



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

Worship of God

September 13, 2026, 9:30am: Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Chiming the Hour

The Atwood Carillon

Greeting

The Spirit of God is with you...
And also with you!

Gerald Western

Call to Worship

Lift up your hearts...
We lift them to the Lord!

Gerald Western

Meditation for Preparation

"Why speak so confidently about God? Whatever we say about God falls short of the truth."

—Meister Eckhart

Hymn of Praise 65

The Living Word of Scripture¹

NYLAND



The liv - ing word of the scrip - ture pro - vides the guide and source
A proph - et on the moun - tain, a child with - in the womb,
De - liv - 'rance in the our des - ert, a pil - lar's in guid - ing ray,
Our sib - lings and our kin - dred, true saints of ev - every age
for saints in search of wis - dom and the light to chart their course.
a youth in ear - nest search - ing, and the wom - en at the tomb;
the grove's re - stor - ing their vi - sion, the pro - phet - ic pow'r to day;
who share with us their sto - ry, speak out from ev - every page.
The stran - gers and the pil - grims who owned the cause sub - lime
how in glo - ri - ous a com - pa - ny reach out his - t'ry's hands to ex - lime
That sto - ry gen - is not end - tions ed, of for still God's broad voice is heard
have glimpsed the rev - e - la - tion, and an - swered in their time.
their faith a has vi - brant wit - ness to God's re - deem - ing powers.
the word the who proved suf - fi - cent for to be ev - every the cir - cum - stance.
through all who bear the call - ing to be the liv - ing word.

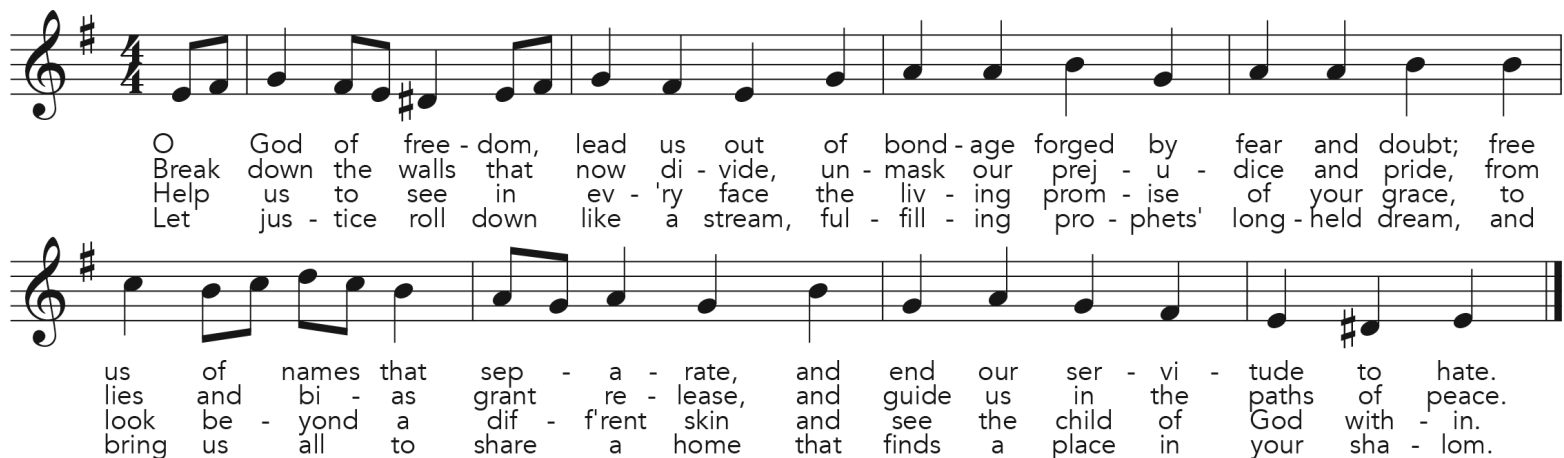
Invocation

Sheila Smith

Hymn of Prayer

O God of Freedom, Lead Us Out²

ERHALT UNS, HERR



O God of free - dom, lead us out of bond - age forged by fear and doubt; free
Break down the walls that now ev - 'ry face, the liv - ing prom - ise dice and pride, from
Help us to see in like a stream, ful - fill - ing pro - phets' long - held dream, to
Let jus - tice roll down like a stream, ful - fill - ing pro - phets' long - held dream, to
us of names that sep - a - rate, and end our ser - vi - tude to hate.
lies and bi - as that grant re - lease, and guide us in the of paths God with - in. peace.
look be - yond a dif - f'rent skin, and see the child of in your God sha - lom. peace.
bring us all to share a home and that finds a place in your God sha - lom.

Prayers of the People

God of freedom...

Sue Pray

Let justice roll down like a stream.

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

Kathy Wainwright

Offertory

Adagio (Anna Amalia)

Christa Rakich

Doxology 15 v. 5

Rejoice, You Pure in Heart

MARION



Praise God who rules all worlds; the ris - en Christ a - dore. Praise God the Spir - it,
Ho - ly Fire, one God for ev - er - more! Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, give thanks and sing.

The Reading

Exodus 14:19-31
For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...
Thanks be to God!

Heather Ferguson

Sermon

Our Stories About God

Heather Ferguson

Discipline of Silence

"The grace of God means something like: 'Here is your life...the party wouldn't have been complete without you. Here is the world. Beautiful and terrible things will happen. Don't be afraid. I am with you. Nothing can ever separate us. It's for you I created the universe. I love you.'"

—Frederick Buechner, *Wishful Thinking*

Hymn of Communion 384

Here at Thy Table, Lord

BREAD OF LIFE

Invitation to Commune

Sue Pray

Prayer at the Table

Gerald Western

Words of Institution

Sue Pray

Invitation to Discipleship

Gerald Western

Hymn of Discipleship 633

Lead On, O Cloud of Presence

LANCASHIRE

Benediction and Charge

Heather Ferguson

Postlude

Fuga Angelorum (David Dahl)
And all the people said... **AMEN!**

Christa Rakich

Today's artwork is Red Sea Crossing by He Qi. © <https://www.heqiart.com/>. All rights reserved.

¹WORDS: Geoffrey F. Spencer, 1980; MUSIC: Finnish folk melody

²WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 2016; MUSIC: Klug's *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Weekly Calendar

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

Sunday, September 13

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

Tuesday, September 15

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

Wednesday, September 16

- 5:30-7:30pm: Girl Scout Troop #50163 Meeting 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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