



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

Worship of God

August 27, 2023, 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!

Glennis Covault

Call to Worship

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

Nathan Russell

Prelude

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sol Rizzato & JoEllen West

Meditation for Preparation

"We must go beyond 'aid' or 'charity' and demand justice that will bring peace. Many people falter at this point."
 –Dom Helder Camara, *Essential Writings*

Here, O God, your peo - ple gath - er to wor - ship in this place sing - ing
 Though the path may not be stead - y when filled with grief and strife, your up -
 God, we sense your hope and pas - sion that call us to sha - lom. We are

psalms and hymns of won - der, we long to see your face. Moved by sounds of pipes and
 lift - ing Spir - it greets us with prom - ise for new life. You trans - cend our ex - pec -
 yet a pil - grim peo - ple still search - ing for our home. Lead us ev - er on the

voic - es, hush of si - lence, rush of wind, we are dan - cing in the rhy - thms of
 ta - tions as you stun us with sur - prise, thus we can - not help but mar - vel at
 jour - ney to your fu - ture that will be filled with jus - tice, love, and mer - cy a -

grace that will not end. Shape our lives with phrase and ca - dence, com - pose a liv - ing
 all be - fore our eyes. While the pow'rs and fears a - round us can threat - en to de -
 cross the land and sea. Guide us through the times and sea - sons of life with - in your

score; as we swell the full - er chor - us to praise you all the more.
 stroy, You, our God, are ev - er with us! You bring a great - er joy.
 care. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age! Give us the faith to dare!

Invocation

Megan Rowe

Hymn of Prayer 656

God of Freedom, God of Justice

TREDEGAR

Prayers of the People

God of freedom and justice...
 Touch our world of sad oppression.

The Lord's Prayer 307

MALOTTE

Our Mother/Father/Parent, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin*dom 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 kin*dom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen. AMEN.

Invitation to Stewardship

Nancy Walker

Offertory

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Sol Rizzato & JoEllen West

Doxology

Take, O God, the Gifts We Offer²

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

Romans 12:9-21

Nathan A. Russell

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

Discipline of Silence

"Charity is episodic and often driven by disaster. What is needed are structures of justice that perpetuate the goodwill intended in charity. Justice allows charity to live beyond crisis. Justice is what love sounds like when it speaks in public."

—Michael Eric Dyson, *Come Hell or High Water*

Hymn of Communion 403

In Remembrance of Me

RED

Invitation to Commune

Nathan A. Russell

Prayer at the Table

Janet Stevens-Brown

Words of Institution

Nathan A. Russell

Invitation to Discipleship

Nathan A. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship

*Come, Great God of All the Ages*³

ABBOT'S LEIGH



Come, great God of all the a - ges; make your earth - ly mis - sion known;
 Come, Christ Je - sus, flesh and spir - it, sure foun - da - tion, cor - ner - stone;
 Come, great Spir - it, in and with us, tune our ears to hear your call;
 Come, O come, in cel - e - bra - tion, house - hold of the one true God;

speak through ev - ery deed and per - son; let your way and will be shown.
 help us form the church e - ter - nal; may your vi - sion be our own.
 through the mov - ing of your pres - ence, let re - deem - ing love re - call;
 in com - mit - ment and re - joic - ing let us go where Christ has trod;

Guide the church to true com - mit - ment; give di - rec - tion now, we ask;
 Send a mes - sage to each fol - lower; lead all peo - ple to your way;
 min - is - try in ded i - ca - tion, love em - bod - ied in our deeds;
 as we act in faith and rev - erence, let us, Lord, the fu - ture see;

fit us for the work of build - ing; ded - i - cate us to the task.
 urge us to strong faith and ac - tion as we build the church to - day.
 chal - lenge us to do your bid - ding, see your pur - pose, fill all needs.
 place us in the church tri - um - phant, now and for e - ter - ni - ty.

Benediction and Charge

Nathan A. Russell

Postlude

Jupiter (The Planets)
 And all the people said...

Sol Rizzato & JoEllen West

AMEN!

^{1,2}Lyrics by Nathan A. Russell, 2023, 2021.

³Lyrics by Mary Jackson Cathey, 1987.

OUTREACH FAIR PARTICIPANTS

BETHANY FELLOWS is a thriving spiritual community of support, inspiration, and renewal for young clergy serving congregations and local communities of faith.

BLESSING HOUSE serves as a safety net for families in crisis by providing a safe shelter for children and support for their family.

BRITE DIVINITY SCHOOL educates and inspires people to serve God's diverse world as leaders in churches, the academy, and public life.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH in OHIO/CAMP CHRISTIAN is our regional ministry and camp with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

CLEVELAND CHRISTIAN HOME exists to be a haven of hope and healing for children, youth, and families struggling with mental illness, abuse, and neglect.

ELYRIA ARTS COUNCIL is a gallery and community devoted to making "Art Happen" in Elyria. We strive to better our community through art, starting with the colorful murals on our building that were painted by our member artists.

ELYRIA HOSPITALITY CENTER serves people in our community who are struggling financially in a way that preserves their dignity.

GENESIS HOUSE provides a comprehensive range of family-focused services for Lorain County victims of domestic violence.

GOOD KNIGHTS provides complete, comfortable, and safe beds to children in need in Lorain County, Ohio.

GREATER CLEVELAND CONGREGATIONS unites people across lines of race, class, religion, and geography to promote public, private and civic sector actions which strengthen and improve the quality of life of our neighborhoods.

GREEN CHALICE's (WACC's Creation Care Team) mission is to connect Christian faith, spiritual practice and creation consciousness in order to demonstrate the fullness of God's shalom.

LORAIN COUNTY FREE CLINIC builds healthy communities for all through quality, equitable, accessible healthcare.

PATHWAYS COUNSELING & GROWTH CENTER provides opportunities for individual, couple and family group counseling, education and consultation.

VOICE FOR CHILDREN provides trained volunteers, Court Appointed Special Advocates, to abused and neglected children in Lorain County, who advocate in court to ensure each child a safe and permanent home.

WE CARE WE SHARE MINISTRIES shares resources, builds community partnerships and provides programs and services that educate, empower, and enhance the quality of life for families in our local & surrounding communities.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 27	11:00am: Outreach Fair (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00pm: YouTube premiere of morning worship
Tuesday, August 29	7:30am Upper Room Devotional Gathering (Zoom)
	4:00pm Church Life & Growth Committee Meeting (The Foundry)



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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