

# Fourth 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

*Yes, Lord, Yes*

I'll say yes, Lord, yes to your will and to your way.

I'll say yes, Lord, yes; I will trust you and obey.

When your Spirit speaks to me, with my whole heart I'll agree,

And my answer will be yes, Lord, yes.

*(repeat)*

*O Magnify the Lord*

O magnify the Lord, for he is worthy to be praised!

O magnify the Lord, for he is worthy to be praised!

Hosanna! Blessed be the rock; blessed be the rock of my salvation!

Hosanna! Blessed be the rock; blessed be the rock of my salvation!

*(repeat)*

✠OPENING HYMN No. 586

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*

✠RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE Beverly Goines

Leader: The Lord is our shepherd; we will have all that we need; we are released from fear.

**People: The Shepherd guides us in fruitful living, giving us healing and pardon.**

Leader: Even though difficulties and dangers may lie ahead, we do not need to fear.

**People: God's love and strength are as a rod and staff for us.**

Leader: God will give us abundantly from God's own love.

**People: Surely this goodness and mercy will be with us all of our days, and we will dwell in God's loving care forevermore.**

✠SONG OF THANKSGIVING No. 555

*Through It All*

Through it all, through it all,

I've learned to trust in Jesus, I've learned to trust in God;

through it all, through it all,

I've learned to depend upon God's word.

✠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. 544 (1)

*No, Not One!*

There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus - no, not one! No, not one!

None else could heal all our soul's diseases - no, not one! No, not one!

Jesus knows all about our struggles,

He will guide till the day is done;

There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus - no, not one! No, not one!

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 Paul Baloche

*Open the Eyes of My Heart*

*He Shall Feed His Flock*

James Cleveland

SCRIPTURE READING Beverly Goines

NT p. 97

John 9:1-13, 24-25

HYMN OF PREPARATION Bob Cull

*Open Our Eyes*

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,

To reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.

Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen,

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

*(repeat)*

SERMON Stephen Gentle

*I'll Believe It Only When I See It*

## 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. 546

*Amazing Grace*

## THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S GRACE

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING Stephen Gentle

ELDERS' PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP Rick Bahr  
Byron Cotton

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. 403

*In Remembrance of Me*

## THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠BENEDICTION

✠RESPONSE Keith Laws

*We Must Work*

We must work while it is day,

Spreading the word of God as we go along the way.

We must be willing to do God's will,

Spreading the word of God till it reaches throughout the hills.

We must witness to everyone we meet in every song we sing.

We must tell them of the soon coming King.

*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 pulpit flowers were given by the Strotmans and the Swiharts and the baptistry flowers were given by Ann Cappiello and Cathy Nowicki in memory of Howard Sears.

*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 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 email 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](mailto: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 14<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](http://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

Mount Olivet Christian Church, Baltimore, Maryland

### SUNDAY, APRIL 3

#### 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** – is taking this week off and will continue next week with Rev. Steven Moore.

**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 Howard Sears will be held at 1 p.m. in Phillips Chapel.

**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](http://www.disciplesmissionfund.org). Please call Barbara at 703-323-1187 for directions.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 5

**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 "*I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.*" - John 10:11. 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](mailto:aneeriemer@gmail.com).

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

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

### FRIDAY, APRIL 8

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

### 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](http://www.nationalcitycc.org).

### 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.

**Congregational Update and Luncheon** – April 10, 12:30 p.m., Scott Hall. Sign-up sheets are in the Atrium or you may call the church to make a reservation.

PLEASE SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO COLLEEN WALSH

at [cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org](mailto:cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org) OR [cajwalsh@gmail.com](mailto:cajwalsh@gmail.com)

Major Excuses for a  
Marginal Faith:

I'll Believe it  
when I See  
it.

April 3, 2011  
8:30 a.m.



National City Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)