benediction and Charge | | Rev. Russell |
| Postlude | <i>Prère à Notre-Dame from Suite Gothique</i> And all the people said... AMEN! | Mr. Collins |

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

Jesus drives out the merchants by JESUS MAFA. 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.

OTHER EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Today, 3/7: 9:30am - Energetic, Liturgical Worship*
- Mon., 3/8: 4:40pm - Christian Education Committee meeting (Zoom)
7pm - Lenten Study: Dr. Jennifer Harvey's *Dear White Christians* (Zoom)
7pm - *Children's Corner: Lessons from the Heart* premiere**
- Tue., 3/9: 7:45am - Devotional gathering for *The Upper Room* (Zoom)***
5:30pm - Elders' meeting (Zoom)
7pm - Board meeting
- Wed., 3/10: 7pm - theAlternative*
- Thu., 3/11: 10am - All-Church Social Hour (on Zoom)****
4pm - Church Life & Growth Committee meeting (on Zoom)

*Sunday and Wednesday opportunities for worship premiere at their respective times on our website and YouTube channel (see 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. Past episodes are available on our [YouTube channel](#).

***First-timers will want to register at waccelyria.org for these online, weekly devotional gatherings.

****Contact the church office for log-in information for this bi-weekly, online chat.

Prayer requests may be submitted by contacting the church office or online at: waccelyria.org/pray

Contributions may be submitted to the church office or online at: waccelyria.org/give

