



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

Worship of God

January 14, 2024, 9:30am: The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

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

Sospiri, Op. 70 (Edward Elgar)

Sol M. Rizzato

Meditation for Preparation

"I really feel strongly about the fact that the kingdom of heaven is not some far-off place, but it's something that is begun here and now. I believe the only way it can be achieved is if we go against the grain that says we must be just like everybody else, and instead seek God and ask God for direction to be whatever God is calling us to be. Sometimes God calls us to be something unexpected."

—Lawrence Richardson, quoted in Austen Hartke's, *Transforming*

Hymn of Praise

*Here, O God, Your People Gather*¹

THAXTED

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 a -
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

Tony Sweeten

Hymn of Prayer 506

Healer of Our Ev'ry Ill

HEALER

Prayers of the People

Healer of our every ill...
Give us hope beyond our sorrow.

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 432

O Christ, the Way, the Truth, the Life

ST. PETER

Invitation to Stewardship

Gerald Western

Offertory

Arietta (Thomas H. Kerr)

Sol M. Rizzato

Doxology 606

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

NETTLETON

Trea- sure too you have en - trust - ed, gain thru powers your grace con - ferred; ours to use for home and
 kin - dred, and to spread the gos pel Word. O - pen wide our hands, in shar - ing, as we
 heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

The Reading

Mark 2:13-28

Nathan A. Russell

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

Sermon

On the Trail of the Messiah: Call and Response

Nathan A. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"I cannot fight all battles, but God is not calling me to; God is calling me to follow, to love, and to serve so that the church can make justice happen, and feast together at the banquet God prepares for our weary souls. Thanks be to God. Amen."

-Karen Oliveto, *Our Strangely Warmed Hearts*

Hymn of Communion

Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life²

THE CALL

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a way as gives us breath, such a
 Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a light as shows a feast, such a
 Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a joy as none can move, such a
 truth as ends all strife, such a life as kill - - - eth death.
 feast as mends in length, such a strength as makes _____ his guest.
 love as none can part, such a heart as joys _____ in love.

Invitation to Commune

Nathan A. Russell

Prayer at the Table

Nancy Walker

Words of Institution

Nathan A. Russell

Invitation to Discipleship

Nathan A. Russell



When God's call to serve looms larg - er than the strength we have to - day,
 When the path's un - clear be - fore us, when we don't know where to turn,
 Should to dis - tant lands and plac - es we be called to share Christ's peace,
 Let us share this task and chal - lenge to ful - fill the pro - phet's dream:



when the dark of doubt en - folds us, when the voice of fear gives sway,
 when the ques - tions that we're ask - ing fail to ease our heart's con - cern,
 and the pain of sep - a - ra - tion bears its weight with no re - lease,
 "Just - ice roll - ing like a foun - tain, right - eous - ness a flow - ing stream.



let the peace of Christ as - sure us and God's grace will pave the way.
 let the peace of Christ as - sure us that God's ans - wer we'll dis - cern.
 let the peace of Christ as - sure us that God's com - fort shall in - crease.
 Let the peace of Christ as - sure us: God is work - ing to re - deem.

Benediction and Charge

Nathan A. Russell

Postlude

Elegy (George Thalben-Ball)
 And all the people said... **AMEN!**

Sol M. Rizzato

Today's artwork is *Journey with Jesus* by He Qi, © Heqi.art.com

¹Lyrics by Nathan A. Russell, 2023

²Lyrics by George Herbert, 1633

³Lyrics by Danny Belrose, 2008 & Nathan A. Russell, 2023

Today's flowers are given in honor of Sol Rizzato and in celebration of their first official Sunday as Director of Worship & the Arts.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 14

- 11:00am: Two or More Scripture Discussion Group (Gibbens' Room)
- 6:00pm: You Tube Premiere of worship

Tuesday, January 16

- 7:30am: Upper Room Devotional (Zoom)
- 5:00pm: Outreach Meeting (Zoom)

Friday, January 19

- 1:00-2:30pm Hospitality Committee Meeting at Blue Sky



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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