

First Sunday After Epiphany

Worship Leaders: Noemi Mena and Steven Moore
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

Welcome into This Place Orlando Juarez

Welcome into this place. Welcome into this broken vessel.
You desire to abide in the praises of your people,
So we lift our hands and we lift our hearts
As we offer up this praise unto your name.
(repeat)

This Is the Day / He Has Made Me Glad

This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord has made, that the Lord has made.
I will rejoice, I will rejoice
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
I will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made.
I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart;
I will enter His courts with praise;
I will say this is the day that the Lord has made;
I will rejoice for He has made me glad.
He has made me glad, He has made me glad.
I will rejoice for He has made me glad.
He has made me glad, He has made me glad.
I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

✠ OPENING HYMN No. 99
O, How I Love Jesus

✠ RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE Noemi Mena

Leader: Come and listen for God and ready yourself for renewal. Come you religious folk, come and hear God's message anew. Come you leaders, come and listen to the voice of the Redeeming One. Come all you people for God is calling you to a change. Come to the water and get ready to find a new purpose in life, a new focus for living, and new word from the Almighty God.

People: **You call our names, O God, and speak them in love. Each one known and held by you, affirming our place in your heart. In water, we are bound together; in love, we are made one; in grace, we are renewed. So may we celebrate our belonging, and hear again in the story of Jesus a call for us to follow.**

(✠ Please stand as you are able.)

✠ SONG OF THANKSGIVING No. 517 (2)

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit, let us find thy promised rest;
Take away our love of sinning; alpha and omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

✠ 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

Where True Charity and Love Abide
(Ubi Caritas et Amor)



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
With My Whole Heart Nolan Williams, Jr.

Koinonia V. Michael McKay

SCRIPTURE READING Noemi Mena
NT p. 224
1 John 4:14-21

HYMN OF PREPARATION No. 600 (4, 5)

Jesu, Jesu
Refrain:

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.
Loving puts us on our knees, serving as though we are slaves,
this is the way we should live with you.
refrain

Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet,
this is the way we should live with you.
refrain

SERMON Stephen Gentle

In Defense of Civility

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. 477 (1, 3)

Pass It On

It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing;
that's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it:
you spread God's love to everyone, you want to pass it on.

I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I've found -
on God you can depend, it matters not where you're bound;
I'll shout it from the mountain top, I want my world to know:
the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S GRACE

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING Steven Moore

ELDERS' PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP Deloris Ruddock
Barbara Boward

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. 424

I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

✠ RESPONSE No. 494 (1, 3)

They'll Know We Are Christians

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:
Refrain:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride:
Refrain

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! On this Sunday we consider the call of Christ to love as God has loved us. The first letter of John claims that Christians love others, because Christ first loved us. We have a special calling and purpose: to love the stranger, to participate in civil discourse, to be concerned about those we do not even know, but who are fellow citizens.

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>

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

Sunday School Brunch – All Sunday School classes resume with a potluck breakfast at 9:45 a.m. in Scott Hall. Everyone is invited to attend; please bring your favorite breakfast treat to share.

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.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11

Yada D-Space – The Young Adults are starting a 4-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.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Food Pantry 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. Donations of toiletries, socks, hats, and gloves are also needed. Thank you.

Join Yada for the MLK Day of Service – The Young Adults are sponsoring a team for the MLK Day of Service, January 17, with GreaterDCCares. We would like to invite all church members and visitors to join the team. Sign up today.

New Church Directory – In preparation for printing a new church directory in January, there will be a copy at the Atrium desk for you to check the information for its correctness and completeness.

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

Iglesia Cristiana de la Vida Abundante, Mt. Rainier, Maryland

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

The Thoughtful Christian



January 9, 2011

8:30 a.m.



National City Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)