



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

## Worship of God

November 19, 2023, 9:30am: Consecration Sunday

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!**

Glennis Covault

Prelude

Sol Rizzato

Meditation for Preparation

“Each of you, a bordered country, Delicate and strangely made proud, Yet thrusting perpetually under siege. Your armed struggles for profit Have left collars of waste upon My shore, currents of debris upon my breast. Yet today I call you to my riverside, If you will study war no more. Come, Clad in peace, and I will sing the songs The Creator gave to me when I and the Tree and the rock were one. Before cynicism was a bloody sear across your Brow and when you yet knew you still Knew nothing. The River sang and sings on.”

–Maya Angelou, *On the Pulse of Morning*

Hymn of Praise

*Out of Deep, Unordered Water*<sup>1</sup>

RUSTINGTON

Out of deep, un - or - dered wa - ter God cre - at - ed light and land, world of  
 Wa - ter on the hu - man fore - head, birth - mark of the love of God, is the  
 Stand - ing round the font re - minds us of the He - brews' climb a - shore. Life is  
 bird and beast and, lat - er, in God's im - age, hu - man - kind.  
 sign of death and ris - ing; through the seas there runs a road. There is wa - ter in the  
 hal - lowed by the knowl - edge God has been this way be - fore.  
 riv - er bring - ing life to tree and plant. Let cre - a - tion praise its giv - er: there is wa - ter in the font.

Invocation

Karen Davis

Hymn of Prayer 566

*Be Still, My Soul*

FINLANDIA

Prayers of the People

God, our savior and guide...  
**Help our souls be still.**

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Mother/Father/Creator, who 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.**

Sung Response

*Peace Like a River*<sup>2</sup>

PEACE LIKE A RIVER

**Give us peace like a river, give us peace like a river, give us peace like a river in our soul. Give us peace like a river, give us peace like a river, give us peace like a river in our soul.**

Invitation to Stewardship

Lauri Warfield

Offertory

Sol Rizzato

Doxology

*Take, O God, the Gifts We Offer*<sup>3</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

Psalm 46

Nathan A. Russell

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

Sermon

*A Church on the River*

Nathan A. Russell

Discipline of Silence

“What I saw might have been just another winter scene, although an impressive one. But what I knew was that the earth underneath was alive and that by tomorrow, certainly by the day after, it would be all green again. So what I saw because of what I knew was a kind of death with the marvelous promise of less than a three-day resurrection.”

—Norman Maclean, *A River Runs Through It and Other Stories*

Hymn of Communion 408

*Come, Share the Lord*

DIVERNON

Invitation to Commune

Nathan A. Russell

Prayer at the Table

Nancy Walker

Words of Institution

Nathan A. Russell

Invitation to Discipleship

Nathan A. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship

*Come, Behold What God Is Doing<sup>4</sup>*

ABBOT'S LEIGH



Come, be - hold what God is do - ing through the liv - ing, breath - ing Word.  
Come, be - hold what God is do - ing in the still - ness of this hour.  
Come, be - hold what God is do - ing at the ta - ble of our Lord.  
Come, be - hold what God is do - ing with the gifts we of - fer here.  
Come, be - hold what God is do - ing through the hues of light and shade.



"God, our ref - uge, is a shel - ter!" This, the gos - pel, we have heard.  
God is work - ing through the si - lence to, re - new - the church with pow'r.  
Here we find in - clu - sive wel - come as we meet in one ac - cord.  
We are grow - ing and ex - pand - ing; a bright dawn will soon ap - pear.  
As the Art - ist paints each col - or, we see rays of sun cas - cade



Though the na - tions rage with war - fare, God is urg - ing us to be  
As the sys - tems of de - struc - tion seek to kill, to steal, to shame,  
Let our dif - f'renc - es re - mind us how God loves di - ver - si - ty.  
As we trav - el on the jour - ney, God will guide us on the way  
on the land - scape of cre - a - tion to re - store, re - deem, re - claim.



ones who share the love of Je - sus and pro - claim God's lib - er - ty.  
we re - sist! We find new cour - age when God calls us by our name.  
What a wit - ness we are liv - ing, as we strive for u - ni - ty.  
to a fu - ture filled with jus - tice. We a - wait the com - ing day!  
Ours the task, the hope, the prom - ise. Let this vi - sion be our aim!

And all the people said...

**AMEN!**<sup>1</sup>Lyrics by Fred Kaan, 1965<sup>2</sup>African-American spiritual<sup>3</sup>Lyrics by Nathan A. Russell, 2021<sup>4</sup>Lyrics by Nathan A. Russell, 2023

Today's artwork is Megan Rowe's reflection on Psalm 46. She wrote, "Creating artwork to accompany this year's Stewardship theme "Come, behold what God is doing" required me to work on a much deeper, more spiritual level of creativity. I spent many hours in thought, meditation, and soul-searching waiting for direction and image to mesh. It was a challenge to combine scripture and the Stewardship theme into a two dimensional piece of artwork that included some of my own feelings and created a meaningful piece of artwork showing what God is doing. I feel that with each new dawn, God offers us new Hope in the warm, loving rays of morning light which appear to calm the turmoil and offer room for the rebirth of earth. With this Hope, we, as God's people, are also given the choice to use our gifts to create God's vision of the world as God wants it for all people."

**EVENTS THIS WEEK**

Sunday, November 19	11:00am:	Consecration Day Bruncheon (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00pm:	YouTube premiere of morning worship
Tuesday, November 21	7:30am:	Upper Room Devotional Gathering (Zoom)
	5:00pm:	Outreach Committee Meeting (Zoom)
Saturday, November 25	11:00am:	Memorial for Christopher Zechman



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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