

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Worship Leaders: Noemi Mena and Steven Moore

Preachers: Stephen Gentle and Beverly Goines

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

As We Gather Mike Fay & Tommy Coomes
As we gather may your Spirit work within us,
as we gather may we glorify your Name.
knowing well that as our hearts begin to worship,
we'll be blessed because we came,
we'll be blessed because we came.
(repeat)

I Will Bless Thee, O Lord Esther Watanabe
I will bless Thee, O Lord! I will bless Thee, O Lord!
With a heart of thanksgiving, I will bless Thee, O Lord!
With my hands lifted up, and my mouth filled with praise,
With a heart of thanksgiving, I will bless Thee, O Lord!
(repeat)

✠ OPENING HYMN No. 631

Lift Every Voice and Sing

✠ RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE Steven Moore

Leader: We are not alone; God has come to be with us in Christ Jesus. We are created for dialogue with our creator through the Holy Spirit.

People: We are eternally connected with God, the Holy other with whom we are intended to converse.

Leader: As Jesus called and commissioned the first disciples, so we are called to participate in God's saving dialogue with the world through Christ.

People: God waits to address us, waits for our attention, waits to light our way through life.

Leader: With open minds and hearts, let us together enter into the holy conversation of worship as thoughtful Christians

✠ SONG OF THANKSGIVING Bob Gillman

Bind Us Together
Refrain:
Bind us together, Lord; bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord; bind us together, Lord,
Bind us together with love.
There is only one God. There is only one King.
There is only one body, that is why we sing:
Refrain

✠ 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. 687 (1)

In Christ There Is No East or West

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
but one community of love throughout the whole wide earth.

PASTORAL PRAYER Steven Moore

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

Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round

Guide My Feet Spiritual/arr. A. Graves

SCRIPTURE READING Steven Moore

NT p. 178

Galatians 3:23-29

HYMN OF PREPARATION No. 69 (1, 4)

How Like a Gentle Spirit

How like a gentle spirit deep within God reins our fervent passions day by day,
and gives us strength to challenge and to win despite the perils of our chosen way.

When in our vain pretensions we conspire to shape God's image as we see our own,
hark to the voice above our base desire; God is the sculptor, we the broken stone.

SERMON Stephen Gentle

Beverly Goines

Why is it Difficult to Talk About Racism?

PRAYER FOR GOD'S HELP AND HEALING

Leader: Redeeming God, in a world of racial and ethnic divisions, we acknowledge our own selfishness and prejudice, which are contrary to your all-embracing love. Help us to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with Christ, in respect for all your children.

People: The wisdom writer asks: Who can say, "I have made my heart clean; I am pure from my sin"? Gracious God, mindful of our own need for your forgiveness and grace, we ask of you to show us the errors of our ways. And where we have fallen short, pick us up and set us on the right path.

Leader: Enable us to be challenging yet compassionate towards those who show bigotry and commit racist violence. May their hatred and prejudice be overcome through the strength and liberation of your redeeming love.

People: Your Son Jesus showed solidarity with the weak and vulnerable. Touch with your love all those who have been the victims of racist violence. Heal their wounds of body, mind, and spirit and lead them on the journey to justice and reparation.

Leader: Reconciling God, help us to overcome all our ethnic divisions. Increase our understanding of how to develop a truly inclusive culture. Most of all, this day and every day, challenge us to challenge racism.

People: God of justice, give us voice, take away our fear; shake up our prejudices, and move us to a different place, so that we may stand on common ground with those who struggle for justice.

Unison: Teach us love. Teach us compassion. Above all, out of love and compassion, teach us to act. Amen

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. 683

O for a World

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S GRACE

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING Noemi Mena

ELDERS' PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP Norman Kruse

Cecil Talbott

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. 408

Come, Share the Lord

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.

One flower arrangement was given by Beverly and Steven Schacht
in memory of Mary Barker.

The other flower arrangement was given in honor of William C. Howland, Jr.
on the occasion of his birthday.

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! It's been decades since the groundbreaking Civil Rights Act was passed back in the sixties, yet while we're always willing to talk about the *positive* steps we've taken to address racial inequality, we're not quite as willing to talk about the ways in which we continue to fall short. No problem can be solved without first acknowledging that it exists and then coming to a shared commitment to address it. As thoughtful Christians, we will consider the roadblocks to productive discussions about race, racism, and inequality in our lives. Rev. Beverly Goines, assistant pastor and PhD candidate at Catholic University, shares the pulpit with Dr. Gentle as we consider the difficult subject of racism and why it is so difficult to talk about it.

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.

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. As you enter the circle heading south on 14th St. take the 2nd exit toward Massachusetts Ave.; street parking is on the right.

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

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

CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

Michigan Park Christian Church, Washington, D.C.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

New Church Directory – The new church directory is available for pickup in the Atrium.

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 on racism, led by Bill Travis in the 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.

Nursery Open House – Parents of children and children from infancy to kindergarten are invited to meet our childcare provider, the preschool Sunday school teachers, and visit the nursery in Fellers Foyer on Sunday, February 6, from 9:45-10:45. A short Sunday school lesson will be provided for preschoolers around 10. Snacks will be provided.

Pastor's Class – If you are interested in learning about baptism and church membership this class is for you! Beginning this Sunday at 9:50 a.m. in the 2nd Floor Conference Room. Classes will meet on Sundays, February 13, 20, and 27. Please reserve your place today with Kathleen Swihart, kswihart62@yahoo.com or 202-232-0323.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Disciples Women - 10 a.m., Music Suite. Join in stuffing and sewing pillows for recovering heart patients.

Yada D-Space – The Young Adults start a 4-week series "Christians and Poverty" 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 aneerie-mer@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

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

The Thoughtful Christian Small Group – This week's discussion will be on racism, led by Kathleen Simpson at 7:30 - 9 p.m. in the Gift Shop.

The Thoughtful Christian Small Group – This week's discussion will be on racism, led by John Krall and Susan Kirkman at 7:30 - 9 p.m. at the home of John Scott Williams located at 9319 Glenbrook Road, Fairfax, Virginia.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Magical Mystical Musical Machine – The free organ recital and demonstration series starts up again at 12:15 - 1 p.m.. This week features our own Charles Miller and Jacqueline Pallauf, harp.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

The Thoughtful Christian Small Group – This week's discussion will be on racism, led by Bill Knight at 10-11:30 a.m. in the Gift Shop.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

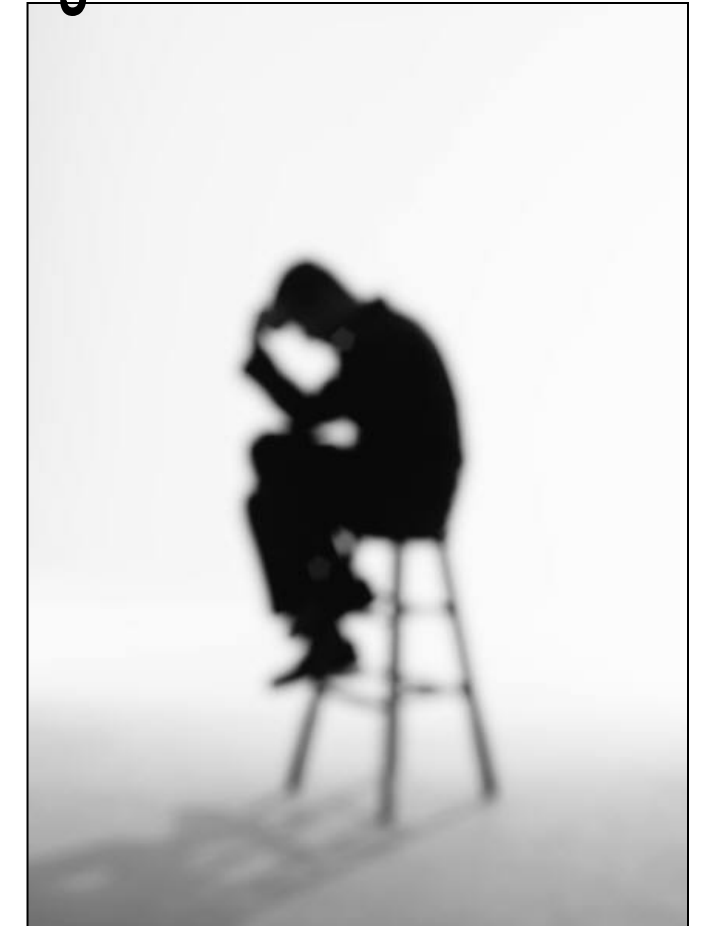
Strategic Five-Year Plan – National City Christian Church's plan is available online at www.nationalcitycc.org or by e-mail request to cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org. If you would prefer a printed copy, please contact Colleen Walsh at 202.232.0323.

Missions – We would like to know how you are serving in the communities we live in. Please email ncccmissions@gmail.com to let us know (1) how you are serving, (2) where you are serving, and (3) with whom you are serving (there is also a box for paper submissions in the Atrium). Understanding which mission activities interest the people of National City will help us implement the Strategic Five-Year Plan. Thank you.

PLEASE SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO COLLEEN WALSH

AT cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org OR cajwalsh@gmail.com

The Thoughtful Christian



February 6, 2011

8:30 a.m.



National City Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)