

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

Worship of God

April 3, 2022, 9:30am: The Fifth 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

Mr. Evan Collins

Meditation for Preparation

"And this is the strangest of all paradoxes of the human adventure; we live inside all experience, but we are permitted to bear witness only to the outside. Such is the riddle of life and the story of the passing of our days."

-Howard Thurman

Hymn of Praise 655

Community of Christ

LEONI

Invocation

Hymn of Prayer

Speak, O Lord¹

SPEAK O LORD

Ms. Debbie Walker

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we long to hear your voice speak, but we're afraid of what you might say. We trust you to be all-loving, but are you also all-judging? Judgment makes us uncomfortable and for good reason. There are hymns about sinking down beneath your righteous frown and being saved from your wrath. We much prefer to think of your love and grace. But what if your judgment is an act of love and not punishment? What if your correction and discipline are not means of retribution but a way of leading us toward the future you want and ultimately will have? Forgive us, O God, for the ways in which we have sinned against you and neighbor. May your grace guide us anew until the whole wide earth is filled with your glory.

Prayers of the People

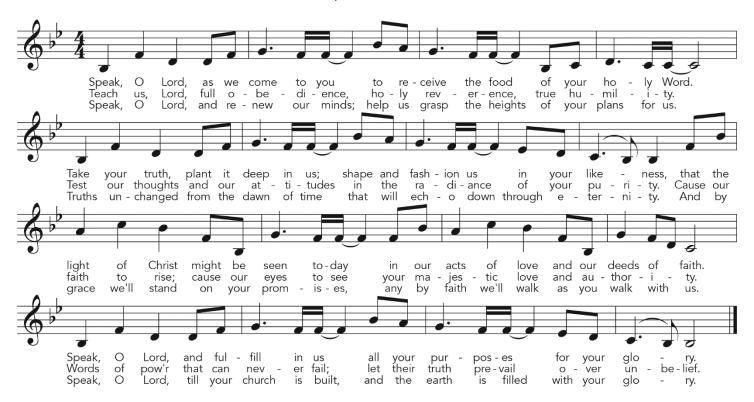
Speak, O Lord...

And fill the earth with your glory.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Speak, O Lord





Stay with Me²

STAY WITH ME



Invitation to Stewardship

Rev. Russell

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

Offertory

Mr. Collins

Doxology 200

Doxology

WONDROUS 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

Luke 13:18-21

Rev. Russell

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

It's a Both And Kingdom

Rev. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"Our minds like to categorize things into neatly labeled boxes. Am I right, or is she right? Let's stretch our minds to I can be right and so can she. Embracing the "and" is like yoga for the brain. When we train ourselves to hold paradoxes by stretching ourselves out of the boxes our minds create, we stretch into new possibilities and adapt more quickly in a fast-changing world."

-Henna Inam, Wired for Authenticity

Hymn of Communion 387

EUCHARISTIC HYMN

Bread of the World, In Mercy Broken

Invitation to Commune

Rev. Russell

Prayer at the Table

Ms. Megan Rowe

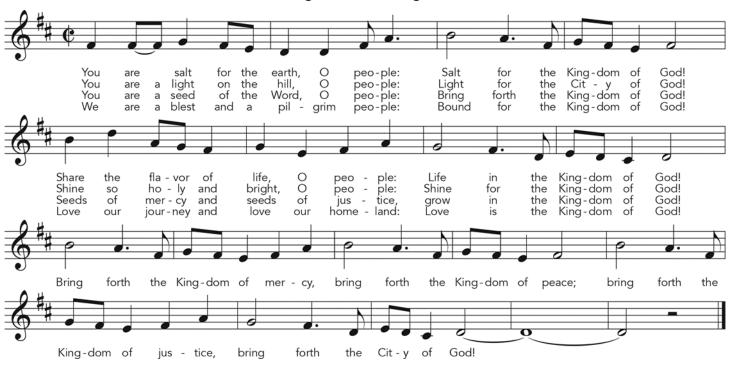
Words of Institution

Rev. Russell

Invitation to Discipleship

Rev. Russell

Bring Forth the Kingdom



BRING FORTH

Benediction and Charge

Rev. Russell

Postlude

Mr. Collins

And all the people said... **AMFN!**

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

Today's artwork is *Vases with Faces*, an original acrylic painting by Megan Rowe. This is Megan's response to racism and injustice. Each vase and face is unique, representing many different races. Yet in the end, they are all the same, vases with faces, as we are all just human beings trying to live together in the same world

¹Words by Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend; ²Words by Reginald Heber; ³Words by Marty Haugen

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today, 4/3:	9:30am	-	Energetic, liturgical worship in the sanctuary
			Labyrinth available for walking immediately following worship
			Community Choir rehearsal immediately following worship
	11am	-	Two Or More scripture discussion group in the Gibbens room
	6pm	-	YouTube premiere of morning worship
Mon., 4/4:	7pm	-	Lenten Study (on Zoom)
		-	YouTube premiere of Children's Corner: Lessons from the Heart
Tue., 4/5:	7:45am	-	Devotional gathering using The Upper Room (on Zoom)*
	6-8pm	-	Labyrinth available (first Tuesday each month)
Wed., 4/6:	10am-2pm	-	Labyrinth available (weekly)
	7pm	-	YouTube premiere of theAlternative
Thu., 4/7:	8am-3pm	-	WACC hosts Elyria Catholic High School class retreat
	10am	-	Social Hour (on Zoom)**

*First-timers may register at <u>waccelyria.org</u> 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.

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

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