

Second Sunday of Advent

Worship Leaders: Beverly Goines, Gary Lewis, and Steven Moore
Preacher: Stephen Gentle

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come J.S. Bach
Wake, Awake for Night is Flying

MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND WELCOME

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 e-mail 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.

INTROIT

Creator of the Stars of Night Gregorian Chant

✠HYMN OF PRAISE

No. 136
PLEADING SAVIOR
Christians All, Your Lord is Coming

THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

Liturgist: Today, on the Second Sunday of Advent, we relight the candle of HOPE. And now, we light the second Advent candle - the candle of PEACE. As we prepare for the coming of Jesus, we remember that Jesus Christ was born and walked among the people of the earth to bring hope and peace to all.

People: May we receive God's light as we hear the words from Isaiah, chapter nine, verses six and seven: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder; and his name will be called "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." And from the Gospel of John, chapter fourteen, verse 27: "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."

Liturgist: Let us pray: Creator God, grant that we may find comfort and peace as we prepare for our Lord's birth. May divisions in our hearts, in our families, in our work places, and all throughout our world be peacefully resolved. Help us clearly see the paths of peace in our lives, and give us the courage to follow them. Let us remember that you only are the giver of lasting peace and that you are always with us. Amen.

(✠ Please stand as you are able.)

✠CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

A Candle Is Burning
(Sung to the tune: Away in a Manger)
A candle is burning - a flame warm and bright;
A candle of Hope in December's dark night.
While angels sing blessings from heaven's bright sky
Our hearts we prepare, for the Christ child is nigh.

A candle is burning, a candle of Peace;
A candle to signal that conflict must cease.
The Savior is coming to show us the way;
Christ Jesus, our Peace, humbly laid in the hay.

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

Gary Lewis
OT p. 609

ANTHEM

O Come, Emmanuel
Lynne Morgan, organ console assistant
[Text for this anthem may be found in the Chalice Hymnal, page 119]

arr. Alice Parker

CHILDREN'S TIME

Elementary school children will be invited by the pastor to leave the Sanctuary just before the sermon to attend a creative arts program in the Music Suite. Children will be dismissed to move to the Atrium to meet their parents at the end of the worship service.

SERMON

Are We There Yet?

Stephen Gentle

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 INVITATION

Let There Be Peace on Earth

No. 677
WORLD PEACE

GIVING AND RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY DUET

I Waited for the Lord
Denise Gulley, soprano and Terri Malone, mezzo soprano

I waited for the Lord, he inclined unto me.
He hear my complaint, he heard my complaint.
O blest are they that hope and trust in the Lord.

Beverly Goines

Felix Mendelssohn

✠DOXOLOGY

As With Gladness
As they offered gifts so rare at the manger, plain and bare,
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to you from whom they spring.

No. 173 (3)
DIX

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Steven Moore

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Elder: God of hope, fill us with the joy and peace of believing. As a branch from the root of Jesse stands as a symbol of hope for your people, may we respond by seeking to do your will.

Ann Neeriemer

People: You bring deliverance to the needy and justice to the oppressed; use our lives as an instrument of your peace. You cause your Spirit to rest on the faithful, bestowing wisdom, knowledge, and might; may we use our actions to proclaim your love so that all may come to rejoice in your new life. We pray the prayer our Lord taught his disciples to pray, saying...

All: 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.

PRAYER AT THE TABLE

Bill Knight

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

This table is for all believers in Jesus Christ. Please eat the bread as it is passed and hold the cup so that we may share it together.

COMMUNION HYMN

I Wonder as I Wander
I wonder as I wander out under the sky,
how Jesus the Savior did come forth to die.
For poor ordin'ry people like you and like I,
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

No. 161 (1)
I WONDER AS I WANDER

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠HYMN OF GOING FORTH

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

No. 125
HYFRYDOL

✠BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

O Thou of God the Father

JS Bach

As the organ postlude is played, please feel free to depart the sanctuary and greet those around you. For those who wish to stay and enjoy the postlude, you are invited to come forward, gather near the organ console, and let the full splendor of this instrument and the glorious music played upon it fill your soul.

Following the worship service, our pastors are at the back and side doors 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! We have many reasons for giving thanks to God today... and your presence in worship is one of them! We are so pleased that you are present with us on the Second Sunday of Advent. Today's message is that of Peace. May the peace of Christ which passes all understanding be experienced in your life and our life together, as we worship on the Lord's Day.

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

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. 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.

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

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 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

Darrell Daniels; James Green; Xiao 'Polly' He; William C. Howland, Jr.;
Tawanna Lloyd; Enid Maitland; C. William and Claudine Nichols;
Hilda Reynolds; Martha Thompkins; Alice Tate; Al Weaver;
and those in military service.

CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

Springfield Christian Church, Springfield, Virginia

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

Angel Tree – Don't forget to drop off your gift in the Atrium this 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 2nd Floor Conference Room.

Christian Pathways – 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.

Christmas Caroling - Sunday, December 5. Join your voice with the National City Sanctuary choir merry makers to spread a little Christmas cheer to our neighbors. Meet in the Music Suite at 12:30 p.m. for sandwiches and then bundle up to carol on the circles.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

Christmas Sing Along – Tuesday, December 7, 11 a.m., Howland Center. Please bring your jingle bells and dress festively for the Christmas Sing Along, led by Dorothy Davis, at the Disciples Women general meeting. All are invited.

YADA D-Space – Young Adults gather for snacks and socializing (6:45 p.m.) and study (7-8:30 p.m.). It's a great time out of your week to develop spiritually and connect with other young adults. Ann Neeriemer is preparing a short study on a book of the Bible with a Christmas theme. If you are interested in leading a week of the study or providing snacks, contact Ann at aneeriemer@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

Magical Mystical Musical Machine from 12:15 to 1 p.m. in the Sanctuary, featuring Eric Bowman from Charlestown, West Virginia.

YADA Christmas Party – The Young Adults will be gathering Friday, December 10, 2010 for our annual Christmas party at Albemarle House a.k.a. Kathleen's place. Details on white elephant, service activity, food and beverage to come. Guests are welcome, but please RSVP for a head count on Facebook or text Kathleen at 615-424-6498.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Special Gift – The pastoral liaison committee invites members and friends of National City to honor our staff with a special monetary gift to show our appreciation for all that they have done for our church family. If you would like to contribute, ask at the desk in the Atrium for an envelope from the pastoral liaison committee. It contains a letter and an offering envelope for "A Special Gift." We would like to have all contributions no later than December 15. If you have questions, feel free to ask members of the committee -- Diana Morse, John Arterberry, Monique Ashton, Eddie Franklin, Verdia Haywood, John Scott Williams.

Food Donations – Please donate non-perishable food items for the needy in the area any Sunday this season. You may leave your gift in the marked box found in the Narthex or in the Atrium.

PLEASE SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO COLLEEN WALSH
AT cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org OR cajwalsh@gmail.com

We need a little Christmas



... right now!

December 5, 2010

11 a.m.



National City Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)