



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

Worship of God

February 8, 2026, 9:30am: Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

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

Meditation for Preparation

"Believe the automatic righteousness of whoever holds office. Believe the officials who see without doubt that peace is assured by war, freedom by oppression. The truth preserved by lying becomes a lie. Believe or die."

—Wendell Berry, *Against the War in Vietnam*

Hymn of Praise 634

To Us All, to Every Nation

EBENEZER

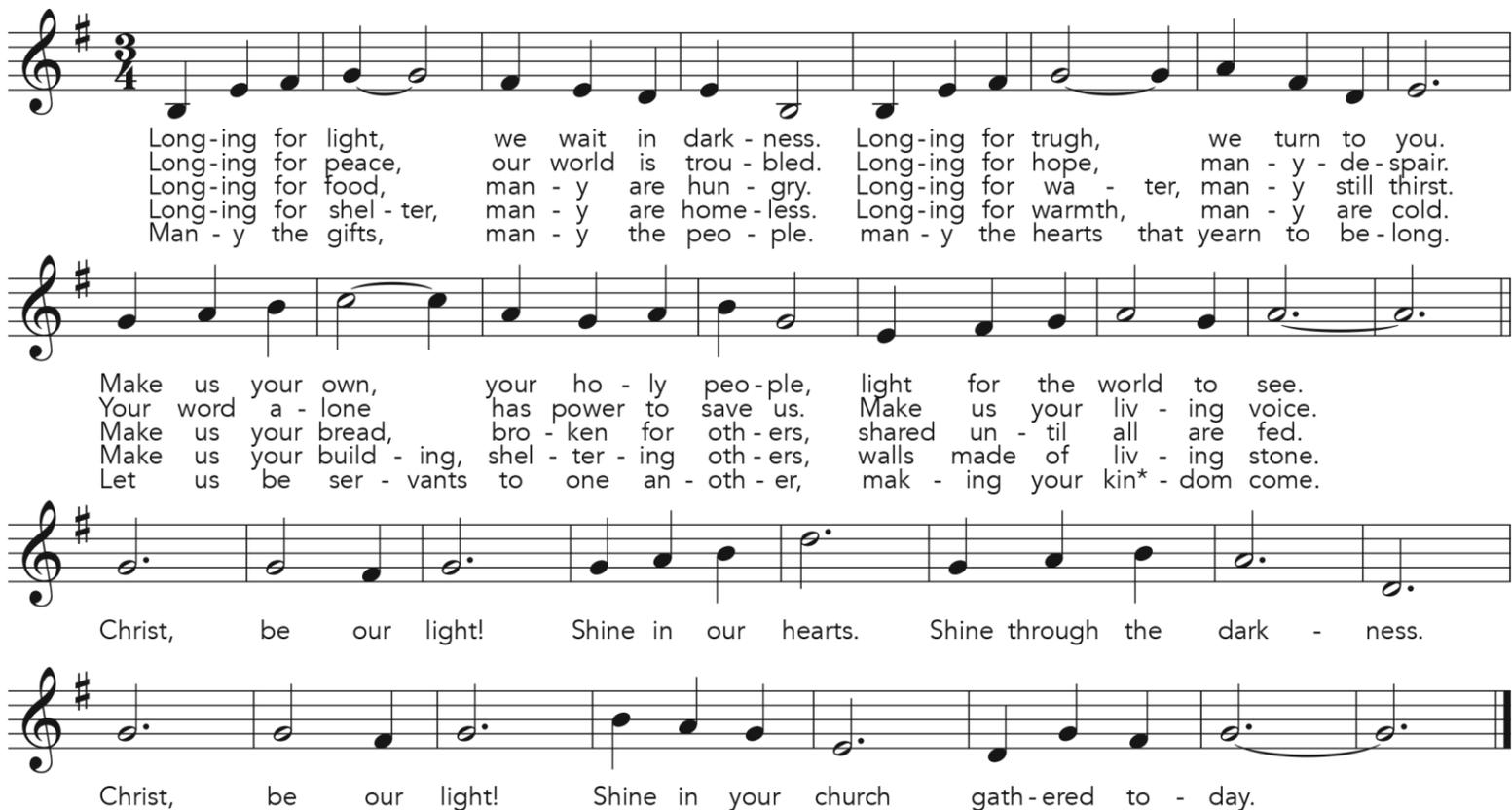
Invocation

Ron Dauphin

Hymn of Prayer

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness¹

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT



Long-ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long-ing for trugh, we turn to you.
 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long-ing for hope, man - y - de - spair.
 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for wa - ter, man - y still thirst.
 Long-ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long-ing for warmth, man - y are cold.
 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple. man - y the hearts that yearn to be - long.

Make us your own, your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 Your word a - lone has power to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 Make us your bread, bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 Make us your build - ing, shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 Let us be ser - vants to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your kin* - dom come.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath - ered to - day.

Prayers of the People

Christ, our light...
 Make us your living voice.

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 442

We Are Walking

TUNE

Invitation to Stewardship

Mary Siwierka

Offertory

Retrospection (Florence Price)

Sol M. Rizzato

Doxology

*God, the Sovereign*²

EBENEZER

God, the Sov-ereign, Light - Cre - a - tor, to you praise and hon - or be;
 to you, Light of Light be - got - ten, praise be sung e - ter - nal - ly;
 Ho - ly Spi - rit, Light - Re - veal - er, glo - ry glo - ry, glo - ry be;
 mor - tals an - gels, now and ev - er praise the Ho - ly Tri - ni - ty.

The Reading

Matthew 5:13-20
 For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...
Thanks be to God!

Nathan A. Russell

Sermon

Exceeding Justice

Nathan A. Russell

Discipline of Silence

“and when we speak we are afraid
 our words will not be heard
 nor welcomed
 but when we are silent
 we are still afraid
 So it is better to speak”

–Audre Lorde, *A Litany for Survival*

Hymn of Communion 419

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

HOLY MANNA

Invitation to Commune

Mark Mathes

Prayer at the Table

Pam Sheetz

Words of Institution

Mark Mathes

Invitation to Discipleship

Nathan A. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship

*Together We Serve*³

SAN ANSELMO

To - geth - er we serve, u - ni - ted by love, in - vit - ing God's
 We seek to be - come a bea - con of hope, a lamp for the
 We wel - come the scarred, the wealth - y, the poor, the bus - y, the
 To - geth - er, by grace, we wit - ness and work, re - mem - ber - ing

world to the glo - ri - ous feast. We work and we pray through sor - row and
 heart and a light for the feet. We learn, year by year, to let love shine
 lone - ly, and all who need care. We of - fer a home to those who will
 Je - sus, in whom we grow strong. To - geth - er we serve in Spir - it and

joy, ex - tend - ing your love to the last and the least.
 through un - til we see Christ in each per - son we meet.
 come, our hands quick to help, our hearts the read - y of to our dare.
 truth, re - mem - ber - ing love is the strength of our song.

Benediction and Charge

Nathan A. Russell

Postlude

Variations on "Holy Manna" (Karen Beaumont)
 And all the people said... AMEN!

Sol M. Rizzato

Today's artwork is Shine by Mike Moyers. The artist writes, "A painting of a simple candle reminding us to be light to the world."

<https://www.mikemoyersfineart.com/>

¹WORDS and MUSIC: Bernadette Farrell, 1993

²WORDS: Martin H. Franzmann, 1969; MUSIC: Thomas J. Williams, 1890

³WORDS and MUSIC: Daniel Charles Damon, 1998

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Weekly Calendar

- 10:00am-2:00pm: Office Hours and Labyrinth Open

Sunday, February 8

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

Tuesday, February 10

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