

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

Worship of God

January 9, 2022, 9:30am: First Sunday after the Epiphany

Chiming the Hour The Atwood Carillon

Greeting The Spirit of God is with you! Rev. Nathan A. Russell And also with you!

Call to Worship Lift up your hearts... Rev. Russell

We lift them to the Lord!

Prelude Mr. Jason Falkofsky

Meditation for Preparation

"It's the way of all ancient stories. The young man must go 'down' in order to find the right path for going 'up.' Call it the 'time of ashes.' In some African tribes the young boys must cover their faces with ashes before their initiation into manhood. In certain Nordic cultures the young boys used to sit down in the ashes by the fire in the center of the lodge house until they were ready to take on their adult role. And everybody knows about Cinderella, the girl who had to tend to the cinders and do all the other lowly chores until her true identity became known."

--Sidney Poitier, The Measure of a Man

Jesus' Parents Left the Temple¹ Hymn of Praise (Insert)

W ZLOBIE LEZY

Ms. Kathy Wainwright

Invocation

O God of Every Shining Constellation **VICAR**

Prayers of the People

Hymn of Prayer 55

O God of Every Shining Constellation... Grant us your Spirit's true illumination.

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 313

Amen

STAINER

Rev. Russell Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts Our regular tithes and offerings support the budgeted ministries of WACC.

Offertory

Mr. Falkofsky

Doxology

HYMN TO JOY

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are thine; teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Jesus' Parents Left the Temple



Luke 2:41-51

Rev. Russell

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

All Who Heard Him Were Amazed

Rev. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"Dear Child of God, I write these words because we all experience sadness, we all come at times to despair, and we all lose hope that the suffering in our lives and in the world will ever end. I want to share with you my faith and my understanding that this suffering can be transformed and redeemed. There is no such thing as a totally hopeless case. Our God is an expert at dealing with chaos, with brokenness, with all the worst that we can imagine. God created order out of disorder, cosmos out of chaos, and God can do so always, can do so now--in our personal lives and in our lives as nations, globally. ... Indeed, God is transforming the world now--through us--because God loves us."

--Desmond Tutu, God Has a Dream



Invitation to Commune

Rev. Russell

Prayer at the Table

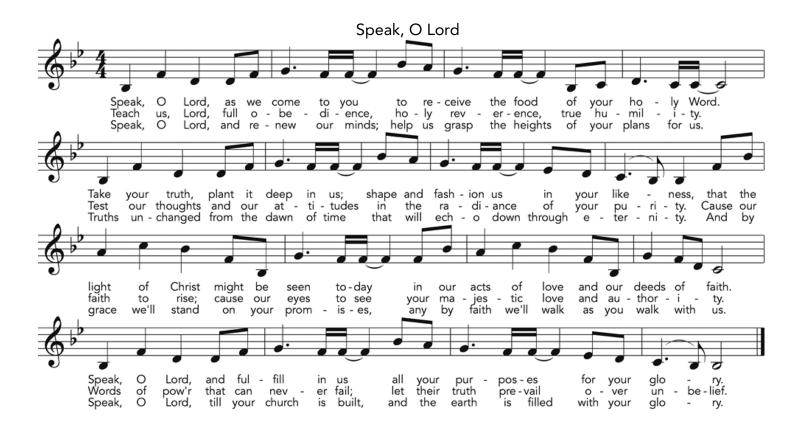
Mr. Mark Mathes

Words of Institution

Rev. Russell

Invitation to Discipleship

Rev. Russell



Benediction and Charge

Rev. Russell

Postlude

Mr. Falkofsky

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 *Jesus among the teachers*, 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.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today, 1/9: 9:30am - Energetic, liturgical worship in the sanctuary

11am - Two or More scripture discussion group in the Gibbens room

6pm - YouTube premiere of the 9:30am worship service

Mon., 1/10: 7pm - YouTube premiere of Children's Corner: Lessons from the Heart

Tue., 1/11: 7:45am - Devotional gathering for *The Upper Room* (on Zoom)*

5:30pm - Elders' meeting in the Elders' conference room (hybrid)

7pm - Board meeting in the music room (hybrid)

Wed., 1/12: 7pm - YouTube premiere of theAlternative

Thu., 1/13: 10am - Social Hour (on Zoom)**

^{**}Contact the church office for the link to this bi-weekly, online chat.



We are thrilled that you are worshiping 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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¹Words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

²Words by Joy F. Patterson

³Words by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

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