



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

Worship of God

November 10, 2024; 9:30am: 25th 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 on a Ukrainian Tune "Silent Prayer" (Mikhail Shukh)

Sol M. Rizzato

Meditation for Preparation

"Sometimes the Bible in the hand of one man is worse than a whisky bottle in the hand of (another)... There are just some kind of men who - who're so busy worrying about the next world they've never learned to live in this one, and you can look down the street and see the results."
-Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Hymn of Praise 61

All Things Bright and Beautiful

ROYAL OAK

Invocation

Janet Stevens-Brown

Hymn of Prayer

Ask the Complicated Questions¹

RESTORATION

Ask the com - pli - cat - ed ques-tions, do not fear to be found out;
 Seek the dis - con - cert - ing an - swers, fol - low where the Spir - it blows;
 Knock on doors of new i - de - as, test as - sump - tions long grown stale;
 For in strug - gle we dis - cov - er truth both sim - ple and pro - found;

for our God makes strong our weak-ness, forg - ing faith in fires of doubt.
 test com - pet - ing truths for wis - dom, for in ten - sion new life grows.
 for Christ calls from shores of won - der, dar - ing us to try and fail.
 in the knock - ing, ask - ing, seek - ing, we are o - pened, ans - wered, found.

Prayers of the People

Nancy Walker

God, who welcomes our questions...
Help us follow where the Spirit blows.

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 354

Seek Ye First

SEEK YE FIRST

Invitation to Stewardship

Kathy Wainwright

Offertory

When Peace Like a River (Kristina Rizzotto)

Sol M. Rizzato

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

Matthew 6:25-34
 For the Word of God in its promise and covenant...
Thanks be to God!

Nathan A. Russell

Sermon

On Worry, Fighting, and Desiring

Nathan A. Russell

Discipline of Silence

“All adults have days when we feel completely drained. When we no longer know quite what we spend so much time fighting for, when reality and everyday worries overwhelm us and we wonder how much longer we’re going to be able to carry on. The wonderful thing is that we can all live through far more days like that without breaking than we think. The terrible thing is that we never know exactly how many.”
 –Frederick Backman, *Beartown*

Hymn of Communion

When We Read or Hear²

DENNISPORT

When we read or hear your writ - ten word, help our hearts grow strong and
 At the Ta - ble you pre - pare for us bread and cup bear liv - ing
 As we move with faith in - to the world, find - ing there much need and
 con - fi - dent as in hope we turn once more to you, ev - er - pres - ent God made ev - i - dent.
 test - a - ment draw - ing us to taste and see your love, ev - er - pres - ent God made ev - i - dent.
 dis - con - tent, help us live as chan - nels of your peace, ev - er - pres - ent God made ev - i - dent.

Invitation to Commune

Nancy Walker

Prayer at the Table

Sue Pray

Words of Institution

Nancy Walker

Invitation to Discipleship

Nathan A. Russell

Hymn of Discipleship 668

For the Healing of the Nations

CWM RHONDDA

And all the people said...

AMEN!

Today's artwork is *Calla Lilies* (1924) by Georgia O'Keeffe. It's an oil on canvas work and measures 16 ¼ x 12 ¼ in.

¹WORDS: David Bjorlin, 2018; MUSIC: Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835. Bjorlin writes of this text: "Growing up in a conservative evangelical context, I witnessed how honest questions and doubts were often interpreted as a sign of a person's lack of faith. Using Christ's directives in the Semon on the Mount—"ask," "seek," "knock,"—this text attempts to demonstrate the ways in which complicated questions, disconcerting answers, and new ideas are a necessary component of any living faith and the place where God often encounters us.

²WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 2024; MUSIC: Alfred V. Fedak, 2024. Carl P. Daw is an Episcopal priest he has served parishes in Virginia, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania, and he taught in the English Department of the College of William and Mary before entering seminary. From 1996-2009, he served as the Executive Director of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada from 1996 to 2009. Daw was the Curator of Hymnological Collections and Adjunct Professor of Hymnology at Boston University, where he taught David Bjorlin.

A widely-published and well-known composer of church music, Alfred Fedak has well over 300 choral and organ works in print, and more than 100 of his hymn tunes appear in hymnals and collections throughout the English-speaking world and Asia. Four anthologies of his hymns have been published by Selah Publishing Company: *The Alfred V. Fedak Hymnary* (1990), *Sing to the Lord No Threadbare Song* (2001), *God of the Future* (2009), and *Stones Unthrown* (2014). A review of *God of the Future* in *The Hymn* (the journal of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada) called Fedak "the finest composer of hymn tunes working today," and Harvard University has described him as being "widely regarded as one of the greatest living composers of original hymn tunes."

Our singing of this text and tune mark its world premiere.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 10

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

Monday, November 11

- Church Office closed for Veterans Day

Tuesday, November 12

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

Thursday, November 14

- 10:00-11:00am: All-Church Social Hour (Zoom)



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.

Permission to print music is obtained from ONE LICENSE #73174-A. All rights reserved.

