



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

## Worship of God

June 11, 2023, 9:30am: The Second Sunday after Pentecost

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

*All Things Bright and Beautiful*

Mr. Jason Falkofsky

Meditation for Preparation

“What is God like? That’s a very big question, one that people from places all around the world, throughout all time, have answered in many different ways. Keep searching. Keep wondering. Keep learning about God.”

–Rachel Held Evans & Matthew Paul Turner, *What is GOD Like?*

Hymn of Praise 10

*Bring Many Names*

WESTCHASE

Invocation

Ms. Susan Mathes

Hymn of Prayer 244

*Loving Spirit*

OMNI DIE

Prayers of the People

Loving Spirit, Friend and Lover...  
**Hold our life within your own.**

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

*Go with Us, Lord<sup>1</sup>*

TALLIS’ CANON

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and ev - ery com - ing day, that  
in your Spir - it strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.

Invitation to Stewardship

Mr. Don Hange, Jr.

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

Offertory

*Plant a Seed in Your Heart*

Mr. Falkofsky

Doxology 715

*Now Thank We All Our God*

NUN DANKET

**All praise and thanks to God our Father and our Mother, to Christ and to the One who binds us to each other, the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore, for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

The Reading

Matthew 13:31-35

Rev. Nathan A. Russell

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

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

*God: The OG They/Them*

Rev. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"Some theologies say it is not an individual but a collective people who bear the image of God. I quite like this, because it means we need a diversity of people to reflect God more fully. Anything less and the image becomes pixelated and grainy, still beautiful but lacking clarity. If God really is three parts in one like they say, it means that God's wholeness is in a multitude."

—Cole Arthur Riley, *This Here Flesh*

Hymn of Communion 83

*Mothering God, You Gave me Birth*

JULIAN

Invitation to Commune

Rev. Russell

Prayer at the Table

Mr. Hange, Jr.

Words of Institution

Rev. Russell

Invitation to Discipleship

Rev. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship

*How Can We Name A Love<sup>2</sup>*

TERRA BEATA

Benediction and Charge

Rev. Russell

Postlude

*Joyful Rondo*

Mr. Falkofsky

And all the people said...

**AMEN!**

How can we name a Love that wak - ens heart and mind,  
 If we a - wake to life up - held strength and lov - ing care,  
 When peo - ple share a task, and each day we skills u - nite,  
 So in a hun - dred names, each day we all can meet

in - dwell - ing all we know or think or do or seek or find?  
 that asked no great re - ward but firm, as - sured, was sim - ply there,  
 in a proj - ects old or new, to make or do with shared de - light,  
 a pres - ence, sensed and shown at work, at home, or in the street.

With - in our dai - ly world, in ev - ery hu - man face,  
 we can with par - ents' names, in de - scribe, and thus a - dore,  
 our Friend and Part - ner's will is bet - ter un - der - stood,  
 Yet names and ti - tles shine all in a bright - er sun:

Love's ech - oes sound and God is found, hid in the com - mon place.  
 Love un - con - fined, our Fa - ther kind, our Moth - er strong and sure.  
 that all should care, cre - ate, and care, and know that God is good.  
 in Christ a - lone is full Love grown and life and hope be - gun.

Today's artwork is *The Sower* (1888) by Vincent van Gogh.

<sup>1</sup> Lyrics by Mary Jackson Cathey, 1990

<sup>2</sup> Lyrics by Brian Wren, 1975, rev. 1995.

## EVENTS THIS WEEK

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Sunday, June 11   | 11:00am: Two or More: Scripture Discussion Group (Gibbens Room) |
|                   | 6:00pm: YouTube Premiere of morning worship                     |
| Monday, June 12   | 5:00pm: Bible, Burger, and Beer at The Foundry Bar and Grill    |
| Tuesday, June 13  | 7:30am: Upper Room Devotional Gathering (Zoom)                  |
|                   | 5:30pm: Elders' Meeting (Hybrid)                                |
|                   | 7:00pm: Board Meeting (Hybrid)                                  |
| Thursday, June 15 | 10:00pm: All-Church Social Hour (Zoom)                          |
|                   | 5-9pm: Third Thursday at Ely Square                             |



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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