



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

## Worship of God

January 28, 2024, 9:30am: 4<sup>th</sup> 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

Rees Taylor Roberts

Meditation for Preparation

"Sometimes people hold a core belief that is very strong. When they are presented with evidence that works against that belief, the new evidence cannot be accepted. It would create a feeling that is extremely uncomfortable, called cognitive dissonance. And because it is so important to protect the core belief, they will rationalize, ignore and even deny anything that doesn't fit in with the core belief."

—Frantz Fanon, *Black Skins, White Masks*

Hymn of Praise

*God Is Calling though the Whisper*<sup>1</sup>

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

God is call - ing through the whis - per of the Spir - it's deep - est sighs,  
 God is call - ing through the voi - ces of our neigh - bors' ur - gent prayers,  
 God is call - ing through the mu - sic of sub - lime and hu - man arts,

through the thrill of sud - den beau - ties that can catch us by sur - prise.  
 through their long - ing for re - demp - tion and for res - cue from de - spair.  
 through the hymns of earth and an - gels, and the car - ols of our hearts.

Flash of light - ning, crash of thun - der; hush of still - ness, rush of won - der:  
 Place of hurt or, face of need - ing; stri - dent cry or si - lent plead - ing:  
 Lift of joy and gift of sing - ing; days and nights our prais - es bring - ing:

God is call - ing- can you hear? God is call - ing- can you hear?  
 God is call - ing- can you hear? God is call - ing- can you hear?  
 God is call - ing- and we hear! God is call - ing- and we hear!

Invocation

Bob Rieth

Hymn of Prayer

*The Summons<sup>2</sup>*

KELVINGROVE

Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?  
 Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call your name?  
 Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?  
 Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?  
 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?  
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the world a - round,  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot - steps show.

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?  
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?  
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?  
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?  
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Prayers of the People

God who calls us by name...  
**Let us turn and follow you.**

The Lord's Prayer 307

MALOTTE

Invitation to Stewardship

Chad Vickers

Offertory

Rees Taylor Roberts

Doxology 15

*Rejoice, You Pure in Heart (v. 5)*

MARION

Praise God who rules all worlds; the risen Christ adore.

Praise God the Spirit, Holy Fire, one God for ever - more!

Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, give thanks and sing.

The Reading

Mark 3:13-35  
For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...  
**Thanks be to God!**

Nathan A. Russell

Sermon

*On the Trail of the Messiah: Carpe Jesum; Carpe Cosmon*

Nathan A. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"When a word is deprived of its dimension of action, reflection automatically suffers as well; and the word is changed into idle chatter, into verbalism, into an alienated and alienating "blah." It becomes an empty word, one which cannot denounce the world, for denunciation is impossible without a commitment to transform, and there is no transformation without action."

—Paulo Freire, *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*

Hymn of Communion 486

*Who is My Mother, Who Is My Brother*

KINDRED

Invitation to Commune

Nathan A. Russell

Prayer at the Table

Gerald Western

Words of Institution

Nathan A. Russell

Invitation to Discipleship

Nathan A. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship 357

*We Call Ourselves Disciples*

LANCASHIRE



And all the people said...  
**AMEN!**

<sup>1</sup>WORDS: Mary Louise Bringle, 2003; MUSIC: Polish carol

<sup>2</sup>WORDS: John Bell, 1987; MUSIC: Scottish melody, arr. John Bell, 1987

Today's artwork is *The poor invited to the feast* (1973) by JESUS MAFA. JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings was selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings. In this painting, we see a generous, wealthy host, choosing to hold a feast for the poor. A large group of disenfranchised people are gathered together eating, talking, and enjoying one another's company. The faces of the host and all his guests show expressions of joy and gratitude. Followers of Jesus are to remain humble, expecting nothing in return for the Christ-like love we are called to share with the world.

## EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 28

- 11:00am: Becoming WACC Mathes' Kenya Trip (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00pm: YouTube Premiere of morning worship

Tuesday, January 30

- 7:30am: Upper Room Devotional Hour (Zoom)
- 4:00pm: Church Life & Growth Committee Meeting
- 7:00pm: Christian Education Committee Mtg.

Wednesday, January 31

- 10:00am: Sabbatical Planning Committee Mtg.
- 1:00pm: Energy Audit

Sunday, February 4

- 9:30am: Worship in the Sanctuary
- 11:00am: Two or More Scripture Discussion Group (Gibbens' Room)
- 6:00pm: YouTube Premiere of morning worship



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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