



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

Worship of God

April 19, 2026, 9:30am: Third 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 the Tune "Truro" (Margaret Vardell Sandresky)

Sol M. Rizzato

Meditation for Preparation

"A flood of emotions rushes into me. Pain and anger. Sadness and pity. But most surprising of all, hope."
—Jay Asher, *13 Reasons Why*

Hymn of Praise

On the Journey to Emmaus¹

COLUMCILLE



On the jour - ney to Em - ma - us with our hearts cold as stone - the One who would
 And our hearts burned with - in us as we talked on the way, how all that was
 And that eve - ning at the ta - ble as he blessed and broke bread, we saw - it was
 On our jour - ney to Em - ma - us, in our sto - ries and feast, with Je - sus we



save us had left us a - lone. then a stran - ger walks with us and to our sur -
 prom - ised was ours on that day. So we begged him, "Stay with us and grant us your -
 Je - sus a - ris'n from the dead; though he van - ished be - fore us we knew he was
 claim that the great - est is least: and his words burn with - in us - let none be ig -



prise, he o - pens our sto - ries and he o - pens our eyes.
 word." We wel - comed the stran - ger and we wel - comed the Lord.
 near - the life in our dy - ing and the hope in our fear.
 nored - who wel - comes the stran - ger shall wel - come the Lord.

Invocation

Bonnie Jackson

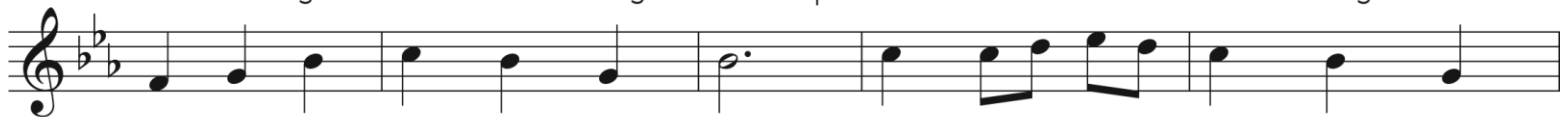
Hymn of Prayer

God of the Ages²

SLANE



God of the a - ges, we long to draw near as you in -
 Clam - or and cha - os sur - round us with gloom. Death stalks a -
 Beau - ty breaks forth through the mu - sic we bring; praise for your
 Your reign is com - ing with prom - ised sha - lom. You gath - er



vite us to life be - yond the fear. Shine through the sha - dows that
 gain with the threat of the tomb. Help us la - ment through our
 Spir - it who gives breath to sing; all crea - tures' voic - es fill
 in and pro - vide all a home. Strength - en our frail faith through



hin - der our way, guide us with wis - dom, and teach us to pray.
 grief and dis - may. Break through the dark - ness, and teach us to pray.
 na - ture's ar - ray with songs of glad - ness, and teach us to pray.
 hope's long de - lay; help us be peo - ple who know how to pray.

Prayers of the People

God of the ages...
 Teach us to pray.

Lill McNeal

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

Strange Wayfarer to Emmaus³

CONVERSE

Strange way-far-er to Em - ma - us, vague form on the dis-tant shore, fright to friends (Does sense be-
 tray us?) when you stood with them once more: ris - en Lord, be there to meet us
 when life dawns e-ter-nal - ly; may your prom-ised bless-ing greet us, "In all these you wel-comed me."

Invitation to Stewardship

Lauri Warfield

Offertory

Sol M. Rizzato

Doxology

Christ Is Alive!⁴

TRURO

Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to this and ev - ery age,
 till earth and sky and o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

The Reading

Luke 24:13-35

Nathan A. Russell

For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...
Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Surprised by Hope

Nathan A. Russell

Discipline of Silence

“‘HOPE’ is the thing with feathers
 That perches in the soul,
 And sings the tune without the words,
 And never stops at all”

–Emily Dickinson, *Hope is the thing with feathers*

Hymn of Communion 400

When You Do This, Remember Me

LORETTO

Invitation to Commune

Lill McNeal

Prayer at the Table

Janet Stevens-Brown

Words of Institution

Lill McNeal

Invitation to Discipleship

Nathan A. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship 465

We Are Called to Follow Jesus

WE ARE CALLED

Benediction and Charge

Nathan A. Russell

Postlude

Postlude on TRURO (David Lasky)

Sol M. Rizzato

And all the people said...

AMEN!

Today's artwork is Journey to Emmaus by He Qi.

¹WORDS: Marty Haugen, 1995; MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. John Bell, 1992

³WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1994; MUSIC: Charles C. Converse, 1868

²WORDS: Nathan A. Russell, 2026; MUSIC: Irish melody

⁴WORDS: Brian Wren, 1995; MUSIC: *Musica Sacra*, c. 1778

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Weekly Calendar

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

Sunday, April 19

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

Tuesday, April 21

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

Wednesday, April 22-25

- Pastor Nathan at Brite Divinity School for Board of Trustees



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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