



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

## Worship of God

September 4, 2022, 9:30am: The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

*Processional*

Mr. Evan Collins

## Meditation for Preparation

"Listen with curiosity. Speak with honesty. Act with integrity. The greatest problem with communication is we don't listen to understand. We listen to reply. When we listen with curiosity, we don't listen with the intent to reply. We listen for what's behind the words."

—Roy T. Bennett, *The Light in the Heart*

Hymn of Praise 69

*How Like a Gentle Spirit*

SURSUM CORDA

Invocation

Mr. Connor Sweeten

Hymn of Prayer 582

*Come Down, O Love Divine*

DOWN AMPNEY

Prayers of the People

O Comforter, draw near...  
**And within our hearts appear.**

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 593

*Lead Me, Lord*

LEAD ME LORD

Invitation to Stewardship

Rev. Russell

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

Offertory

*Spring*

Ms. Olivia Helman and Mr. Collins

Doxology

*Doxology*<sup>1</sup>

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

Mark 7:14-23

Rev. Russell

For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Discipline of Silence

"There is something in us, as storytellers and as listeners to stories, that demands the redemptive act, that demands that what falls at least be offered the chance to be restored. The reader of today looks for this motion, and rightly so, but what he has forgotten is the cost of it. His sense of evil is diluted or lacking altogether, and so he has forgotten the price of restoration. When he reads a novel, he wants either his sense tormented or his spirits raised. He wants to be transported, instantly, either to mock damnation or a mock innocence."

–Flannery O'Connor, *Mystery and Manners: Occasional Prose*

Hymn of Communion 287

*As A Chalice Cast of Gold*

INWARD LIGHT

Invitation to Commune

Rev. Russell

Prayer at the Table

Ms. Debby Willets

Words of Institution

Rev. Russell

Invitation to Discipleship

Rev. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship

*Beloved Community of God<sup>2</sup>*

ST. CRISPIN

Be - loved com - mu - ni - ty of God, in vi - sion seen, a per - fect whole;  
 The hu - man frame, the stead - y nerve, the ac - tive pulse of flesh and blood,  
 All gains of skill and fruits of thought, what - e'er we know, what - e'er we feel,  
 Fair vi - sions of the good and true wrought in - to speech and kind - ly deed,  
 King of the king - dom of our dreams, from dreams we turn to take our part

all that we have we pledge to thee, our pow'rs of bod - y, mind, and soul.  
 with these we ded - i - cate to thee, our self - hood and our ser - vant - hood.  
 hum - bly we bring that we may prove true serv - ants of the com - mon weal.  
 these be our sac - ra - ment of love, our wit - ness to the Christ - ly creed.  
 in that be - loved com - mu - ni - ty where love is law in ev - ery heart.

Benediction and Charge

Rev. Russell

Postlude

*Improvisation*

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 is *Guarding Words and Actions*, is a 2009 photograph by Stephen Poff. Original source: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/stephenpoff/3530640841/> - CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.

<sup>1</sup>Words by Nathan A. Russell, 2021

<sup>2</sup>Words by Ernest Dodgshun, 1876

## EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today, 9/4: 6pm - YouTube premiere of morning worship  
Mon., 9/5: - Church office closed for Labor Day  
Tue., 9/6: 7:45am - Devotional gathering using *The Upper Room* (on Zoom)\*  
Wed., 9/7: 7pm - YouTube premiere of theAlternative  
Thurs. 9/8 10am - All church social hour (on Zoom)\*

\*First-timers may register at [waccelyria.org](http://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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