



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

Worship of God

August 16, 2026, 9:30am: Twelfth 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

Meditation (Mussorgsky)

Maggie Johns

Meditation for Preparation

"My vision gathered the community as it never has been and never will be gathered in this world of time, for the community must always be marred by members who are indifferent to it or against it, who are nonetheless its members and maybe nonetheless essential to it. And yet I saw them all as somehow perfected, beyond time, by one another's love, compassion, and forgiveness, as it is said we may be perfected by grace."

—Wendell Berry, *Jayber Crow*

Hymn of Praise 280

God Is Here!

ABBOT'S LEIGH

Invocation

Kurtis Hoffman

Hymn of Prayer 534

When Our Confidence Is Shaken

LAUDA ANIMA

Prayers of the People

God of love...
Mature our faith.

Debby Willets

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 306

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

HEAR OUR PRAYER

Invitation to Stewardship

Mark Mathes

Offertory

Adagio (Schumann)

Maggie Johns

Doxology

*Praise the Breath that Tunes All Nature*¹

NETTLETON



Praise the Breath that tunes all na - ture to the Sourc - e's end-less Song, an - i - mat - ing life-less
plac - es, mak-ing fee - ble voic-es strong. Praise the wind that top-ples boun - d'ries, shap-ing
worlds that yet might be, and in - spir - ing all our mu - sic; praise the sing-ing Trin-i - ty.

The Reading

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8
For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...
Thanks be to God!

Nathan A. Russell

Sermon

Gather Us In

Nathan A. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"She is a friend of my mind. She gather me, man. The pieces I am, she gather them and give them back to me in all the right order."

—Toni Morrison, *Beloved*

Hymn of Communion 289

What Is This Place

KOMT NU MET ZANG

Invitation to Commune

Debby Willets

Prayer at the Table

Pam Sheetz

Words of Institution

Debby Willets

Invitation to Discipleship

Nathan A. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship

All Are Welcome²

TWO OAKS

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are strong and true,
Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine, and wheat;
Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and stone
Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions heard

a place where saints and chil - dren tell how hearts learn to for - give.
where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to dream God's reign a - new.
a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground, where peace and jus - tice meet.
to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
and loved and treas - ured, taught and claimed as words with - in the Word.

Built of hopes and dreams and as vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the cross shall stand through wit - ness and is as sym - bol in time of God's grace;
Here the love of God, the Je - sus, re - vealed in the of and space;
Here the out - cast and the stran - ger bear the im - age of God's face;
Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;

here the love of Christ shall end faith di - vi - sions:
here as we share in we claim the feast of that Je - sus:
as we us bring an end to the feast and frees us:
let us this house pro - claim from floor to to dan - ger:
let this house pro - claim from floor to to raf - ter:

All are wel - come, all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Benediction and Charge

Nathan A. Russell

Postlude

My Hope Is Built (arr. Dalton)

Maggie Johns

And all the people said...
AMEN!

Today's artwork is *The Communion of Saints* (2025) by Megan Rowe.

¹WORDS: David Bjorlin, 2018; MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813

²WORDS and MUSIC: Marty Haugen, 1994

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Weekly Calendar

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

Sunday, August 16

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

Tuesday, August 18

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

Wednesday, August 19

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



We are thrilled that you are worshipping 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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