

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

Worship Leaders: Valeria Foster, Beverly Goines, and Noemi Mena
Preacher: Stephen Gentle

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

We prepare for worship with the gathering music. Join in the singing of the gathering music with the choir, and please turn off all cellular phones, pagers, and watch alarms.

CALL TO WORSHIP Stephen Gentle

GATHERING MUSIC

I Love You, Lord Laurie Klein
I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice
To worship you, O my soul, rejoice!
Take joy, my King, in what you hear:
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

How Majestic Is Your Name No. 63
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
O Lord, we praise your name. O Lord, we magnify your name:
Prince of Peace, Mighty God; O Lord God Almighty.

✠OPENING HYMN *Be Thou My Vision* No. 595

✠RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE Noemi Mena
Leader: God be praised!
People: I will give thanks to God with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, the congregation.
Leader: The worship of God is the beginning of wisdom. A good understanding have all those who practice it.
People: God's praise endures forever.
Unison: Great God of the universe, whose wisdom pervades all creation, we gather before you to give you all praise and honor. Wonderful and majestic are your works. In company with the redeemed of all ages, we lift our voices to acclaim your worth.

✠SONG OF THANKSGIVING No. 555
Through It All
Through it all, through it all,
I've learned to trust in Jesus, I've learned to trust in God;
through it all, through it all,
I've learned to depend upon God's word.

✠MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP, WELCOME OF VISITORS Stephen Gentle
Welcome to National City Christian Church. We greet you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. We request that everyone - both members and visitors - sign the Connect With Us cards in your bulletin. If you are a visitor, please indicate your address and telephone number. There is space on the back of the cards for prayer concerns.

(✠ Please stand as you are able.)

CALL TO PRAYER No. 227 (1, 2)

In the Garden
I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses;
and the voice I hear, falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.
Refrain:

And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am his own,
and the joy we share, as we tarry there, none other has ever known.

He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing,
and the melody that he gave to me within my heart is ringing.
refrain

PASTORAL PRAYER Noemi Mena

LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom 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 kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

CHORAL PRAISE Hezekiah Walker
God Favored Me

SCRIPTURE READING Noemi Mena
NT p. 161
1 Corinthians 8:1-6

HYMN OF PREPARATION Bob Gillman
Bind Us Together
Refrain:
Bind us together, Lord; bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord; bind us together, Lord,
Bind us together with love.
There is only one God. There is only one King.
There is only one body, that is why we sing:
Refrain

SERMON Stephen Gentle
Why Do We Exist?

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S WORD

Those desiring to become members of the community of National City Christian Church, either by transfer of membership, profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or as an associate member, are invited to come forward during the hymn.

✠INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP No. 601 (1, 2)

I Am Thine, O Lord
I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice, and it told thy love to me;
but I long to rise in the arms of faith, and be closer drawn to thee.

Refrain:
Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to the cross where thou hast died;
draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to thy precious, bleeding side.

Consecrate me now to thy service, Lord, by the pow'r of grace divine;
let my soul look up with a steadfast hope, and my will be lost in thine.
refrain

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S GRACE

INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING Beverly Goines

ELDERS' PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP Norman Kruse
Tom Kelley

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING AND RECEIVING GOD'S GRACE
This table is for all believers in Jesus Christ. Please come forward by the center aisle as directed by the Deacons. Baskets are available at the first pew for your offerings. When receiving communion, take a wafer from the plate and dip it in the cup. After you have received the Lord's Supper, please return to your seats by the side aisles.

COMMUNION HYMN No. 414
Eat This Bread

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠BENEDICTION
✠RESPONSE No. 445
Go in Peace
Go in peace and peace of God be with you this day.
Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.
Celebrate and share the joy! Celebrate new life!
Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.

Following the worship service, our pastors are at the front of the sanctuary to greet you. All are invited to come down to the Atrium for a time of fellowship.

The flowers were given by Virginia Taylor and her family
in memory of her husband, the Rev. Dr. Richard Taylor.

Worship and preaching resources: Chalice Worship, Colbert S. Cartwright and O.I. Cricket Harrison, ed. (St. Louis: Chalice Press, 1999), Seasons of the Spirit, Craig Schaub, et. al., (British Columbia, Canada: Wood Lake Publishing, Inc., 2007), www.liturgybytlw.com/lessfest/stsalive.html, and When We Gather, James G. Kirk, (Philadelphia: The Geneva Press, 2001).

WELCOME TO NATIONAL CITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Welcome to National City! Thank you for joining us in worship. God calls us, names us, and watches over us with care. As we come to worship today, we pray that God will use us to further the work of God's benevolence, through Jesus Christ. Welcome to worship!

EVERY SUNDAY

Sunday School – 10 a.m. for children, youth, and adults

Classes for middle school students (Chi Rho) will meet in Scott Hall.

Classes for high school students (CYF) will meet in the 2nd Fl. Conf. Room.

Christian Pathways – Small group for adults, meet in the Howland Center

Children's Time – All elementary students are invited to participate in the children's Creative Arts program that takes place during the 11 a.m. service. Children can meet their parents in the Music Suite or in the Atrium at the end of the worship service.

FOR OUR GUESTS

Membership at NCCC – It would be our joy to welcome you into the membership of this congregation. You may join through transfer of membership from another congregation or through a profession of faith and baptism. Full and associate memberships are available. Please feel free to talk with any minister or email sgentle@nationalcitycc.org.

Sanctuary Tour – Tours of our historic Sanctuary are available following the 11 a.m. worship service. If you are interested, please meet at the Garfield Window in the rear of the Sanctuary (pulpit side).

Coffee and Fellowship – Come to the Atrium for a warm cup of coffee and meet some of the warm people of National City. The Atrium is located on the first floor of the building through the front, right door.

Nursery – Childcare is available during the morning for children through age four. The nursery is located in Fellers Foyer. Speak with a greeter or any member for directions.

Accessibility – Elevator access to the Sanctuary is available via the 14th Street courtyard entrance. If you would like to request a handicapped parking space for Sunday, please call the church office by 12 noon on Friday.

EN ESPAÑOL – Culto en la Capilla Phillips, Domingo 11 a.m.

Parking – Complimentary parking is available at the Washington Plaza Hotel parking garage. Simply ask for a voucher at the church front desk at the 14th street entrance. Street parking is available every Sunday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the west ramp off Thomas Circle, which leads to Massachusetts Avenue.

Pastoral Needs – If you would like to speak with a pastor, please feel free to meet with one of the pastors at the door after the worship service or call 202-232-0323 during business hours.

National City Online – Visit online at www.nationalcitycc.org to find a recording of Sunday's sermon. Facebook members are encouraged to sign up as fans of National City's Facebook page. Also members and guests are encouraged to sign up for our email list at <http://www.nationalcitycc.org/register.asp>.

TODAY

Fair Trade Gifts, Crafts, and Coffee – Hilda's International Gift Shop is open today from 10 to 11 a.m. and 12 to 1 p.m. near the courtyard entrance in the Atrium.

Congregational Meeting and Luncheon – at 12:30 p.m. in the Howland Center.

Inurnment Service – Today, 3 p.m., Sanctuary, we will give thanks for the life and witness of the Rev. Dr. Dick Taylor, retired regional minister and former associate minister at National City Christian Church. Dr. Taylor passed away this last Tuesday after a long illness. Please enfold Virginia his wife of 60 years and their family in your prayers. Dick and Virginia were missionaries in Congo and Virginia was our Associate Minister in the 80s, 90s, and at the turn of the century.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Food Pantry from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Atrium.

D-Space – Join National City's young adults (Yada) for study and conversation at 6:45 p.m. This week we continue the series; Hitting the Reset Button: Back to the Basics in an Out-of-Control World.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY, 2

People's Prayer Breakfast -- Thursday, February 2, 7:30-9:30 a.m., Church of the Pilgrims, 2201 P Street, NW, Washington, D.C. Join with persons of many faiths from across the country to pray and stand in unity with those suffering economic hardship and inequality in our nation. For more information and to register: www.peoplesprayerbreakfast.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Souper Bowl Sunday – Sunday, February 5. Once again, we can purchase soup after the 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services to take home and enjoy Theresa Beaton's fabulous soups. Cost per soup container: \$10. Watching the Super Bowl is optional!

Let's Help Finish Pillows – Sunday, February 5, 12:30 p.m., Howland Center. The Disciples Women invite everyone who can join them to help stuff cough pillows after the 11 a.m. service. The pillows are for recovering heart surgery patients. There will be soup for those who can stay and help. Let's make this an all-church event.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY

Reggie Barns; Russell Chapin; James Denison; Will Hill;
Ann and William Howland; Enid Maitland;
C. William and Claudine Nichols;
Denise Ross; Martha Thompkins;
and those in military and civil service.

CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

Twelfth Street Christian Church, Washington, DC

**PLEASE SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO COLLEEN WALSH
BY NOON ON WEDNESDAY**

[AT cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org](mailto:cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org) OR cajwalsh@gmail.com



Yet there is one God, from whom are all things and for whom we exist
1Corinthians 8:6

January 29, 2012

8:30 a.m.



National City Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)