



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

Worship of God

April 24, 2022, 9:30am: The Second Sunday of Easter

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

Meditation

Mr. Evan Collins

Meditation for Preparation

"Forgiveness not only enables us to overcome estrangement, it intensifies our capacity for affirming one another. Without conscious forgiveness there can be no genuine reconciliation. Making amends both to ourselves and to others is the gift compassion and forgiveness offers us. It is a process of emptying out wherein we let go all the waste so that there is a clear place within where we can see the other as ourself."

—bell hooks, *All About Love*

Hymn of Praise 487

Help Us Accept Each Other

ACCEPTANCE

Invocation

Ms. Debby Willets

Hymn of Prayer 490

Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant

THE SERVANT SONG

Prayers of the People

God in heaven...
Help us be servants to all.

Congregational Response 310

The Lord's Prayer

HAAS

Invitation to Stewardship

Rev. Russell

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

Offertory

Here I Am, Lord

Mr. Collins and Rev. Russell

Doxology 528

GIVE THANKS

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because God's given Jesus Christ, God's son. And now let the weak say "I am strong;" let the poor say, "I am rich," Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

The Reading

John 20:19-31
For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...
Thanks be to God.

Rev. Russell

Sermon

Forgiveness: The Heart of the Matter

Rev. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"One Sunday when I was struggling with this [topic], the Scripture reading came from the sixth chapter of Luke: 'Forgive, and ye shall be forgiven.' Now, try as I might, I cannot find a loophole in that. It does not say, 'Forgive everyone, unless they've said something rude about your child.' And it doesn't even say, 'Just try.' It says, If you want to be forgiven, if you want to experience that kind of love, you have to forgive everyone in your life—everyone, even the very worst boyfriend you ever had—even, for God's sake, yourself."

—Anne Lamott, *Traveling Mercies*

Hymn of Communion 397

Come, Risen Lord

HOLBORN

Invitation to Commune

Rev. Russell

Prayer at the Table

Ms. Willets

Words of Institution

Rev. Russell

Invitation to Discipleship

Rev. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship 459

ABBOT'S LEIGH

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

Benediction and Charge

Rev. Russell

Postlude

Partitas

Mr. Collins

And all the people said...

AMEN!

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

Today's artwork, *Christ Shows Himself to Thomas*, is a mosaic by Rowan and Irene LeCompte at the Washington National Cathedral.

The cut flower arrangement in the chancel today are in honor of Lydia Ward on her 18th birthday (4/24) and Marissa Ward on her 20th birthday (4/26) with love from Grandma Sheila and family.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Today, 4/24: 9:30am - Energetic, liturgical worship in the sanctuary, followed by a reception
- 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., 4/25: 7pm - Lenten study gathering in the parlors
- YouTube premiere of *Children's Corner: Lessons from the Heart*
- Tue., 4/26: 7:45am - Devotional gathering using *The Upper Room* (on Zoom)*
4pm - Church Life & Growth Committee meeting (on Zoom)
6:30pm - Christian Education Committee meeting (hybrid)
- Wed., 4/27: 10am-2pm - Labyrinth available (weekly)
7pm - YouTube premiere of theAlternative
- Fri., 4/29: 7pm - Advance Ministries Spring Retreat at Camp Christian (ends 5/1)

*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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