



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

Worship of God

January 2, 2022, 9:30am: Epiphany Sunday

Chiming the Hour

The Atwood Carillon

Greeting

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

Rev. Nathan A. Russell

Call to Worship

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

Rev. Russell

Prelude

Mr. Evan Collins

Meditation for Preparation

"Will you come and see the light from the stable door? It is shining newly bright, though it shone before. It will be your guiding star; it will show you who you are. Will you hide, or decide to meet the light?"

--Brian Wren, *Will You Come and See the Light*

Hymn of Praise (Insert)

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN
O Day of Radiant Gladness¹

Invocation

Ms. Debbie Walker

Hymn of Prayer 175

Lovely Star in the Sky

HANURE BINNANUN

Prayers of the People

God of night and star...
Be our true guide.

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 Hear the Prayers We've Spoken²

NOËL NOUVELET

Hear the prayers we've spo-ken and make haste to save! Let your ten-der mer-cies, guide us all our
 days. We see the star and trust that Christ is near. As we strive to fol-low, help us not to fear.

O Day of Radiant Gladness

O This day of ra - diant glad - ness, O day of joy and light. O This day at the cre - a - tion, the light first had its birth; This day, God's peo - ple meet - ing, the Ho - ly Scrip - ture hear; That light our hope sus - tain - ing, we walk the pil - grim way, at balm of care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright; this day for our sal - va - tion, Christ rose from depths of earth; liv - ing pres - ence greet - ing, through bread and wine made near. We length our rest at - tain - ing, our end - less Sab - bath day. We day the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune, sing, day our Lord vic - to - rious the Spi - rit sent from heaven, and jour - ney on, be - liev - ing, re - newed with heaven - ly might, from sing to thee our prais - es, Cre - a - tor, Spi - rit, Son; the Church its voice up - rais - es to a thes - tre of light. Tri - une. given. light. One.

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts

Rev. Russell

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

Offertory

Mr. Collins

Doxology

Doxology

THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God for gifts of hope and peace, praise God for gifts of joy and love, praise God for sending Christ to dwell on earth for us – Emmanuel. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel. Born is the king of Israel.

The Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

Rev. Russell

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Meeting Light in the Dark

Rev. Russell

Discipline of Silence

“Will you join the hope, alight in a young girl’s eyes, of the mighty put to flight by a baby’s cries? When the lowest and the least are the foremost at the feast, will you hide, or decide to meet the light?”

--Brian Wren, *Will You Come and See the Light*

Hymn of Communion

COVENTRY CAROL

*Lully, Lullay, Thou Little Tiny Child*³

Lul - ly lul - lay, thou lit - tle ti - ny child, by by, lul - ly lu - lay.

O sis - ters, too, how may we do for to pre - serve this day this
Her - od, the king, in his rag - ing, charg - ed he hath this day his
That woe is me, poor child for thee! And ev - er morn and day, for

poor young - ling, for whom we do sing, by by, lul - ly lul - lay?
men of might, nei - ther in his say nor sight, all young chil - dren to slay.
they part - ing nei - ther say nor sing by by, lul - ly lul - lay!

Invitation to Commune

Rev. Russell

Prayer at the Table		Mr. Dan Clark
Words of Institution		Rev. Russell
Invitation to Discipleship		Rev. Russell
Hymn of Discipleship 172	<i>We Three Kings</i>	KINGS OF ORIENT
Benediction and Charge		Rev. Russell
Postlude		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 *Shining Hope* (2016) acrylic on canvas by Lauren Wright Pittman. Inspired by Matt. 2: 7-12. After a long journey, the star hovers, suspended over the wise men's destination. Shining Hope images the joy of this moment and reminds us to revel in wonder of the journey itself.

¹Words by Christopher Wordsworth and Charles Price

²Words by Nathan A. Russell, 2021

³Words by Robert Croo

EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Today, 1/2: 9:30am - Energetic, liturgical worship in the sanctuary
11am - *Two or More* scripture discussion group in the Gibbens conference room
6pm - YouTube premiere of the 9:30am worship service
- Mon., 1/3: 3pm - Worship Committee meeting (hybrid)
6-8pm - Labyrinth open
7pm - YouTube premiere of *Children's Corner: Lessons from the Heart*
- Tue., 1/4: 7:45am - Devotional gathering for *The Upper Room* (on Zoom)*
- Wed., 1/5: 7pm - YouTube premiere of theAlternative

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



We are thrilled that you are worshipping God with us in-person and/or online. Scan this QR code with a smartphone to register your attendance, submit a prayer request, and make an online contribution.

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