



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

Worship of God

August 2, 2026, 9:30am: Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Consolation (F. Mendelssohn)

Maggie Johns

Meditation for Preparation

"If there is no struggle there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation are men who want crops without plowing up the ground; they want rain without thunder and lightning."

—Fredrick Douglass, *West India Emancipation*

Hymn of Praise 16

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

Invocation

Don Hange, Jr.

Hymn of Prayer

Come Away from Stress and Trouble¹

BEACH SPRING



Come a - way from stress and trou - ble to a place of calm re - treat;
As we walk on well - worn foot - paths, or glide down fresh slopes of snow,
By great streams of rush - ing wa - ter or small springs that warm the ground,
In the count - less crags and can - yons carved by for - ces long a - go,
New - ly met, the One who finds us goes with us a - long the way;

let the moun - tains' gran - deur show us how our quest and God's heart meet.
we can feel the Spir - it lift us with her breeze and that lets us know:
we re - call the One who bathes us with a worth that knows no bound.
we be - hold the si - lent sto - ries etched by ice and la - va's flow.
with each sun - rise comes com - pas - sion, ten - der mer - cies for the day.

Here cre - a - tion's splen - dor of - fers what our wear - ied bo - dies need:
God is with us and be - yond us, ev - er mak - ing all things new,
Through our bap - tism, we are graft - ed, named, and claimed to be God's own,
By God's bid - ding through the e - ons, life breaks forth in un - sung ways,
Filled with strength and ho - ly cour - age, we re - turn to life by choice

nou - rish - ment from na - ture's boun - ty on which hun - gry souls can feed.
daz - zling us with fresh be - gin - nings where God's fu - ture will break through.
then sent forth as Christ's dis - ci - ples, told that we are not a - lone.
bring - ing hope where hearts are ach - ing, prom - ise break - ing in - to praise.
and em - brace our true vo - ca - tions hav - ing heard God's still, small voice.

Prayers of the People

God who meets us...
Fill us with holy courage.

Lauri Warfield

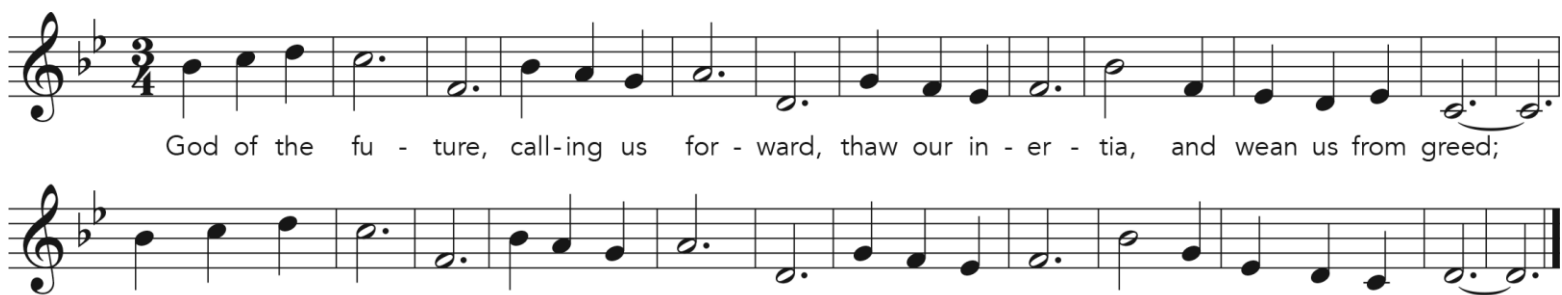
The Lord's Prayer

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

God of the Future²

TENDERNESS

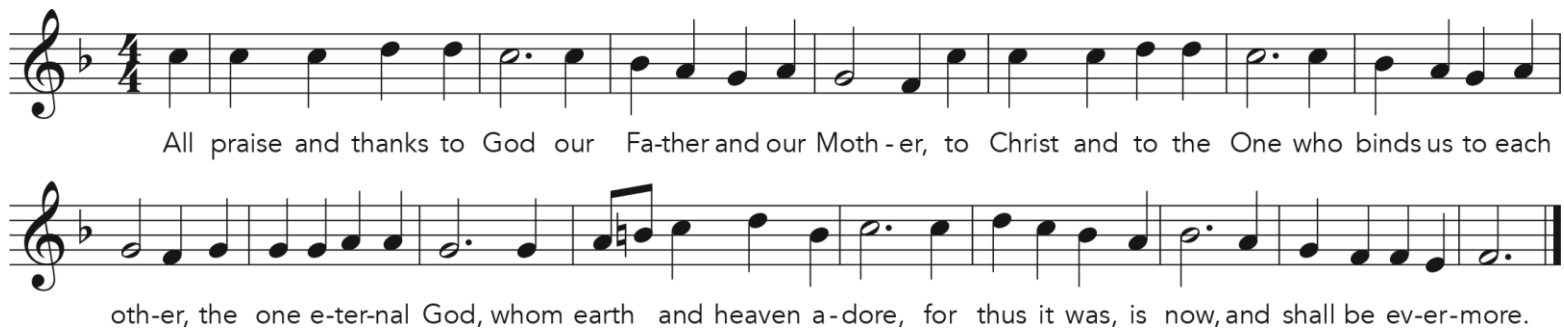


God of the fu - ture, call - ing us for - ward, thaw our in - er - tia, and wean us from greed;
trans - form false com - fort in - to com - mit - ment that we may serve you in word and in deed.

Invitation to Stewardship Ron Dauphin

Offertory *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* (arr. Judy East Wells) Maggie Johns

Doxology Number 715 v. 3 *All Praise and Thanks to God* NUN DANKET



The Reading Isaiah 55:1-5 Daniel Mitchell
For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...
Thanks be to God!

Sermon *Sometimes it Is Just Easier to Be a Christian* Daniel Mitchell

Discipline of Silence
"What do we live for, if it is not to make life less difficult to each other?"
—George Eliot, *Middlemarch*

Hymn of Communion 429 *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart* FINEST WHEAT

Invitation to Commune Lauri Warfield

Prayer at the Table Lill McNeal

Words of Institution Lauri Warfield

Invitation to Discipleship Nathan A. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship *Sing a New World into Being*³ (Back Cover) RUSTINGTON

Benediction and Charge Nathan A. Russell

Postlude *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* (arr. Bernadine Johnson) Maggie Johns
And all the people said...
AMEN!

Flowers on the chancel are given by the Rev. Melissa St. Clair, Executive Director of the Center for Faith and Giving, in honor of and with gratitude for Daniel Mitchell.

Today's artwork is Valeska, Lette. The Promised Land, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/57433> [retrieved July 31, 2026]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_Promised_Land.jpg.

¹WORDS: Nathan A. Russell, 2025; MUSIC: Attr. B. F. White, 1844

²WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 2022; MUSIC: Colin Gibson, 1992

³WORDS: Mary Louise Bringle, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1897



Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sound a bold and hop - ful theme.
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing where each gen - der, class, and race
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing where the home - less find a home,
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Join the an - cient proph - ets' cry

Find a tune for si - lent year - ings. Lend your voice and dare to dream:
 brings its rain - bow gifts and col - ors to God's lim - it - less em - brace;
 where no chil - dren ev - er hun - ger but are all filled in God's sha - lom;
 for a time of health and plen - ty when all tears have been wiped dry;

dream a church where all who wor - ship find their lives and loves be - long.
 where the lines that once di - vid - ed form in - stead the ties that bind.
 where all peo - ple work for jus - tice, where all hate and venge - ance cease.
 when com - pas - sion flows like wa - ters, pour - ing balm for all who grieve.

Sing a new world in - to be - ing: Sing as Christ in - spires your song.
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing: risk trans - form - ing heart and mind.
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing: raise the har - mo - nies of peace.
 Sing a new world in - to be - ing: live the prom - ise you be - lieve!

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Weekly Calendar

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

Sunday, August 2

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

Tuesday, August 4

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

Wednesday, August 5

- 5:30-7:00pm 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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