



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

Worship of God

January 30, 2022, 9:30am: The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

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

Carol

Ms. Linda Bohnert; Mr. Evan Collins

Meditation for Preparation

"Baptism reminds us that there's no ladder to holiness to climb, no self-improvement plan to follow. It's just death and resurrection, over and over again, day after day, as God reaches down into our deepest graves and with the same power that raised Jesus from the dead wrests us from our pride, our apathy, our fear, our prejudice, our anger, our hurt, and our despair."

--Rachel Held Evans, *Searching for Sunday*

Hymn of Praise 14

Womb of Life, and Source of Being

IN BABILONE

Invocation

Mr. Ken Oblak

Hymn of Prayer

O God, Great Womb¹

LEAVENING

O God, great womb of won-drous love, your Spir - it mov - ing on the deep
 O hearth, O heart-beat of the whole, your dark light dance be - gan the times,
 O fire, O for - ma - ment and sea, your seeth - ing fer - ment's en - er - gy
 O si - lent soul, O mind and strength, your cen - ter did con - ceive and bear
 Now come with rest, O Sab - bath sun, O sanc - tu - ar - y, sa - cred home;

did wake a world with - in your - self, a puls - ing, light - ed world, from sleep.
 the days and sea - sons, sec - onds, years, the ag - es' rhy - thms and the rhymes.
 called forth a whirl - ing waltz of life, each plant and crea - ture and its seed.
 its ev - 'ry gen - der im - age self; all hu - man form, one breath to share.
 we groan till all is grown com - plete, ful - filled, at peace, O great sha - lom.

Prayers of the People

Great womb of wondrous love...
Let us know your peace and shalom.

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 311

Amen

DRESDEN

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts		Rev. Russell
	Our regular tithes and offerings support the budgeted ministries of WACC.	
Offertory	Ms. Bohnert; Mr. John Bohnert; Mr. Collins <i>Vocal Duet</i>	
Doxology		OURS THE JOURNEY
	Take, O God, the gifts we offer, use them for your reign to bring justice that will flow like fountains, life from your abundant spring. God, you are our holy parent, and we sing our thanks to you. Let us see your future dawning, your world made anew.	
The Reading	Luke 3:21-38	Rev. Russell
	For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...	
	Thanks be to God.	
Sermon	<i>Baptized into What?</i>	Rev. Russell
Discipline of Silence	<p>“‘Dearly beloved,’ he began. They were the words that started weddings, not baptisms, but the people in the church were his beloved, so dear that as he spoke his heart and throat grew tight... Together, they would send all of these young people out into a world they knew was full of injury and hard to bear. Somehow, they would wave and wish them well and have faith that they would avoid the worst of the darkness, live mostly in the light.”</p> <p>--Cara Wall, <i>The Dearly Beloved</i></p>	
Hymn of Communion (Insert)	<i>There Is a Line of Women</i> ²	ACCEPTANCE
Invitation to Commune		Rev. Russell
Prayer at the Table		Ms. Megan Rowe
Words of Institution		Rev. Russell
Invitation to Discipleship		Rev. Russell
Hymn of Discipleship 686		SURSUM CORDA
	<i>Of Women and of Women’s Hopes We Sing</i>	

There Is a Line of Women



There is a line of wom - en ex - tend - ing back to Eve
 So sing a song of Sa - rah to laugh - ter she gave birth;
 There is a line of wom - en who stood by Je - sus' side,
 So sing a song of An - na who saw Christ's in - fant face;



whose role in shap - ing hist' - ry God on - ly could con - ceive;
 and sing a song of Ta - mar who stood for wom - en's worth;
 and who housed him a while he mini - stered and held for when he died;
 and sing a song of Mar - tha who gave him food and space;



and though through end - less ag - es their wit - ness was re - pressed,
 and sing a song claimed he'd Han - nah who bar - gained with her Lord;
 and though they of all the Ma - rys who news was deemed sus - pect
 and sing of all the Ma - rys who heed - ed his re - quests



God val - ued a song in - spired them through whom the world was blessed.
 and sing Je - sus stood a - mong them who bore the and bred God's Word.
 and now at heav - en's ban - quet are Je - sus' fond - est e - lect. guests.

Benediction and Charge

Rev. Russell

Postlude

In the Bleak Midwinter
And all the people said...
AMEN!

Ms. Bohnert; Mr. Collins

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

Today's artwork is *John Baptizes Jesus* (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.

¹Words by Harris J. Loewen

²Words by John L. Bell

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today, 1/30: 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., 1/31: 7pm - YouTube premiere of *Children's Corner: Lessons from the Heart*
Tue., 2/1: 7:45am - Devotional gathering for *The Upper Room* (on Zoom)*
Wed., 2/2: 7pm - YouTube premiere of theAlternative
Thu., 2/3: 6:30pm - Pastoral Relations Committee meeting (on Zoom)

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



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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