

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

# Worship of God

February 11, 2024, 9:30am: Transfiguration Sunday

Chiming the Hour The Atwood Carillon

Greeting The Spirit of God is with you... Nathan A. Russell

And also with you!

Call to Worship Lift up your hearts... Nathan A. Russell

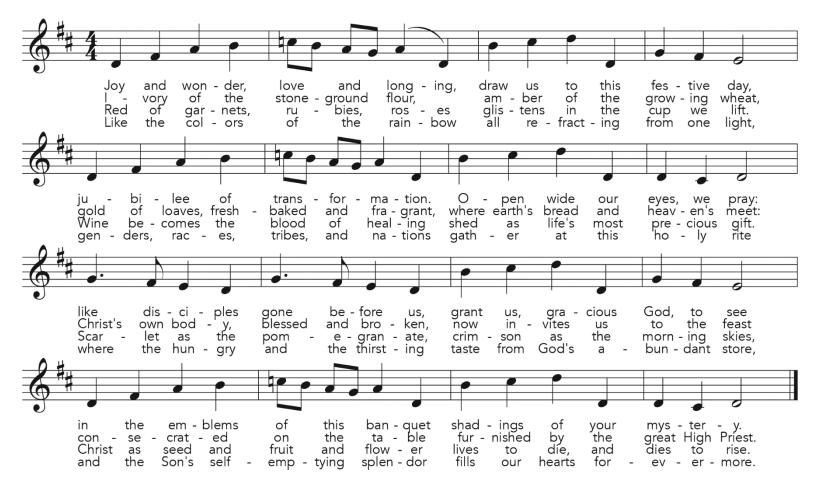
We lift them to the Lord!

Prelude Sol M. Rizzato & Nathan A. Russell Prelude in Classic Style (Gordon Young, arr. Lani Smith)

### Meditation for Preparation

"Did you ever see the way the clouds love a mountain? They circle all around it; sometimes you can't even see the mountain for the clouds. But you know what? You go up top and what do you see? His head. The clouds never cover the head. His head pokes through, because the clouds let him; they don't wrap him up. They let him keep his head up high, free, with nothing to hide him or bind him."

-Toni Morrison, Song of Solomon



Invocation Sharon Siffert

Hymn of Prayer 182 Transform Us PICARDY

Prayers of the People

God of transformation... **Lead us down our daily pathways.** 

The Lord's Prayer 310 HAAS

Invitation to Stewardship

Mary Siwierka

Offertory

How Can I Keep From Singing? (arr. Sol M. Rizzato)

Sol M. Rizzato

Doxology 379

Accept, O God, the Gifts We Bring

ELLACOMBE

Accept, O God, the gifts we bring of spirit and of clay, transform them into blessings on those we serve today. Rekindle deep within us a passion to fulfill the ministry disciples have, empowered to do your will.

The Reading

Mark 9:1-13
For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

On the Trail of the Messiah: Up & Down the Mountain

Nathan A. Russell

Nathan A. Russell

## Discipline of Silence

"Whoever you are, no matter how lonely, the world offers itself to your imagination, calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting – over and over announcing your place in the family of things."

—Mary Oliver, Wild Geese

Hymn of Communion 403	In Remembrance of Me	RED
Invitation to Commune		Nathan A. Russell
Prayer at the Table		Lauri Warfield
Words of Institution		Nathan A. Russell
Invitation to Discipleship		Nathan A. Russell
Hymn of Discipleship 450	God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian	HYFRYDOL
Benediction and Charge		Nathan A. Russell
Postlude	Variations on 'HYFRYDOL' (Albert L. Travis) And all the people said	Sol M. Rizzato

AMEN!

Today's artwork is *Transfiguration* (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 theatrical representation of Jesus' transfiguration, Jesus is robed in a dazzling white garment, as the story in the gospels describes. He appears to be greeting Moses and Elijah like old friends as they are surrounded by a cloud that makes the whole scene feel ethereal. Peter, James, and John look on with flabbergasted and fearful expressions, bewildered at what they should do. This painting invites the viewer to imagine what it would be like to have seen such amazing things. Undoubtedly, it would inspire one to follow and obey Jesus, just as God commands in the story: "This is my son, the beloved. Listen to him!".

#### **EVENTS THIS WEEK**

#### Sunday, February 11

- 9:30am: Worship in the Sanctuary
- 11:00am Lunch in the Fellowship Hall to wish Pastor Nathan "bon voyage" as he begins his sabbatical on Ash Wednesday (February 14)

#### Tuesday, February 13

- 7:30am: Upper Room Devotional Hour (Zoom)
- 5:30pm: Elders' Meeting (Hybrid)
- 7:00pm: Board Meeting (Hybrid)

#### Wednesday, February 14

• 7:00pm: Worship on Ash Wednesday in the WACC Sanctuary

### Thursday, February 15

• 7:00-8:30pm: Lenten Study (Zoom)

## Sunday, February 18: First Sunday in Lent

- 9:30am: Worship in the Sanctuary
- 11:00am: Two or More Scripture discussion group (in Gibbens Room)



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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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Words: Mary Louise Bringle, Music: Hal H. Hopson, 2002, 2004