



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

Worship of God

May 18, 2025; 9:30am: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Chiming the Hour

The Atwood Carillon

Greeting

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

Nathan A. Russell

Call to Worship

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

Nathan A. Russell

Prelude

Prelude on "O Filii et Filiae" (Jean-François Dandrieu)

Sol M. Rizzato

Meditation for Preparation

"All human nature vigorously resists grace because grace changes us and the change is painful."

—Flannery O'Connor, *The Habit of Being*



Chris - tians, we have met to wor - ship and a - dore the liv - ing God;
Kin - dred, we will you come and help us? Mo - ses fam - 'ly aid - ed him;
Is there here a trem - bling jail - er, seek - ing grace and filled with fears?
Let us love our God su - preme - ly, let us love each oth - er, too;

will we pray with all our pow - er, as we try to preach the Word?
Will you help thea trem - bling mourn - ers who are strug - gling deep with - in?
Is there here pray for a weep - ing Ma - ry pour - ing forth a flood of tears?
Let us pray for all earth's peo - ple till our God makes all things new.

All is vain un - less the Spir - it, of the in Ho - ly One comes down;
Tell them all join your a - bout cries to the Sav - ior, how sis - ters, let Christ the lost are found;
Breth - ren, will call us home to help them; at the ta - ble prayers a - bound!
Christ will call us to heav - en, sit down;

Chris - tians, pray, and ho - ly man - na will be show - ered all a - round.
Chris - tians, pray, and ho - ly man - na will be show - ered all a - round.
Pray, oh, pray, that ho - ly man - na will be scat - tered all a - round.
Christ will wel - come us and serve us liv - ing man - na all a - round.

Invocation

Pam Sheetz

Hymn of Prayer 80

My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

RESIGNATION

Prayers of the People

God, our Shepherd...

Drive all our fears away.

Mark Mathes

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 546 v. 1

Amazing Grace

NEW BRITAIN



A - maz - ing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I

once was lost, but now am found; was blind but now I see.

Invitation to Stewardship Mark Mathes

Offertory Prelude on "O Filii et Filiae"(Edward Landin) Sol M. Rizzato

Doxology Now Is Christ Raised² SINE NOMINE



Now is Christ raised and will not die a - gain; death has no more do -
min - ion o - ver him. Through him we die to sin and live to God.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The Reading Luke 15:1-10 Nathan A. Russell
For the Word of God in its promise and covenant... **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon The God Who Finds Nathan A. Russell

Discipline of Silence
"Scripture doesn't speak of people who found God." –Rachel Held Evans, *Searching for Sunday*

Hymn of Communion 714 For the Fruit of All Creation AR HYD Y NOS

Invitation to Commune Mark Mathes

Prayer at the Table Sue Pray

Words of Institution Mark Mathes

Invitation to Discipleship Nathan A. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship One Day the Teacher Told a Crowd³ (Reverse) KINGSFOLD

Benediction and Charge Nathan A. Russell

Postlude Prelude on "O Filii et Filiae"(Healey Willan) Sol M. Rizzato
And all the people said... **AMEN!**

Upon first glance, it may seem as though there are three reoccurring pieces for the Prelude, Offertory, and Postlude. However, this is far from the case. These three pieces of music come from a genre of the organ repertoire known as *Chorale Preludes* or *Settings*– organ music meant for use in worship that is based off a specific tune. In this case, the tune in question is *O Filii et Filiae*, a chant originating in France from the Roman Catholic Church, for use during the Easter season. The setting for the prelude is by the French composer, Jean-François Dandrieu, and was written around 1714. This setting features the classic French Baroque organ sound with powerful reed voices and echoes between the two sides of the organ. The setting for the offertory is by American composer, Edward Landin, and was published in 2015. It is quiet and meditative, weaving the chant melody around contemporary musical ideas. The setting for the postlude is by Canadian and English composer Healey Willan, who, despite his time of composition, wrote in a complex and distinctive late Romantic style. This setting, published in Toronto in 1956, features rich harmonies and a great deal of dynamic contrasts. For an interesting challenge, see if you can recognize and pick out the shared chant melody between all three pieces.

One day the teach - er told a crowd three sto - ries that ring true: lost
 A shep - herd had a hun - dred sheep, and one of them was lost. Hear
 A wo - man had ten sil - ver coins, and one of them was lost. Hear
 So let us hear a - bout our God, who finds us when we stray, or

sheep, lost coin, lost son are found, brief scenes of grace made new. These par - a - bles in -
 this: The herds - man went to find the stray de - spite the cost. He left the fold of
 this: The wo - man swept her house, traced his steps and paths re - crossed, Yet un - til a shim - mer
 when we sep - a - rate our - selves, pre - fer - ring our dis - may. We ask for grace to

form our lives through chal - lenge and sur - prise, en - gag - ing and en -
 nine - ty - nine to search through fields grown deep, and She when, at last he
 in the dust showed where the coin now lay. She sum - moned friends with
 son re - turned, the oth - er spurned now sha - lom: "Don't stand out - side; come
 change our minds, re - pent, and turn a - round, to see the face of

light - ening that us as he fresh cried, in - sights found a - rise.
 saw great de - light, "Re - joice, "I with me my - sheep!"
 join the feast. Your and know that has come to - day!"
 God in Christ and we are found.

¹WORDS: George Askins, 1817, alt.; MUSIC: *Columbian Harmony*, 1825
³WORDS: Nathan A. Russell, 2025; MUSIC: Traditional English Melody

²WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1987; MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
 Today's artwork is *The good shepherd* (1973) by Jesus MAFA.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 18

- 11:00am: Two Or More: Scripture discussion group {Gibbens Room}
- 6:00pm: YouTube Online Worship Premiere

Tuesday, May 20

- 7:30-8:30am Upper Room Devotional Hour (Zoom)
- 3:00-4:30pm Outreach Committee Mtg. (Zoom)



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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