



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

## Worship of God

March 20, 2022, 9:30am: The Third Sunday in Lent

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

*Be Still*

Diana Tyler

## Meditation for Preparation

"The world is full of painful stories. Sometimes it seems as though there aren't any other kind and yet I found myself thinking how beautiful that glint of water was through the trees."

—Octavia Butler, *Parable of the Sower*

Hymn of Praise 697

*Creative God, You Spread the Earth*

KINGSFOLD

Invocation

Ms. Bonnie Jackson

Hymn of Prayer (Insert)

*O Christ, Our Lord, Create in Us<sup>1</sup>*

RETREAT

## Prayer of Confession

**God, whose grace redeems our story, we remember the garden of Eden, and we'd like to return there, where we can tend and till the land without feeling that the soil is working against us. However, we are afraid. Feelings of guilt and shame weigh us down so that we would rather hide from you than walk with you. And yet, you come and seek us, calling us by our names. There is a certain grace in hearing your voice. We know that your love is both a promise and covenant that holds us accountable to your way for us. However, we often choose what we want instead. Ego gets the best of us, and we think we can do life on our own without you and without each other. May your forgiveness free us from the past and transform us into a restored and renewed humanity that seeks the future you want and ultimately will have.**

Prayers of the People

O Christ, our Lord...  
Redeem our life and story.

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 504

*Know Us, Mind of Jesus*

SOUTHWELL



Know us, mind of Je sus, and show us all our sin; dis - pel the mem - o - ries of guilt and bring us peace with - in.

## O Christ, Our Lord, Create in Us



O Christ, our Lord, cre - ate in us the peo - ple we are meant to be. Our  
O Lord, may ev - 'ry soul em - brace the won - ders of your match - less grace. From  
O Christ, make vis - i - ble your church, as all for life and mean - ing search. Your  
Em - man - u - el, O Prince of Peace, to ev - 'ry na - tion bring re - lease. Beat



souls es - tranged, we're prone to sin; re - deem our life, with - out, with - in.  
guilt and fear each one set free; cre - ate a new hu - man - i - ty.  
will be done! O set a - flame that fel - low - ship which bears your name.  
from each sword a plow - share strong; your king - dom come: our prayer, our song.

Offering of Ourselves, Our Tithes, and Our Gifts Our regular tithes and offerings support the budgeted ministries of WACC.		Rev. Russell
Offertory	<i>Learn to Be Still</i>	Diana Tyler
Doxology 200		WONDROUS LOVE
	<b>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!</b>	
The Reading	Genesis 3:8-21 For the Word of God in its promise and covenant... <b>Thanks be to God.</b>	Rev. Russell
Sermon	<i>Back to the Garden: Telling Stories</i>	Rev. Russell
Discipline of Silence		
	"It is absolutely crucial, therefore, to keep in constant touch with what is going on in your own life's story and to pay close attention to what is going on in the stories of others' lives. If God is present anywhere, it is in those stories that God is present. If God is not present in those stories, then they are scarcely worth telling." —Frederick Buechner, <i>Whistling in the Dark</i>	
Hymn of Communion 384	<i>Here at Thy Table, Lord</i>	BREAD OF LIFE
Invitation to Commune		Rev. Russell
Prayer at the Table		Mr. Mark Mathes
Words of Institution		Rev. Russell
Invitation to Discipleship		Rev. Russell
Hymn of Discipleship (Insert)	<i>Mighty God Who Called Creation<sup>2</sup></i>	WEISSE FLAGGEN
Benediction and Charge		Rev. Russell

# Mighty God Who Called Creation



Might - y God who called cre - a - tion from the un - formed womb of space,  
As we wor - ship, may your Spir - it breathe through us the pow'r of prayer,  
Root - ed in the love of Je - sus, nour - ished by his flesh and blood,  
Keep us faith - ful, joy - ful, lov - ing, filled with hope through grief and pain,



new - born worlds of gleam - ing glo - ry, fresh with hope and ripe with grace:  
words of life for dai - ly liv - ing, strength to do and faith to dare.  
may we prove a fruit - ful vine - yard, joined in mut - ual serv - ant - hood.  
know - ing that the One who made us has re - deemed and will sus - tain:



speak a - gain with power and prom - ise when the storms of fear in - crease;  
Come, en - flame us, Ho - ly Spir - it, like the church at Pen - te - cost;  
Work through us, O ris - en Sav - ior, to reap peace from fields of strife;  
Tri - une God, of bound - less glo - ry, yet in hu - man form made known,



to our cha - os and con - fu - sion let your light and truth bring peace.  
help us bear the light of bless - ing to the least, the last the lost.  
bring our bar - ren wastes to blos - som; lead us out of death to life.  
raise us up to be a peo - ple called by love to be your own.

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

Today's artwork is *Losing Paradise* by He Qi. © 2022 [heqiart.com](http://heqiart.com)

<sup>1</sup>Words by Chester E. Custer

<sup>2</sup>Words by Carl P. Daw, Jr.

### EVENTS THIS WEEK

- |              |          |   |
|--------------|----------|---|
| Today, 3/20: | 9:30am   | - Energetic, liturgical worship in the sanctuary<br>(labyrinth available for walking immediately following worship) |
|              | 11am     | - <i>Two Or More</i> scripture discussion group in the Gibbens room   |
|              | 6pm      | - YouTube premiere of the 9:30am worship service  |
| Mon., 3/21:  | 4pm      | - Justice League meeting in the Elders' conference room   |
|              | 7pm      | - Lenten Study (on Zoom)<br>- YouTube premiere of <i>Children's Corner: Lessons from the Heart</i>                  |
| Tue., 3/22:  | 7:45am   | - Devotional gathering for <i>The Upper Room</i> (on Zoom)*   |
|              | 6:30pm   | - Christian Education Committee meeting (hybrid)  |
| Wed., 3/23:  | 10am-2pm | - Labyrinth available   |
|              | 7pm      | - YouTube premiere of theAlternative  |
| Thu., 3/24:  | 10am     | - Social Hour (on Zoom)**   |
| Fri., 3/25:  | 7pm      | - Sanctuary in use (cello recital)  |

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

\*\*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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