



National City Christian Church

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2017, at 11 a.m.

5 Thomas Circle, NW, Washington, DC 20005
202-232-0323 www.nationalcitycc.org

Welcome to National City Christian Church, national church of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and a house of prayer that is open to and affirming of all people. Thank you for joining us in worship. Please fill out the Connect with Us card, and place it in the offering tray. Today's service is approximately 75 minutes.

Today's pulpit guest: The Rev. Dr. Sharon Stanley-Rea is Director of Refugee & Immigration Ministries for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), with her office located at National City Christian Church. She works to mobilize Disciples congregations around the country to offer hospitality to immigrants, provide refugee resettlement assistance to refugees, seek justice for farm workers, and engage in advocacy on behalf of refugees and immigrants.

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

Worship Leaders: Byron Cotton, Loretta Franklin, Beverly Goines, Kenneth Lowenberg, Anthony Mague, and Michael McMahon

Pulpit Guest: Sharon Stanley-Rea

PRELUDE

Aria

Paul Manz
(1919-2009)

MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND WELCOME

Beverly Goines

INTROIT

Rejoice in the Lord, You Righteous

Charles Miller

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, and give thanks to the holy name of God!

✠ OPENING HYMN

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

KINGSFOLD



1. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



Lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down Your head up - on my breast."
The liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, Stoop down and drink and live."
Look un - to me, your morn shall rise, And all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, So wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank Of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found In him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest - ing place, And he has made me glad.
My thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, And now I live in him.
And in that light of life I'll walk Till trav - 'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889. Tune: KINGSFOLD, CMD; English; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958.

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(✠ Please stand as you are able.)

✕ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Beverly Goines

Leader: Holy God, we confess that at times we have watered down the faith to be a list of rules. We have judged others: deciding who is “worthy” of being in and keeping others out.

People: Forgive us for our sins. Forgive us for not seeing your way as the way of life for us. Forgive us for not looking inward to judge ourselves, and to live our lives in ways that are pleasing to you. May we follow your light and turn away from our selfish ways. In the name of Christ, the Light of the World, we pray.

Leader: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it. The rod and staff of the Great Shepherd bring us comfort in the valley of the shadow. God is with you. God is leading the way. Follow God, and know you are forgiven, loved, and restored. The banquet table is set for you. Come, accept the invitation, and join the feast.

Unison: Thanks be to God.

✕ KYRIE ELEISON

Healey Willan

Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 5:8-14; Psalm 27; John 9:1-41

Byron Cotton, Loretta Franklin, and Anthony Mague, readers

Choir: The Lord is my light and my salvation,
the Lord is my light and my salvation,
the Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

All:

Refrain:

Whom shall I fear, whom shall I fear? The Lord is the
strength of my life; whom shall I fear?

Text: Lillian Bouknight. Tune: Lillian Bouknight; arr. by Paul Gainer.
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Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Choir: The Lord is my light and my salvation,
the Lord is my light and my salvation,
the Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

All: Whom shall I fear, whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life; whom shall I fear?

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light

of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Choir: In the time of trouble he shall hide me,
O in the time of trouble, he shall hide me,
in the time of trouble, he shall hide me;
whom shall I fear?

All: Whom shall I fear, whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life; whom shall I fear?

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him.

Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

Choir: Wait on the Lord and be of good courage,
O wait on the Lord and be of good courage,
wait on the Lord and be of good courage.
He shall strengthen thine heart.

All: Whom shall I fear, whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life; whom shall I fear?

Mud In Your Eye?

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO 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. 595

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

Please join in singing verses 1, 2, and 4. The choir will sing verse 3.

DEDICATION OF INFANTS

Beverly Goines

Bianca Valerie Konstantin
Dominic Adrian Konstantin

HYMN OF AFFIRMATION

Jesus Loves the Little Children

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world,
Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in his sight –
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

GIVING AND RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

Sharon Stanley-Rea

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Thomas Matthews

The Lord Is My Shepherd (Psalm 23)
Alia Waheed-Ky, soloist

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want;
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul:
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for thou art with me;
Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

✘ PRESENTATION HYMN

No. 379

Accept, O God, the Gifts We Bring

ELLACOMBE

Accept, O God, the gifts we bring of spirit and of clay,
transform them into blessings on those we serve today.
Rekindle deep within us all a passion to fulfill
the ministry disciples have, empow’red to do your will.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Beverly Goines

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

Jane Campbell

Elder: We give you all thanks and praise, O God, for you do not judge us by outer appearances,
but make visible the secret places of our hearts, and commission us as children of the light.

Unison: We thank you for giving us your Son, Jesus Christ, whose light opens blinded eyes and guides us safely through death’s dark valley, that we may live forever in the light of your love, and feast at the rich table where you fill our cup with goodness and mercy.

Elder: Therefore, with our hearts lifted high, we offer you thanks and praise at all times through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray, saying:

All: 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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Beverly Goines

This table is for all believers in Jesus Christ. Please come forward by the center aisle as directed. When receiving communion, take the bread and dip it into the cup. Return to your seat by the side aisle. If you prefer to remain seated, communion will be brought to you.

COMMUNION HYMN

No. 429 (1)

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

FINEST WHEAT

You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat;
come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.
With joyful lips we sing to you our praise and gratitude
that you should count us worthy, Lord, to share this heavenly food.
You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat;
come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Hermann Schroeder

Schönster Herr Jesu (Fairest Lord Jesus)

(1904-1984)

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠ GOING FORTH

No. 546

Amazing Grace!

NEW BRITAIN

✠ BENEDICTION

Sharon Stanley - Rea

POSTLUDE

J. Christopher Pardini

Toccata on Amazing Grace!

(b. 1973)

Following the worship service, pastors and elders are at the back and side doors of the Sanctuary to greet you. All are invited to the Atrium for coffee and fellowship immediately following the service.

CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

Columbia United Christian Church
Columbia, Maryland

GLOBAL MINISTRIES PRAYER CONCERNS

Monica Liddle, East Timore

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY

Willie Alexander; Steven Baines; Armin Bondoc;
Nicholas Bullock; Katie Campbell-Morrison; Ann Cappiello;
Eddie Franklin; Sue Frost; Morris Jackson;
Courtney & Betty Jones; Diedra L. Jones; Tawanna Lloyd;
Chau Minh Nguyen; David Ross; Robin Schacht;
Kathleen Swihart; persons in military
and civil service around the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers were given by Shirley Kruse in honor of Norman's 83rd birthday and Kate's 20th birthday, and in honor of Ellie Sines.

Easter Offering - This special offering will be collected on April 9 & 16 to support the General Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Our Stewardship - weekly gifts of pledges and offerings are vital to the work of our congregation. Presently our congregation's pledges and giving are behind by \$19,878 for 2017. Please check to see if your giving is up-to-date. Additional gifts are appreciated as well. Thank you for your faithfulness in giving.

Sanctuary Flowers - If you would like to purchase flowers for Sunday in honor or memory of someone, a sign-up book is at the Atrium desk. One arrangement is \$50; two arrangements are a total of \$100.

FOR OUR GUESTS

EN ESPAÑOL - Culto en la Capilla Phillips, Domingo 11 a.m.

Membership at National City Christian Church - 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 memberships are available. Please feel free to talk with any minister or email sgentle@nationalcitycc.org

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.

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 202-232-0323 during office hours.

Connect With Us - Visit www.nationalcitycc.org and click the "sign up" tab to subscribe to our email list.

Get Social - Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @nationalcitycc

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - 9 a.m., Music Suite.
Toddler Class - 10 a.m., Nursery. Barbara Kelley, Sue Frost, and Aixa Diaz, leaders

Christian Pathways - 10 a.m., Community Room.

Sanctuary Tour - 12:15 p.m. Meet at the back of the Sanctuary, near the President Garfield Memorial Window for a special guided tour of National City

Deaconesses Silver Polishing Meeting - 12:30 p.m., Scott Hall

Know Your Rights Discussion - 1 p.m., Howland Center. Join friends in our Hispanic congregation for brief "Know Your Rights" information with Pastors Stanley-Rea, Mena, and Rodriguez. Then, spend time LISTENING and sharing concerns being felt by immigrants - which will become a part of WIN organizing efforts. A light lunch will be available

Lenten Studies and Dinner - 6 p.m., at Kathy and Glen Gerada's home in Herndon, VA. Please RSVP to Kathy at Kathleen.burgergerada@gmail.com

Lenten Studies Group - 6 p.m., at Teresa Swihart's home. RSVP to tisatcamp@yahoo.com

MONDAY, MARCH 27

Prayer call at 6 a.m. - All are invited to join the weekly conference prayer line for National City. Simply dial 712-775-7031, enter access code 371015. For more information, contact Loretta Tate at 202-489-2020

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

National Children's Chorus - 3:30 p.m., Music Suite, Howland Center, Atrium, Scott Hall

Gospel Choir Rehearsal - 7 p.m., Music Suite

Thomas Circle Singers - 7:15 p.m., Scott Hall

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

Toddler Playgroup - 9:30 a.m., Community Room

Food Pantry - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Atrium

Staff Ministry Partnership Meeting - 3:30 p.m., 2nd Floor Conference Room

Fortissima Choir - 7 p.m., Music Suite

ANC F2 - 7 p.m., Howland Center

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

DC Lambda Squares - 6:30 p.m., Scott Hall

Sacred Space Yoga - 7 p.m., Community Room. \$10

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

Music At Midday - 12:15 p.m., Sanctuary. Organist Jackson Borges (Rehoboth Beach, Delaware) will play works of Jean Langlais, Lawrence Schreiber (National City's Music Minister Emeritus), Alexander Russell, and Louis Vierne.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

Heritage Music Festival - 8 a.m., Sanctuary

Lenten Devotional Study - 10 a.m., 2nd Floor Conference Room

SUNDAY, APRIL 2

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - 9 a.m., Music Suite

Lenten Studies and Dinner - 6 p.m., at Teresa Swihart's home. RSVP to tisatcamp@yahoo.com

Sacred Space

Go deeper into your spiritual practice during Lent with movement and meditation taught by Ilana Silverstein. Each session will incorporate beginner yoga poses, stretches, meditation, and scripture. No yoga experience required! Please bring your own yoga mat.

Dates for the four-week session are **Thursdays, March 16, 23, 30 and April 6, at 7-8 p.m.** in the Community Room. \$10 per session.

For more information please contact Miriam Gentle - miriam.gentle@gmail.com

Meditation & Yoga



Holy Week Events



Palm Sunday, April 9 - Dr. Vy Nguyen, pulpit guest

8:30 - Gospel Worship

11:00 - Traditional Worship

11:00 - En Español (Phillips Chapel)

Maundy Thursday, April 13

7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 14

7:30 p.m.



Easter, April 16

8:30 - Gospel Worship

10:40 - Brass Prelude - 11:00 - Traditional Worship

11:00 - En Español (Phillips Chapel)