



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

## Worship of God

September 6, 2026, 9:30am: Fifteenth 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

*Prelude in B-flat* (Clara Schumann)

Christa Rakich

Meditation for Preparation

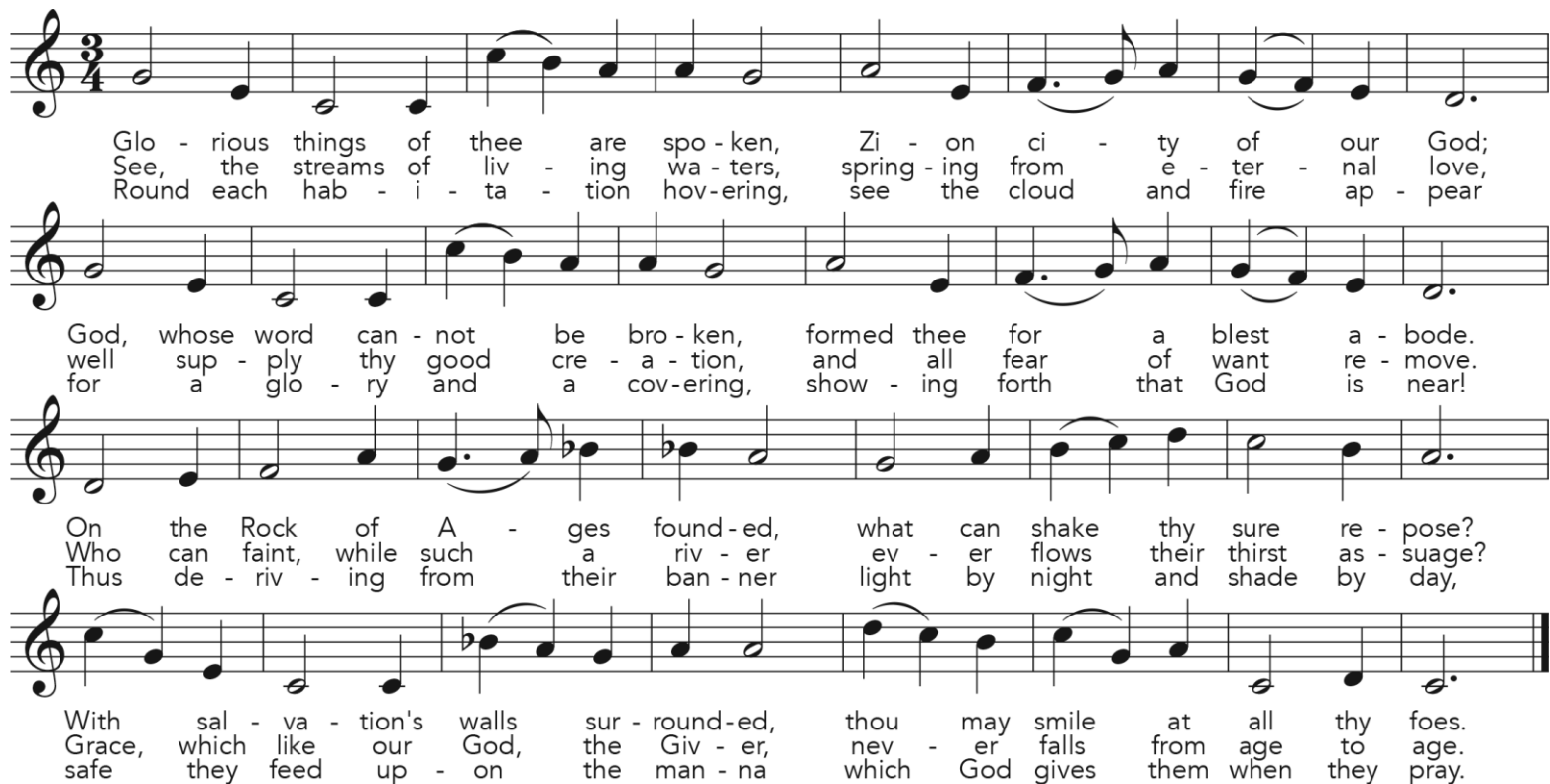
"I recommend the freedom that comes from asking: Compared to what? Hierarchical systems prevail by making us feel inadequate and imperfect. Whatever we do, we will internalize the blame. But once we realize there is no such thing as adequacy or perfection, it sets us free to say: We might as well be who we really are."

—Gloria Steinem, *Doing Sixty & Seventy*

Hymn of Praise

*Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*<sup>1</sup>

ABBOT'S LEIGH



Invocation

David Stroup

Hymn of Prayer 656

*God of Freedom, God of Justice*

TREDEGAR

Prayers of the People

God of freedom and justice...  
**Make in us a captive conscience.**

Debbie Walker

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 583

*Lead Me, Guide Me*

LEAD ME GUIDE ME

Invitation to Stewardship

Don Hange, Jr.

Offertory

*Canon in C* (Robert Schumann)

Christa Rakich



The Reading

Exodus 12:1-14  
For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...  
Thanks be to God!

Nathan A. Russell

Sermon

Compassionate Passover

Nathan A. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"A community is the mental and spiritual condition of knowing that the place is shared, and that the people who share the place define and limit the possibilities of each other's lives. It is the knowledge that people have of each other, their concern for each other, their trust in each other, the freedom with which they come and go among themselves."

—Wendell Berry, *The Loss of the Future*

Hymn of Communion 506 *Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table!*<sup>3</sup> (Back Cover)

COPELAND

Invitation to Commune

Debbie Walker

Prayer at the Table

Debby Willets

Words of Institution

Debbie Walker

Invitation to Discipleship

Nathan A. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship 618

*How Firm a Foundation*

FOUNDATION

Benediction and Charge

Nathan A. Russell

Postlude

*Fugue in B-flat* (Clara Schumann)  
And all the people said...  
**AMEN!**

Christa Rakich

Look who gath - ers at Christ's ta - ble! Hear the sto - ries that they bring.  
Clouds of light sur - round the ta - ble; an - cient fol - low - ers ap - pear,  
Their sad sto - ries and are re - peat - ed in a thou - sand dif - ferent ways,  
Bring your joy and bring your sad - ness, and pre - pare to be sur - prised.

Some are weep - ing; some are laugh - ing; some have songs they want to sing.  
saints con - fess - ing how they wres - tled with their guilt, their doubt, and fear.  
but they share one thing in com - mon: they all will end in thanks and praise  
by the host whose hands are wound - ed. who will o - pen wide your eyes

Oth - ers ask why they're in - vi - ted, bur - dened by the wrong they've done.  
Pe - ter tells of his de - ny - ing Christ was ev - er in his sight;  
for the host who has in - vit - ed north and south and east and west  
when he bless - es bread and breaks it- truth and man - na from a - bove!-

Christ in - sists they all are wel - come. There is room for ev - ery - one.  
Paul re - lates his fruit - less ef - forts to ob - li - ter - ate the light.  
to con - verge a - round this ta - ble, where all life is fed and blest.  
and then pass - es wine that wa - kens in your heart the taste of love.

## EVENTS THIS WEEK

### Weekly Calendar

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

### Sunday, September 6

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

### Monday, September 7

- Federal Holiday/Labor Day

### Tuesday September 8

- 7:30-8:30am: Upper Room Devotional Hour (Zoom)
- 5:30-7:00pm: Elders' Meeting in the Conference Room (Hybrid)
- 7:00-8:30pm: Board Meeting (Hybrid)



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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