



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

## Worship of God

April 21, 2024, 9:30am: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Chiming the Hour

The Atwood Carillon

Greeting

The Spirit of God is with you...  
**And also with you!**

Lauri Warfield

Call to Worship

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

Lauri Warfield

Meditation for Preparation

"I think it pisses God off if you walk by the color purple in a field somewhere and don't notice it. People think pleasing God is all God cares about. But any fool living in the world can see it always trying to please us back."

—Alice Walker, *The Color Purple*

Hymn of Praise

*Praise with Joy the World's Creator<sup>1</sup>*

LAUDA ANIMA

Praise with joy the world's Cre - a - tor, God of  
 Praise to Christ who feeds the hun gry, frees the  
 Praise the Spir - it sent a - mong us, lib - er -  
 Praise the Mak - er, Christ, and Spir - it, one God

jus - tice, love, and peace, source and end of hu - man  
 cap - tive, finds the lost, heals the sick, up - sets re -  
 at - ing truth from pride, forg - ing bonds where race or -  
 in com - mu - ni - ty, call - ing Chris - tians to em -

knowl - edge, grace be - stow - ing with - out cease. Cel - e -  
 li - gion, fear - less both of fate and cost. Cel - e -  
 gen - der, age or na - tion dare di - vide. Cel - e -  
 bod - y one - ness and di - ver - si - ty. Thus the

brate the Mak - er's glo - ry, pow'r to res - cue and re - lease.  
 brate Christ's con - stant pres - ence Friend and Stran - ger, Guest and Host.  
 brate the Spir - it's treas - ure - fool - ish ness none dare de - ride.  
 world shall yet be - lieve when shown Christ's vi - brant u - ni - ty.

Invocation

Ken Oblak

Hymn of Prayer 59

*This is My Father's World*

TERRA BEATA

Prayers of the People

God of all creation...  
**Remind us You are ever near.**

Debby Willets

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 306

*Hear Our Prayer, O Lord*

HEAR OUR PRAYER

Invitation to Stewardship

Mark Mathes

Offertory

Rees Taylor Roberts

Doxology

*Praise to God's the World's Creator<sup>2</sup>*

JOYOUS LIGHT



Praise to God, the world's cre - a - tor, who es - tab - lished day and night,  
field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, sights that make our hearts de - light!  
Use these gifts toward con - ser - va - tion, make us stew - ards all our days.  
This our act of faith - ful wor - ship, this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

The Reading

Jeremiah 7:1-7  
For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...  
**Thanks be to God!**

Nathan A. Russell

Sermon

*That's a Big "If"*

Nathan A. Russell

Discipline of Silence

“‘But now,’ says the Once-ler, ‘now that you're here, the word of the Lorax seems perfectly clear. UNLESS someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not.’”

–Dr. Seuss, *The Lorax*

Hymn of Communion

*The First Day of Creation<sup>3</sup> (reverse)*

LLANGLOFFAN

Invitation to Commune

Debby Willets

Prayer at the Table

Lauri Warfield

Words of Institution

Debby Willets

Invitation to Discipleship

Nathan A. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship 688

*When in Awe of God's Creation*

HYFRYDOL

Benediction and Charge

Nathan A. Russell

Postlude

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

Rees Taylor Roberts



<sup>1</sup>Words: The Iona Community, 1985; Music: John Goss, 1869

<sup>2</sup>Words: NAR, 2024; Music: Marty Haugen, 1987

<sup>3</sup>Words: Thomas Troger, 1985, vv. 1-3; NAR, 2024, v. 4; Music: Welsh folk melody

Today's artwork is Megan Rowe's reflection on Psalm 46. Megan wrote, "Creating this artwork... 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, April 21

- 11:00am: Speaking Christian Book Study
- 6:00pm: YouTube Premiere of Morning Worship

Tuesday, April 23

- 7:30-8:30am: Upper Room Devotional Hour (Zoom)

Saturday, April 27

- 10:00-1:00pm: Creation Care Clean-up of the Community Garden (10:00-12:00pm) & Lunch in the Dining Room (12:00-1:00pm)



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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