



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

Worship of God

October 18, 2026, 9:30am: Twenty-First 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

Concerto in C Major: I (Vivaldi/Bach)

Brian Wentzel

Meditation for Preparation

"There is the mystery of continuous creation and all that providence implies: the uncertainty of vision, the horror of the fixed, the dissolution of the present, the intricacy of beauty, the pressure of fecundity, the elusiveness of the free, and the flawed nature of perfection."

—Annie Dillard, *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*

Hymn of Praise

Here, O God, Your People Gather¹

THAXTED



Here, O God, your peo - ple gath - er to wor - ship in this place sing - ing
 Though the path may not be pleas - ant when filled with grief and strife, your up -
 God, we sense your hope and pas - sion that call us to sha - lom. We are
 psalms and hymns of won - der, we long to see your face. Moved by sounds of pipes and
 lift - ing Spir - it greets us with prom - ise for new life. You trans - cend our ex - pec -
 yet a pil - grim peo - ple still search - ing for our home. Lead us ev - er on the
 voic - es, hush of si - lence, rush of wind, we are dan - cing to the rhy - thms of
 ta - tions as you stun us with sur - prise, and we can - not help but mar - vel at
 jour - ney to your fu - ture that will be filled with jus - tice, love, and mer - cy that
 grace that will not end. Shape our lives with phrase and ca - dence, make us a liv ing
 all be - fore our eyes. While the fear - ful powers a - round us can threat - en to de -
 set our spir - its free. Guide us through the times and sea - sons of life with - in your
 score; as we swell the cos - mic chor - us to praise you ev - er - more.
 stroy, you, our God, are ev - er with us! You bring a great - er joy.
 care. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age! Give us the faith to dare!

Invocation

Nancy Walker

Hymn of Prayer

When God First Promised Abram²

CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEBEN



When God first prom - ised A - bram a na - tion of his own,
 When Ja - cob fled his broth - er - the trick - ster of out - schemes -
 When Mo - ses climbed the moun - tain the en - gulphed by storm and smoke,
 When Ra - hab hid two stran - gers and spurned the king's com - place
 So, thank you, God for dark - ness, the ho - ly meet - ing
 the dark - ness was the can - vas where stars of prom - ise shone.
 in dark - ness of the des - ert God gave the schem - er dreams.
 with - in a cloud the of dark - ness the glo - ry spoke.
 be - neath the veil of dark - ness they safe - ly fled the land.
 where you re - veal your pres - ence and we en - count - er grace.

Prayers of the People

God of holy darkness...
 Reveal your presence.

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 593

Lead Me, Lord

LEAD ME LORD

Invitation to Stewardship

Ron Dauphin

Offertory

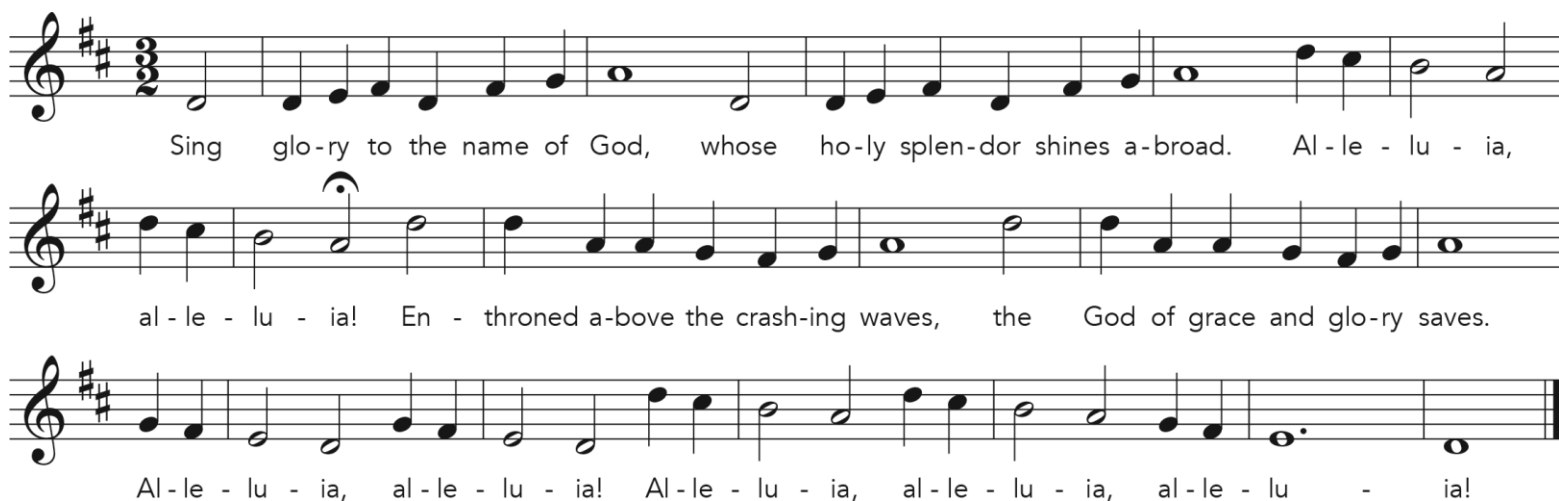
Thaxted (R. Farlee)

Brian Wentzel

Doxology

Sing Glory to the Name of God³

LASST UNS ERFREUEN



Sing glo-ry to the name of God, whose ho-ly splen-dor shines a-broad. Al-le - lu - ia,
al-le - lu - ia! En - throned a-bove the crash-ing waves, the God of grace and glo-ry saves.
Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

The Reading

Exodus 33:12-23
For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...
Thanks be to God!

Nathan A. Russell

Sermon

More Than That For Which We Had Hoped

Nathan A. Russell

Discipline of Silence

"You can't always get what you want
But if you try sometime, you'll find
You get what you need"

—Keith Richards and Mick Jagger, *You Can't Always Get What You Want*

Hymn of Communion 410

Now We Come Before God's Presence

ST. PAUL'S

Invitation to Commune

Debby Willets

Prayer at the Table

Pam Sheetz

Words of Institution

Debby Willets

Communion Meditation

Concerto in C Major: II (Vivaldi/Bach)

Brian Wentzel

Invitation to Discipleship

Nathan A. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship 357

We Call Ourselves Disciples

LANCASHIRE

Benediction and Charge

Nathan A. Russell

Postlude

Concerto in C Major: III (Vivaldi/Bach)
And all the people said...
AMEN!

Brian Wentzel

Today's artwork is Joyful Mountain Landscape (1929) by Paul Klee. <https://artvee.com/dl/joyful-mountain-landscape/>

¹WORDS: Nathan A. Russell, 2023; MUSIC: Gustav Holst, 1918

²WORDS: David Bjorlin, 2020; MUSIC: Melchoir Vulpus, 1609

³WORDS: David Gambrell, 2009; MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1623

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Weekly Calendar

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

Sunday, October 18

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

Tuesday, October 20

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

Wednesday, October 21

- 5:30-8:00pm: Girl Scout Troop #50163 Meeting 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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