

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND WELCOME Stephen Gentle
Welcome! National City Christian Church is the national church of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and a house of prayer that is open and affirming of all people. We pray that today's worship will please God and edify God's people.

Please sign the Connect With Us card in the bulletin. If you are a first-time guest, please indicate your address, telephone number, and email address. There is a space on the back for prayer concerns and comments. As we prepare for worship, please turn off all cellular telephones, pagers, and watch alarms. The service is approximately one hour and fifteen minutes.

GATHERING MUSIC Dennis L. Jernigan

You Are My All in All
You are my strength when I am weak,
You are the Treasure that I seek,
You are my All in All.

Seeking you as a precious jewel,
Lord, to give up I'd be a fool,
You are my All in All!

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.

O Give Thanks J. Christie-McAllister
O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; yes, He is good.
O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; yes, He is good.

For He is worthy, worthy; for He is good; yes, He is good;
For He is worthy, worthy; for He is good; yes, He is good.

✠OPENING HYMN No. 16
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

✠RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE Beverly Goines
Leader: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not let them be afraid. (*John 14:27*)

People: As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear God. As a mother comforts her child so I will comfort you, says the Lord. (Psalm 103:13; Isaiah. 66:13)

Leader: Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand. (*Isaiah 41:10*)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE INSERT
Be Still and Know That I Am God

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Beverly Goines
OT p. 498
Psalm 46:1-3, 9-11

ANTHEM Richard Smallwood
Healing

(✠ Please stand as you are able.)

PRAYERS OF REMEMBRANCE, COMFORT, AND HOPE

INTRODUCTION Stephen Gentle

PRAYERS OF REMEMBRANCE

Leader: God of the years, we call to you this day when the memories of 9/11 weigh so heavily upon our hearts. We recall with horror and renewed shock that day when airplanes flew into buildings and people perished. We remember our fear and anger, our confusion, and sense of threat.

People: We remember all that was lost to us that day: our sense of security, our peace, our innocence, our belief that we were safely beyond such random violence and death. Most of all we remember those who died in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania, their lives of promise extinguished in hatred.

Leader: Let us light a candle and remember.

SUNG RESPONSE INSERT
Make Me a Channel of Your Peace (verse 1)

PRAYERS OF COMFORT

Leader: God of mercy, even in our worst moments your loving kindness surrounds us. In those tragic days a decade ago, our confident faith that you were with us enabled us to go on. We give you thanks for the ways in which you comforted us in those grim days through a deepened sense of community.

We trace the movement of your grace through those among us who risked their lives to save others. We are comforted by those who offered kindness and succor and shelter to persons in distress, and by those who would not let hatred overcome love. For those whose witness to a deeper wisdom and faith comforted us, we give you thanks.

People: For public officials, neighbors, friends and strangers who brought to our troubled lives solace and clarity of purpose, we give thanks. For the calm and reassuring voices of the wise who gave us comfort and strength, we give thanks.

Leader: Let us light a candle in tribute to those persons and also those places which gave us comfort and for the words and deeds that restored to us peace.

SUNG RESPONSE INSERT
Make Me a Channel of Your Peace (verse 2)

PRAYERS OF HOPE

Leader: O God, you have taught us that faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen. We live by hope in the future you hold for us and the whole world. Grant us, we pray, hope for our children and our children's children that they may not know or inflict the horror and terror we recall this day. Bolster our hope when it flags and teach us to strive in all that we do to realize the hope that is in your Word and witness.

People: Eternal God, in you our hope is boundless. You renew hope in us through the promise of a future in which none shall be afraid or lift up sword against a neighbor. We pray in hope for the peace of the world among peoples and nations, religions and cultures, until we become a beloved community reconciled to one another under your sovereignty.

Leader: Let us light a candle and give voice to our hopes for our lives in obedience to God.

SUNG RESPONSE INSERT
Make Me a Channel of Your Peace (verse 3)

Leader: May these candles represent for us the light of our shared memories, the light of comfort and strength, and the light of our hope. In memory, comfort and hope God abides now and forever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Stephen Gentle
NT p. 170

2 Corinthians 4:1, 5-10

HOMILY

Remembrance and Hope

Stephen Gentle

Prayer in Unison

God of all creation, our hearts are broken over the destruction and loss we remember this day. And we acknowledge, O Lord, that on that day of human carnage yours was the first heart to break. In our remembering, may we stand with those who mourn and those who cannot stop mourning. Through remembering, may we find new comfort in your care. In our remembering may we be drawn to a new hope for the whole world, and may we gain for ourselves a measure of your peace.

You who can turn the shadow of night into the bright promise of a new day, empower us to shape a world marked by ways of life that lead to justice and peace for all peoples. Fashion in us a people who are more ready to grow in understanding than eager to judge those who are different from us. Form us as a people determined to heal wounds rather than inflict them.

We pray at last that you would cultivate such love in us that we may reach out in compassion to all those who are still wounded by the events of that day; and in seeking to heal others, may we experience a love that makes us whole. This we pray in the strong name of Jesus our Christ.

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S WORD AND CELEBRATES GOD'S GRACE

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.

✠HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 722 (1, 2)
This Is My Song

INVITATION TO OFFERING AND COMMUNION Noemi Mena

PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP Will Lang
Kristi Dane

WORDS OF INSTITUTION
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. 501
There Is a Balm in Gilead

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠BENEDICTION Stephen Gentle
In God's providence you were created and preserved unto to this day for purposes unafraid. Let memory now reside in you at peace. Let comfort companion you in all your days. Let hope spring forth in you by the power of the Holy Spirit. May you serve God in all that you do and say, witnessing to the reign and realm of God to come. Amen

✠HYMN OF GOING FORTH Andraé Crouch
Always Remember
Always remember Jesus, Jesus;
Always remember Jesus, Jesus;
Always keep him on your mind.
(repeat)

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.

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), and When We Gather, James G. Kirk, (Philadelphia: The Geneva Press, 2001). The texts for the hymns sung during this morning service are reprinted with permission given under CCLI #2266475.

WELCOME TO NATIONAL CITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Worship! The events of September 11, 2001, shocked the world and fostered many physical, emotional, and spiritual reactions among Americans. Today's worship service was prepared by the National Council of Churches for congregations on the tenth anniversary of those events. We pray that today's worship will help you to remember and give you hope in the one, eternal God who cares for all the people of the world and all of God's created order.

EVERY SUNDAY

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

Classes for elementary students will meet in the staff lounge on the third floor of the Beasley Building.

Classes for middle and high school students will meet in the Scott Hall today.

Christian Pathways – Small group teaching 'Connecting with God: Talking with God' led by Paula Engle 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. ***There will be no Children's Time on Sunday, September 25. We still need teachers and substitute teachers. Materials will be provided. Please contact Teresa Swihart if interested at tisatcamp@yahoo.com**

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.

Spirit Sunday, September 11 - After the 11 a.m. worship, join us for Sundaes on the Steps.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Disciples Women Meeting - Disciples Women will be looking at the Beatitudes at their monthly meetings this year. In September Dr. Stephen Gentle will launch the study at 11 a.m. in the Music Suite. Bring a sandwich to add to the salad supplied by Circle One. We invite all to join us for study, worship, and fellowship.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

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

D-Space is Back! - Join National City's young adults (Yada) for study and conversation at 6:45 p.m. Email Beau Underwood at beau.underwood@gmail.com for more information.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Magical, Mystical, Musical Machine – Pipe organ recital and demonstration series. 12:15 - 1 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Free. This week features John Cannon from Fort Collins, Colorado.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Members – We were delighted to welcome new members James Denison and Amanda Sallee by transfer of membership at the 8:30 a.m. worship service on September 4, 2011.

Regional Young Adult Retreat September 16-18 - The Christian Church Capital Area will have a young adult retreat for people 18 to 35 at Camp Mary Mac near Sharpsburg, Maryland.

Anniversary Celebration on September 18 - Fifty years ago a couple pledged their love to one another. Join Peter and Lynne Morgan on this blessed day filled with poignant memories, delicious food, and a benefit concert for our Sanctuary Choir. Signup sheet is available at the Atrium desk.

Book Group to Meet Thursday, September 22 - in the Gift Shop at 7 p.m. All are welcome as we begin this new group. Those attending share in selecting the book to be read. For the September meeting, the book is "The Shack" by William Young. If you have questions, contact Miriam Gentle at miriam.gentle@gmail.com or 321-356-1554.

September 25 – Dr. Craddock preaches at a combined worship at 10 a.m. Dr. Fred Craddock will be the pulpit guest in a combined service at 10 a.m., followed by a brunch in Scott Hall. For more than six decades Dr. Craddock has enlightened, delighted, compelled, and engaged listeners with his stories shared in the context of sermons. He is Bandy Distinguished Professor of Preaching and New Testament, emeritus, in the Candler School of Theology. His books include *Cherry Log Sermons*, *Craddock Stories*, and *Reflections on My Call to Preach*. *The Collected Sermons of Fred B. Craddock* and *Craddock on the Craft of Preaching* were published in 2011. Dr. Craddock was selected by *Newsweek* as one of the 12 most effective preachers in the English speaking world.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY

Pam Chewning; James Green; Lari Grubbs; Polly He; Will Hill; William C. Howland, Jr.; Enid Maitland; C. William and Claudine Nichols; Hilda Reynolds; Denise Ross; Martha Thompkins; David Tyson; Al Weaver; Tamara Webb; and those in military and civil service.

CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

United by Faith Christian Church, Laurel, Maryland

PLEASE SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO COLLEEN WALSH

AT cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org OR cajwalsh@gmail.com



We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed

1 Corinthians 4:8

September 11, 2011

8:30 a.m.



**National City Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**