



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

Worship of God

March 19, 2023, 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!

Ms. Glennis Covault

Call to Worship

Lift up your hearts...
We lift them to the Lord!

Ms. Covault

Prelude

Be Still, My Soul

Mr. Evan Collins

Meditation for Preparation

“The search for God is a reversal of the normal, mundane worldly order. In the search for God, you revert from what attracts you and swim toward that which is difficult. You abandon your comforting and familiar habits with the hope (the mere hope!) that something greater will be offered you in return for what you’ve given up.”

–Elizabeth Gilbert, *Eat, Pray, Love*

Hymn of Praise 24

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

Invocation

Ms. Kathy Oblak

Hymn of Prayer

O God in Heaven, We Believe¹

DOVE OF PEACE

O God in heav - en, we be - lieve the prom - ise we have read; your word with meek - ness
 When we re - pent of all our sin and come with bro - ken heart, we to this cov - e - nant
 As we are bur - ied in the stream, in Je - sus' bless - ed name, oh, may your light up -
 O Lord, ac - cept our hum - ble prayer, and all our sin for - give; new life im - part from

we re - ceive, and fol - low Christ, our head, and fol - low Christ our head.
 en - ter in, and choose the bet - ter part, and choose the bet - ter part.
 on us beam, the Spir - it's heav - en - ly flame, the Spir - it's heav - en - ly flame.
 this good hour and grant that we may live, and grant that we may live.

Prayers of the People

O God, in heaven...

Accept our humble prayer.

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.

Sung Response

Stay with Me²

STAY WITH ME

Stay with me, remain here with me, watch and pray. Watch and pray.

Invitation to Stewardship		Ms. Debby Willets
	Our regular tithes and offerings support the budgeted ministries of WACC.	
Offertory	<i>Womb of Life and Source of Being</i>	Mr. Collins
Doxology 200	<i>What Wondrous Love Is This</i>	PICARDY
	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	Genesis 31:25-27, 43-50	Mr. Collins
	For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...	
	Thanks be to God.	
Sermon	<i>Redeeming Stories: Great Reversals</i>	Rev. Nathan A. Russell
Discipline of Silence		
	"Faith is belief in what you cannot see or prove or touch. Faith is walking face-first and full-speed into the dark. If we truly knew all the answers in advance as to the meaning of life and the nature of God and the destiny of our souls, our belief would not be a leap of faith and it would not be a courageous act of humanity; it would just be...a prudent insurance policy." —Elizabeth Gilbert, <i>Eat, Pray, Love</i>	
Hymn of Communion 400	<i>When You Do This, Remember Me</i>	LORETTO
Invitation to Commune		Rev. Russell
Prayer at the Table		Mr. Don Hange, Jr.
Words of Institution		Rev. Russell
Invitation to Discipleship		Rev. Russell
Hymn of Discipleship	<i>We Are God's People³</i>	SYMPHONY
Benediction and Charge		Rev. Russell
Postlude	<i>As the Deer</i>	Mr. Collins
	And all the people said... AMEN!	

We are God's peo - ple, the cho - sen of the Lord, born of the Spir - it, es -
 We are God's loved ones, the friends of Christ our Lord, for we have known it, the
 We are the bod - y of which the Lord is head, called to o - bey him, who's
 We are a tem - ple, the Spir - it's dwell - ing place, formed in great weak - ness, a

 tab - lished by the Word; our cor - ner - stone is Christ a - lone, and strong in him we
 love of God out - poured; now let us learn how to re - turn the gift of love once
 ris - en from the dead; he wills us be a fam - i - ly, di - verse yet tru - ly
 cup to share God's grace; we die a - lone, for on its own each em - ber los - es

 stand: O let us live trans - par - ent - ly, and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.
 given: O let us share each joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleas - es heav'n.
 one: O let us give our gifts to God, and so shall God's work on earth be done.
 fire: yet joined in one the flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to in - spire.

¹Lyrics by Parley P. Pratt, 1807-1857, alt.

²Lyrics by Taizé Community, 1984

³Lyrics by Bryan Jeffery, Leech, 1976, alt.

Today's artwork is a picture taken at the Palo Duro Canyon in Texas on October 8, 2021. The picture coincides with today's scripture and the heap of stones.

Today's flowers are given by Polly Simmons in memory of Bud Simmons recognizing his 92nd birthday.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 19	11:00am	Two or More Scripture Discussion Group in the Gibbens Room Choir Rehearsal in the Music Room
	6:00pm:	YouTube Premiere of morning worship
Monday, March 20	7:00pm:	<i>Wondering through Lent</i> (Zoom)
Tuesday, March 21	7:30am:	Upper Room Devotional gathering (Zoom)
	5:00pm:	Outreach Committee Meeting (Zoom)
	7:00pm:	Joanna Circle (Zoom)
Wednesday, March 22	7:00pm:	theAlternative: Worship online via YouTube
Thursday, March 23	10:00am:	All-church Social Hour (Zoom)



We are thrilled that you are worshiping God with us! Scan this QR code to register your attendance, submit a prayer request, and make a contribution.

WACC is a [Green Chalice Congregation](#) in covenant care of God's creation.

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