

Third Sunday of Lent

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

I Love You, Lord

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice
To worship you, O my soul, rejoice!
Take joy, my King, in what you hear:
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.
(repeat)

O Give Thanks

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; yes, He is good.
O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; yes, He is good.

For He is worthy, worthy; for He is good; yes, He is good;
For He is worthy, worthy; for He is good; yes, He is good.

✠OPENING HYMN No. 482
O Christians, Haste

✠RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE Noemi Mena

Leader: We come, our souls thirsting for God, our spirits longing for love.
People: We come to the One who supplies every need; we come to the One who gives us living water.
Leader: We come, with prayers in our hearts, and with words too difficult to speak.
People: We come to the One who listens to our hearts, who carries our suffering through eternity.
Leader: We come, with our brokenness and loss, with our hope to be made whole.
People: We come to the One who knows all our secrets, who brings peace to all of us - and to each of us.

✠SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Come and Go with Me

Come and go with me to my Father's house,
To my Father's house, to my Father's house.
Come and go with me to my Father's house;
There is joy, joy, joy!

Peace and love abide in my Father's house,
In my Father's house, in my Father's house.
Peace and love abide in my Father's house;
There is joy, joy, joy!

(✠ Please stand as you are able.)

✠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 Greg Nelson, Phil McHugh

People Need the Lord

People need the Lord; people need the Lord;
At the end of broken dreams, he's the open door.
People need the Lord; people need the Lord;
When will we realize people need the Lord.
(repeat)

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 Glenn E. Burleigh
Anoint Us from Let God Arise

SCRIPTURE READING Noemi Mena
NT. p. 90
John 4:4-26

HYMN OF PREPARATION No. 351 (1, 3)

Fill My Cup, Lord

Like the woman at the well I was seeking
for things that could not satisfy;
and then I heard my Savior speaking:
"Draw from my well that never shall dry."
Refrain:

Fill my cup, Lord, I lift it up, Lord! Come and quench this thirsting of my soul;
Bread of Heaven, feed me 'til I want no more
fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole!

So, my friend, if all the things this world gave you
leave hungers that won't pass away,
my blessed Lord will come and save you,
if you kneel to him and humbly pray:
refrain

SERMON Stephen Gentle
Can't I Worship on the Golf Course or at Sunday Brunch?

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. 550 (1-3)

There's Within My Heart A Melody

There's within my heart a melody Jesus whispers sweet and low,
"Fear not, I am with thee - peace, be still,"
in all of life's ebb and flow.

Refrain:

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus - sweetest name I know,
fills my every longing, keeps me singing as I go.

All my life was wrecked by sin and strife,
discord filled my heart with pain;
Jesus swept across the broken strings,
stirred the slumb'ring chords again.
refrain

Feasting on the riches of his grace, resting 'neath his shelt'ring wing,
always looking on his smiling face - that is why I shout and sing.
refrain

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S GRACE

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING Steven Moore

ELDERS' PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP Byron Cotton
Gentry Alexander

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. 419
All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠BENEDICTION

✠RESPONSE arr. Valeria Foster

As You Go, Tell the World

As you go, tell the world; as you go, tell the world;
Tell the world about Jesus; tell them about His love.
Tell the world about Jesus; tell them about His love.

Repeat

As you go, tell the world.

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 by friends in memory of Judith Bolton.

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: "Can't I worship on the golf course or at Sunday brunch?" 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

We welcome and thank Kenneth Lowenberg for his work as substitute organist this morning.

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

Rev. Dr. Sharon Walkins and the General Units of the CC (DoC)

SUNDAY, MARCH 27

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

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. This Sunday we'll continue with week 3 of the Lenten class-we're half way done as we lead up to the "Big Easter" as Rev. Gentle put it the Sunday before Lent. This week's class will be lead 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.

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

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 29

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 aneeriemer@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

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.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

Memorial Service – A memorial service for Howard Sears will be held at 1 p.m. in Phillips Chapel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

In Sympathy – Our prayers go out to Bill Stewart and his family. Bill's father, Dale Stewart, passed away on Saturday, March 19.

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

Major Excuses for a
Marginal Faith:

Can't I Worship
at Sunday Brunch?

March 27, 2011

8:30 a.m.



National City Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)