



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

Worship of God

May 3, 2026, 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

From Organ Suite Op. 29 "The Boston Organ Book" (Everett E. Truette) Sol M. Rizzato

Meditation for Preparation

"Human lives are hard, even those of health and privilege, and don't make much sense. This is the message of the Book of Job: Any snappy explanation of suffering you come up with will be horseshit."

—Anne Lamott, *Help Thanks Wow*

Hymn of Praise

God of Dawn, Each Day's Renewal¹

JOYFUL SINGING



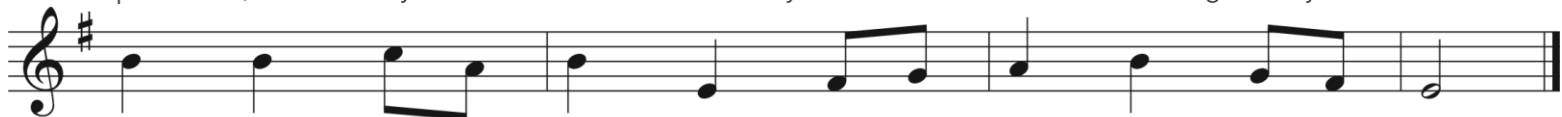
God of dawn, each day's re - new - al brings the world in - to your light as your
 Christ, you walked the world as we do, knew its hu - man pain and loss as your
 Ho - ly Spir - it, in - spi - ra - tion, light and truth and root of prayer, as your
 Praise to God, who spoke cre - a - tion, giv - ing life to time and space. Praise to



son de - feats the shad - ows, drives a - way the fear of night. We would
 love broke through the bar - riers, by your death the up - on the cross. We still
 chal - lenge moves us for - ward, tak - ing us we know not where, we will
 Christ, whose liv - ing pres - ence showed the world your hu - man face. Praise the



greet this new be - gin - ning as you call to start a - gain; lead us
 speak your gos - pel mes - sage, though two thou - sand years have gone; help us
 fol - low your di - rec - tion, though the way may not be clear. Shape us,
 Spir - it, dai - ly wit - ness to your ev - er - lov - ing way. Take us



on with hope and cour - age, make your will and pur - pose plain.
 now trans - late its mean - ing in this pres - ent world of wrong.
 change us, re - cre - ate us, so the fu - ture holds no fear.
 now and re - a - wake us, chal - lenge us to use this day.

Invocation

Mark Wainwright

Hymn of Prayer

The House of Faith Has Many Rooms²

BANGOR



The house of faith has man - y rooms where we have nev - er been;
 We dare not lim - it God's do - main to what our creeds de - clare,
 The way to God is not es - cape, though truth does make us free:
 Yet still we seek at jour - ney's end the last and sweet - est grace:



there is more space with - in God's scope than we have ev - er seen.
 or shrink from pro - bing things un - known lest God should not be there.
 the life of cho - sen ser - vant - hood is per - fect li - ber - ty.
 the gift of room to turn a - round and know God face to face.

Prayers of the People

God of sweetest grace...
 Help us know you face to face.

Pam Sheetz

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 432

O Christ, the Way, the Truth, the Life

ST. PETER

Invitation to Stewardship

Mark Mathes

Offertory

From Organ Suite Op. 29 "The Boston Organ Book" (Everett E. Truette)

Sol M. Rizzato

Doxology

*Christ Is Alive!*³

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

John 14:1-14

Nathan A. Russell

For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Nothing (No-Thing) Can Trouble

Nathan A. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"Life is tragic simply because the earth turns and the sun inexorably rises and sets, and one day, for each of us, the sun will go down for the last, last time. Perhaps the whole root of our trouble, the human trouble, is that we will sacrifice all the beauty of our lives, will imprison ourselves in totems, taboos, crosses, blood sacrifices, steeples, mosques, races, armies, flags, nations, in order to deny the fact of death, the only fact we have. It seems to me that one ought to rejoice in the fact of death--ought to decide, indeed, to earn one's death by confronting with passion the conundrum of life. One is responsible for life: It is the small beacon in that terrifying darkness from which we come and to which we shall return."

—James Baldwin, *The Fire Next Time*

Hymn of Communion 397

Come, Risen Lord

HOLBORN

Invitation to Commune

Pam Sheetz

Prayer at the Table

Mark Mathes

Words of Institution

Pam Sheetz

Invitation to Discipleship

Nathan A. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship 633

Lead On, O Cloud of Presence

LANCASHIRE

Benediction and Charge

Nathan A. Russell

Postlude

Trumpet Tune (Jeremy Bankson)

Sol M. Rizzato

And all the people said...

AMEN!

Today's artwork is *Journey with Jesus* by He Qi © 2025 All rights Reserved. <https://www.heqiart.com/>

¹WORDS: Marjorie Dobson, 2004; MUSIC: Hal Hopson, 1992

²WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1990; MUSIC: *A Compleat Melody or Harmony of Zion*, 1734

³WORDS: Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1995; MUSIC: *Musica Sacra*, c. 1778

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Weekly Calendar

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

Sunday, May 3

- 11:00am: Speaker: Nicolle Bellmore Pierse/Office On Aging in Lorain County
- 6:00pm: YouTube Online Worship Premiere

Monday, May 4

- 10:00-11:00am: Worship Committee Mtg. (Hybrid)

Tuesday, May 5

- 7:30-8:30am: Upper Room Devotional Hour (Zoom)
- 11:30am-1:00pm: CHLG & Outreach Comm. Mtg. (Hybrid)
- 5:30-6:30pm: Stewardship Committee Mtg, (Zoom)

Wednesday, May 6

- 5:30-7:00-pm Girl Scout Troop #60163 Mtg. in the Music 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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