

# Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Worship Leaders: Beverly Goines, Noemi Mena and Steven Moore  
Preachers: Steven Baines and 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

*You're Worthy of My Praise* David Ruis

(I will worship) I will worship (with all of my heart) with all of my heart.  
(I will praise you) I will praise you (with all of my strength) with all my strength.  
(I will seek you) I will seek you (in all of my days) in all of my days.  
(I will follow) I will follow (all of your ways) all your ways.

### Refrain

I will give you all my worship, I will give you all my praise.  
You alone I long to worship, you alone are worthy of my praise.

*I Thank You, Jesus* No. 116

I thank you, Jesus; I thank you, Jesus; I thank you, Jesus; I thank you, Lord,  
For you brought me, yes, you brought me  
From a mighty, a mighty long way, a mighty long way.  
*Repeat*

You've been my father, you've been my mother, you've been my sister, my brother, too  
For you brought me, yes, you brought me  
From a mighty, a mighty long way, a mighty long way.  
*Repeat*

✠ OPENING HYMN No. 725(1-3)

*God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*

God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band  
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past; in this free land with thee our lot is cast;  
be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay, thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, be thy strong arm our ever sure defense;  
thy true religion in our hearts increase; thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace

✠ RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE Beverly Goines

Leader: We are not alone; God has come to be with us in Christ Jesus. We are  
created for dialogue with our creator through the Holy Spirit.

**People: We are eternally connected with God, the Holy other with whom  
we are intended to converse.**

Leader: As Jesus called and commissioned the first disciples, so we are called  
to participate in God's saving dialogue with the world through Christ.

**People: God waits to address us, waits for our attention, waits to light our  
way though life.**

Leader: With open minds and hearts, let us together enter into the holy  
conversation of worship as thoughtful Christians

✠ SONG OF THANKSGIVING No. 63

*How Majestic Is Your Name*

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.

✠ 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.

CALL TO PRAYER No. 722 (1, 3)

*This Is My Song*

This is my song, O God of all nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine.  
This is my home, the country where my heart is;  
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;  
but other hearts in other lands are beating  
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

This is my prayer, O Ruler of all nations:  
let thy reign come; on earth thy will be done  
In peace my all earth's people draw together,  
and hearts united learn to live as one.  
O hear my prayer, thou God of all the nations;  
myself I give thee; let thy will be done.

PASTORAL PRAYER Beverly Goines

## 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 Richard Smallwood

*Total Praise*

SCRIPTURE READING Noemi Mena

NT p. 23

Matthew 22:16-22

HYMN OF PREPARATION No. 720 (1, 3)

*O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,  
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!  
America! America! God shed full grace on thee,  
and crown thy good with servant-hood from sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years  
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!  
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,  
confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.

SERMON Stephen Gentle

Steven Baines

*The Wall of Separation*

## 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. 558

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

## THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S GRACE

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING Steven Moore

ELDERS' PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP Tom Kelley  
Kelly Swanson

## 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. 425

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

## THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠ BENEDICTION

✠ RESPONSE No. 422 (3)

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

Jesus calls us in, sends us out  
Bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
Gives us love to tell, bread to share:  
God (Immanuel) everywhere!  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

*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 in memory of Bruce Bone and Willis Davis.

*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!** Two important principles in the U.S. are the free exercise of religion and the separation of church and state. Does that mean all political life should be secular in orientation? Or does free exercise of religion involve the right to apply one's religious commitments to public as well as private affairs? These are some of the questions we will encounter this week in our small groups as thoughtful Christians. Rev. Steven Baines, vice moderator of National City and director of religious outreach for Americans United for the Separation of Church and State, shares the pulpit with Dr. Gentle as we consider "The Wall of Separation." Welcome!

### FOR OUR GUESTS

**Connect With Us!** – We are so delighted that you have chosen to worship at National City Christian Church. Please take a moment and sign the *Connect With Us* card in the bulletin. Indicate your address, telephone number, and e-mail address. There is a space on the back for prayer concerns and comments. Please place it in the offering tray.

**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 membership are available. Please feel free to talk with any minister or e-mail [sgentle@nationalcitycc.org](mailto: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 14<sup>th</sup> 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. In addition, the sanctuary has an assisted listening system; please request a receiver from an usher.

**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 west ramp off Thomas Circle, which leads to Massachusetts Avenue. As you enter the circle heading south on 14th St. take the 2nd exit toward Massachusetts Ave.; street parking is on the right.

**Audio Recording** – Tapes of the sermon from the 11 a.m. worship service are available for \$4. Tapes may be ordered by completing the form at the reception desk in the Atrium or by calling the church office. Please add \$2 per tape for mailing. Messages are also available for download at [www.nationalcitycc.org](http://www.nationalcitycc.org)

**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 during business hours, 202-232-0323.

**National City Online** – Visit online at [www.nationalcitycc.org](http://www.nationalcitycc.org) and 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 e-mail list at <http://www.nationalcitycc.org/register.asp>.

### PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY

Warren Brooks; James Green; Polly He; William C. Howland, Jr.;  
Enid Maitland; Eva Moore; C. William and Claudine Nichols;  
Hilda Reynolds; Martha Thompkins; Al Weaver;  
and those in military service.

### CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

Twelfth Street Christian Church, Washington, DC

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

**New Church Directory** – The new church directory is available for pick up in the Atrium.

### 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 2nd Floor Conference Room.

**Christian Pathways** – Small group focusing on the topic *Separation of Church and State*, led by Bill Travis 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.

**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 Luncheon and Annual Meeting** – Members and guests alike are invited to church luncheon and annual meeting at 12:30 p.m. in Scott Hall. Lunch donation is \$12 for adult and \$6 for children under the age of 12. Sign up using Connect Card or at the Atrium front desk.

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

**Yada D-Space** – The Young Adults concludes the four week series "Christians and Immigration: Welcoming the Stranger" this Tuesday. It's a great time out of your week to develop spiritually and connect with other young adults. Gather for snacks and socializing (6:45 p.m.) and study (7-8:30 p.m.). If you are interested in leading a week of the study or providing snacks, contact Ann at [aneeriemer@gmail.com](mailto:aneeriemer@gmail.com).

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

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

**The Thoughtful Christian Small Group** – This week's discussion will be on the topic *The Separation of Church and State*, led by Kathleen Simpson at 7:30 - 9 p.m. in the Gift Shop.

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

**Magical Mystical Musical Machine** – The free organ recital and demonstration series starts up again at 12:15 - 1 p.m.. This week features our own Charles Miller and Jacqueline Pallauf, harp.

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

**The Thoughtful Christian Small Group** – This week's discussion will be on the topic *The Separation of Church and State*, led by Bill Knight at 10-11:30 a.m. in the Gift Shop.

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

**Nursery Open House** – Parents of children and children from infancy to kindergarten are invited to meet our childcare provider, the preschool Sunday school teachers and visit the nursery in Fellers Foyer on Sunday, February 6, from 9:45-10:45. A short Sunday school lesson will be provided for preschoolers around 10. Snacks will be provided.

**Pastor's Class** – If you are interested in learning about baptism and church membership this class is for you! Beginning this Sunday at 9:50 a.m. in the 2nd Floor Conference Room. Classes will meet on Sundays, Feb 13, 20, and 27. Please reserve your place today with Kathleen Swihart, [kswihart62@yahoo.com](mailto:kswihart62@yahoo.com) or 202.232.0323.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Strategic Five-Year Plan** – National City Christian Church's plan is available online at [www.nationalcitycc.org](http://www.nationalcitycc.org) or by e-mail request to [cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org](mailto:cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org). If you would prefer a printed copy, please contact Colleen Walsh at 202.232.0323.

**PLEASE SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO COLLEEN WALSH**

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

# The Thoughtful Christian



**January 30, 2011  
8:30 a.m.**



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