

Second Sunday of Lent

Worship Leaders: Beverly Goines and Noemi Mena
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

A Perfect Sacrifice V. Michael McKay

Holy One, Jesus Christ, the only One worthy to give His life,
For the sins of all mankind: such a perfect sacrifice, Jesus Christ!

Lord, I yield, yes, I give this my song, my praise of sacrifice.
I give you my life; you've already paid the price:
Such a perfect sacrifice, Jesus Christ!

Jesus, Jesus in the Morning

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus in the morning, Jesus in the noontime;
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus when the sun goes down!

Praise him, praise him, praise him in the morning, praise him in the noontime;
Praise him, praise him, praise him when the sun goes down!

Love him, love him, love him in the morning, love him in the noontime;
Love him, love him, love him when the sun goes down!

Serve him, serve him, serve him in the morning, serve him in the noontime;
Serve him, serve him, serve him when the sun goes down!

✠OPENING HYMN No. 72

To God Be the Glory

To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

refrain

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

refrain

✠RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Beverly Goines

Leader: From the very beginning, God created all in love.
People: Yet we turned from that love and sought our own way.
Leader: God continues to call us to return again to God's love.
People: How shall we return?
Leader: Let us cast down our burdens
People: For God promises to gather them up.
Leader: Let us place our trust in God.
People: For God alone provides for our every need.

✠SONG OF THANKSGIVING

No. 284 (1, 4)

Gather Us In

Here in this place, the new light is streaming, shadows of doubt are vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in; our spirits inflame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.
Not just in buildings, small and confining, not in some heaven, light years away,
Here in this place the new light is shining; now is God present, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

✠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. 565 (1, 3)

If You Will Trust in God to Guide You

If you will trust in God to guide you, and hope in God through all your ways,
God will give strength, whate'er betide you, and bear you through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love builds on the rock that will not move.
Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving; so do your own part faithfully,
And trust God's word; though undeserving, you'll find God's promise true to be.
God never will forsake in need the soul that trusts in God indeed.

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 Arr. Richard Smallwood

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

SCRIPTURE READING Beverly Goines

John 3:1-17

HYMN OF PREPARATION

O How He Loves You and Me

O how he loves you and me, O how he loves you and me;
He gave his life—what more could he give?
O how he loves you, O how he loves me, O how he loves you and me!

Jesus, to Calvary did go, his love for mankind to show;
What he did there brought hope from despair:
O how he loves you, O, how he loves me, O how he loves you and me.

SERMON

Stephen Gentle

I Believe, But I'm Not a Fanatic

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. 365 (1, 2)

Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters

Wash, O God, your sons and daughters, newborn creatures of your womb.
Number them among your people, raised like Christ from death and tomb.
Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.

Every day we need your nurture; by your milk may we be fed.
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.
God, renew us; guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares,
One with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S GRACE

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING Noemi Mena

ELDERS' PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP Gentry Alexander
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. 425

Let Us Break Bread Together

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠BENEDICTION

✠RESPONSE

The Angels Keep A-Watchin'

All night, all day, the angels keep a-watchin' over me, my Lord!
All night, all day, the angels keep a-watchin' over me!

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 honor of David Albee,
Enid Maitland, and Bettie Moores.

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.

(✠ Please stand as you are able.)

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 believe in God, I'm just not a fanatic!" Let us worship the one, eternal God who has created us and all of life and give thanks for Christ who binds us together in Christian love.

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.

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; Lynn Parrish; Hilda Reynolds;
Denise Ross; Martha Thompkins; Al Weaver;
and those in military service.

CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

Lansdowne Christian Church, Baltimore, Maryland

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

Food Pantry Drive - Please bring in protein items such as canned tuna, boxed macaroni & cheese, or other canned meat items. Items will be collected at the 8:30 and 11 a.m. services.

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 3rd Floor Conference Room.

Christian Pathways – Small group led by Bill Travis in the Howland Center

Preschool Lenten Class - 10 a.m. in the Nursery. At the same time, parents are invited to attend a Lenten study led today by Dr. Gentle. The parent group will meet in Fellers Foyer, just outside the nursery. Please let Teresa Swihart know if your preschooler plans to attend.

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.

Board Meeting – at 12:30 p.m. in Scott Hall. Lunch, consisting of soup and sandwiches, is \$6.

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, MARCH 22

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. Each week we'll explore one of the statements through scripture, discussion, and prayer. We meet in Hilda's gift shop at 7 p.m. every Tuesday. Come a bit earlier for snacks and socializing. For more information please contact Ann at aneerieme@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 25

Magical Mystical Musical Machine – Free organ recital and demonstration series featuring Charles Miller and a recital of all Bach organ works, at 12:15 - 1 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Ecumenical Advocacy Days – Ecumenical Advocacy Days will take place this year March 25-28 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Crystal City, Virginia. For more information, visit www.advocacydays.org. There will be a special free event for Disciples on Saturday, March 26, at 7 p.m. More information is available at www.dawnccca.org.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blanket Sunday – The Disciples Women will be collecting donations for blankets next Sunday at all services. All donations go to Church World Services which will distribute the blankets to those affected by disasters, like the earthquakes and tsunami in Japan.

Memorial Service – A memorial service for Judith Bolton will be held on Sunday, March 27, at 1 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Yada Retreat!! – April 8-10 the Young Adults are headed out of town. Our beloved Dr. Peter Morgan is leading us through "Leader as Shaman: Playing, Praying, and Probing." The retreat is a great way to get to know other young adults and take a break from the craziness of D.C. The cost is \$75. (Some have asked – Yada is a community of 20's and 30's seeking to know God and know each other.) Forms are available online and from the Yada Support Team - Kristi, Trevor, Kathleen, Katie, Ann, and Beverly.

Major Excuses for a
Marginal Faith:

I Believe,
But I'm Not a
FANATIC

March 20, 2011

8:30 a.m.



National City Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)