



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

Worship of God

March 27, 2022, 9:30am: The Fourth 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

Ms. Kathy Wainwright

Meditation for Preparation

"In *Starry Night*, van Gogh created an image of divine love and of the glory and immensity of the cosmos. In the painting, man's [cis] temporal and terrestrial existence is contrasted with the immutable and eternal nature of cosmic time. Van Gogh found hope and comfort in the stars; the immutable cycling of the stars in their courses and the phases of the moon intimated immortality."

–Hope Werness, *Whitman and van Gogh*

Hymn of Praise 10

Bring Many Names

WESTCHASE

Invocation

Ms. Sharon Siffert

Hymn of Prayer 510

Out of the Depths

DEPTHS

Prayer of Confession

God whose love goes beyond the highest star and reaches to the lowest hell, we feel that we live in the tension between these disparate distances. Sometimes we know unbounded joy, sometimes we know profound despair, oftentimes we're caught somewhere in the middle, and we do not always know where we are. And yet, your love finds us wherever we are and does not leave us where it found us. Forgive us for the known and unknown ways in which we have sinned against you and our neighbors. When we fail, strengthen us. When we are afraid, guide us. And when we doubt, help us trust that your love for the whole wide world is the very best, most beautiful, gospel-good news.

Prayers of the People

God of the loving heart...
Meet us with your grace.

The Lord's Prayer 307

MALOTTE

Our Father, which 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.

Invitation to Stewardship

Rev. Russell

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

Offertory

Ms. Wainwright

Doxology

WONDRIOUS LOVE

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!

The Reading

John 3:11-17

Rev. Russell

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Cosmic Love

Rev. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"The moon is still shining, and the sun and the evening star, which is a good thing—and they also speak of the love of God, and make one think of the words: 'Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.'"

—Vincent van Gogh, *A letter to Theo van Gogh*

Hymn of Communion

Stay with Us¹

STAY WITH US



Stay with us,	till night has come:	Our praise to you this day be
Walk with us,	our spir - its sigh:	Hear when our wea - ry spir - its
Walk with us,	the road will bend:	Make all our weep - ing, wail - ing -
Talk with us,	till we be - hold un -	a joy - ful life you will un -
Stay with us,	till day is done:	No tears nor dark shall dim the



sung.	Bless our bread,	o - pen our eyes:	Je - sus, be our great sur - prise.
cry.	feel a - gain	our loss, our pain:	Je - sus, take us to your side.
end.	Wipe our tears,	for - give our fears:	Je - sus, lift the heav - y cross.
fold:	Heal our eyes	to see the prize:	Je - sus, take us to the light.
sun.	Cheer the heart,	your grace im - part:	Je - sus, bring e - ter - nal life.

Invitation to Commune

Rev. Russell

Prayer at the Table

Mr. Bob Maxwell

Words of Institution

Rev. Russell

Invitation to Discipleship

Rev. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship 288

O God of Vision

LOBE DEN HERREN

Benediction and Charge

Rev. Russell

Postlude

Ms. Wainwright

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 *The Starry Night*, 1889, Vincent van Gogh

'Words by Herbert F. Brokering

The sunflower arrangement in the chancel is in honor of the people of Ukraine.

The Spring flowers arrangement is in memory of Brenda Moore with love from Jan.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Today, 3/27: 9:30am - Energetic, liturgical worship in the sanctuary
Labyrinth available for walking immediately following worship
- 11am - *Two Or More* scripture discussion group in the Gibbens room
- 6pm - YouTube premiere of morning worship
- Mon., 3/28: 7pm - Lenten Study (on Zoom)
- YouTube premiere of *Children's Corner: Lessons from the Heart*
- Tue., 3/29: 7:45am - Devotional gathering using *The Upper Room* (on Zoom)*
4pm - Church Life & Growth Committee meeting (hybrid)
- Wed., 3/30: 10am-2pm - Labyrinth available (weekly)
7pm - YouTube premiere of theAlternative
- Sat., 4/2: 2pm - Junior Organ Recital of Evan Collins at BWU's Lindsay-Crossman Chapel

*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.

WACC is a **Green Chalice Congregation** in covenant care of God's creation.



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