

First Sunday After Epiphany

Worship Leaders: Beverly Goines and Steven Moore
Preacher: Stephen Gentle

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Adagio (Sonata #1 in F minor) Felix Mendelssohn

Prelude on *Salzburg* David Cherwien

MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND WELCOME

Steven Moore

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

William How

Jesus, Name of Wondrous Love

Jesus, name of wondrous love, prince of peace and heavenly dove,
unto which must every one praise your name in heaven above.

✠HYMN OF PRAISE

No. 176
SALZBURG

Sing of God Made Manifest

THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

✠RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Chrys Lemon

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.

✠CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

No. 344 (1)
ASSAM

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus - no turning back, no turning back.

(✠ Please stand as you are able.)

SCRIPTURE READING

Chrys Lemon
NT p. 224

1 John 4:14-21

GIFT OF MUSIC

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Love One Another With a Pure Heart

Alia Waheed, soprano; Patricia Simmons, mezzo soprano

But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;
pass the time of your sojourning here in fear, in fear.

Love one another with a pure heart fervently, see that ye love one another.
(1 Peter 1:17 & 22)

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

Stephen Gentle

In Defense of Civility

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

No. 526
GIFT OF LOVE

The Gift of Love

GIVING AND RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

Beverly Goines

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Eric Thiman

O Love of God

O love of God, how strong and true, eternal, yet ever new,
uncomprehended and unbought, beyond all knowledge and all thought.

O wide embracing, wondrous love, we read thee in the sky above;
we read thee in the earth below, in seas that swell and streams that flow.
We read thee best in Him who came and bore for us the cross of shame,
sent by the Father from on high our life to live, our death to die.

O love of God, our shield and stay, though all the perils of our way;
Eternal love, in thee we rest, forever safe, forever blest.

✠DOXOLOGY

No. 50
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts.

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit! Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Beverly Goines

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Rick Bahr

Elder: We live in a complex world that seeks stability and a vision for the future. Yet you, O God, have instilled this world with a glorious vision revealed not only in great poets and leaders but in the everyday things.

People: In the small things, O God, in water and bread and word, we find your promises. May we pour it, break it, and speak it, that the world may be renewed.

Elder: We are asked to proclaim justice and new life in a world that seeks difficult answers to difficult problems. Yet you, O God, offer us a way forward starting our journey in the everyday things.

People: We seek to be your people in a world that seems to ignore your ways. Yet you call us back, not through complex doctrine or creed, but through everyday things.

Unison: In the small things, O God, in water and bread and word, we find your promises. May we pour it, break it, and speak it, that the world may be renewed.

PRAYER AT THE TABLE

Byron Cotton

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

No. 523
UBI CARITAS

Live in Charity

Live in charity and steadfast love,
Live in charity; God will dwell with you.

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠HYMN OF GOING FORTH

No. 517
HYFRYDOL

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
(Please note the alternate hymn tune)

✠BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Louis Vierne

Carillon de Longpont

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! 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

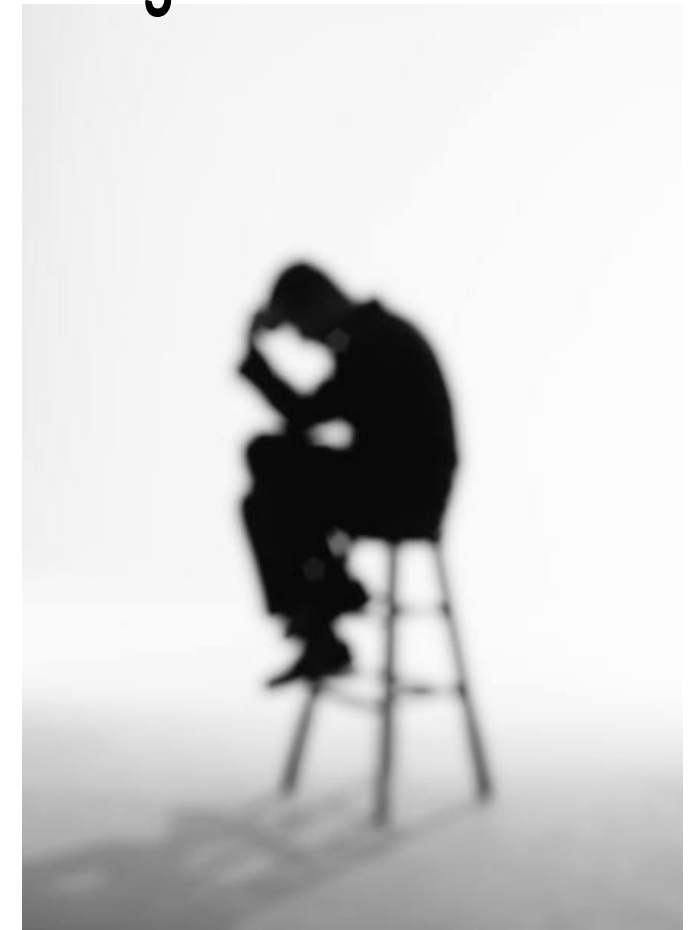
Warren Brooks; James Green; Polly He; William C. Howland, Jr.;
Enid Maitland; Eva Moore; C. William and Claudine Nichols;
Hilda Reynolds; Martha Thompkins; Al Weaver;
and those in military service.

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
11 a.m.



National City Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)