

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Worship Leaders: Chrys Lemon and Steven Moore
Preacher: Stephen Gentle

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Adagio from *Sonata III* Felix Mendelssohn

Ah, Holy Jesus Helmut Walcha

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.

INTROIT

Theodore Dubois

Christ, We Do All Adore Thee

Christ, we do all adore thee, and we do praise thee forever.
For on the holy cross hast thou the world from sin redeemed.

✠HYMN OF PRAISE

No. 53
BUNESSAN

Morning Has Broken

✠OPENING PRAYER

Stephen Gentle

THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Chrys Lemon
No. 762

Psalm 130

SCRIPTURE READING

Chrys Lemon
NT. p. 100

John 11:17-46

ANTHEM

arr. Larry Fleming

Every Time I Think About Jesus

Every time I think about Jesus – surely he died on Calvary.
Every time I talk about Jesus – surely he rose up from the grave.
Every time I shout about Jesus – surely he's coming from the sky.
Surely he died on Calvary.

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

Religion Doesn't Fit Into My Schedule Right Now

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 COMMITMENT

No. 585 (1, 3)
CONVERSE

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit, oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

GIVING AND RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

Steven Moore

OFFERTORY SOLO

Gabriel Fauré

Pie Jesu (Blessed Jesus, from Requiem)
Alia Waheed, soprano; Miriam Gentle, harp

✠DOXOLOGY

No. 46
OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Steven Moore

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Bill Knight

Elder: God, assemble our diverse gifts in a vivid display of our common baptism in Christ, and set us ablaze in the unity of your Spirit who makes us one in Christ Jesus.

People: You call us to new life, yet we seek to satisfy the temporal. Discontent consumes us, as we yearn for still more things. Redeem our enslavement to corruptible desires, that we may be worthy to be called righteous in Christ.

Elder: Thank you for filling us with life anew, that we may love what you love, and do what you would do. For we pray in the name of the One who taught us to pray, saying...

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.

PRAYER AT THE TABLE

David McKinney

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. 254 (1)
TRENTHAM

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠HYMN OF GOING FORTH

No. 67
ST. ANNE

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

✠BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Johann Sebastian Bach

Fugue in C minor

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.

The flowers were given in honor of the volunteers on our clean-up days.

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 are so pleased that you are in worship today. During the season of Lent, we are considering excuses that people use to keep them from growing spiritually. Today we consider the excuse: "I'll believe it only when I see it." We are so pleased that you are in worship with us today. Let us focus our attention and thanksgiving on the one, eternal God who has created us and binds us together in Christ's love

FOR OUR GUESTS

Connect With Us! – We are so pleased that you have made time in your schedule today for worship. During the season of Lent, we are considering excuses that people use to keep them from growing spiritually. Today we consider the excuse: "Religion doesn't fit into my schedule right now." Let us focus our attention and thanksgiving on the one, eternal God who has created us and binds us together in Christ's love.

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.

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.

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

Jane Campbell; James Green; Roy Hatton; Polly He; Will Hill;
William C. Howland, Jr.; Ruth Lee; Enid Maitland;
C. William and Claudine Nichols; Hilda Reynolds;
Denise Ross; Martha Thompkins; Al Weaver;
and those in military service.

CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

Randall Street Christian Church, Baltimore, Maryland

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

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 led by Bill Travis in the Howland Center

Preschool Lenten Class – 10 a.m. in the Nursery. This week's class will be led by Rev. Moore. If you go through the sanctuary toward the nursery you'll run into a circle of chairs reserved for you in Fellers Foyer!

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 Update and Luncheon – 12:30 p.m., Howland Center.

Lenten Study Group – 5 p.m. at the home of Barbara Collins and led by John Scott Williams. We will be using the *2011 Lenten Bible Study* that can be downloaded at www.disciplesmissionfund.org. Please call Barbara at 703-323-1187 for directions.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

Yada Lenten Studies – Yada welcomes the entire church to join in a small group study for the Lenten season. We will be studying Jesus' seven "I am" statements, found in the Gospel of John. This week we will explore "*Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'*" - John 14:6. We meet in Hilda's gift shop at 7 p.m. Come a bit earlier for snacks and socializing. For more information please contact Ann at aneeriemer@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

Magical Mystical Musical Machine – Free organ recital and demonstration series featuring Jonathan Biggers from Binghamton, New York, at 12:15 - 1 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

Lenten Study Group – 10 a.m. Hilda's Gift Shop, led by Bill Knight. We will be using National City's 2011 Lenten Devotional that can be downloaded at www.nationalcitycc.org.

Clean -Up Day – 9 a.m. to noon. We'll be spreading mulch and planting flowers outside and sprucing up the sanctuary inside. Would love to have you join us. Stop by the Atrium and sign up and join the fun!

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

Memorial Service for Pauline Holt Wilson – 1 p.m. A memorial service for long-time member Pauline Holt Wilson will be in the Howland Center, followed by inurnment in the Columbarium.

Stop by for Easter Cards – Easter cards will be available in the Atrium on Palm Sunday for members to sign and mail to friends and family. Thanks to Colleen Walsh for designing these cards.

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

Major Excuses for a
Marginal Faith:

Religion doesn't
fit into MY
schedule right now.

April 10, 2011
11 a.m.



National City Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)