

# Third Sunday of Advent

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

*We Must Work* Keith C. Laws

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.

*Soon and Very Soon* André Crouch

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;  
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;  
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King;  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

✠OPENING HYMN No. 148 (1, 2, 4)

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born for our salvation,  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.

✠LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE Beverly Goines

Liturgist: Today we relight the first two candles of the Advent wreath – the candles of HOPE and of PEACE. Now we light the third candle of Advent – the candle of JOY. As the coming of Jesus, our Savior, draws nearer, our joy builds with our anticipation of his birth.

**People:** From the Book of Isaiah, chapter 65, we read these words of our Lord: “For behold, I will create a new heaven and a new earth; and the former things will not be remembered or come into mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create in Jerusalem a rejoicing, and in her people a joy.” And from the Apostle Paul’s message to the Galatians: “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.”

Liturgist: Let us pray: We praise you, O Lord, for the fulfillment of your promise of the coming of a Savior, your son, Jesus Christ. We thank you with our whole hearts for the precious gift of salvation. As we wait, make us new, and help us to see your glory as you fill our lives with your living Spirit. Amen.

## ✠CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*A Candle Is Burning*

(Sung to the tune of *Away In A Manger*)

A candle is burning - a flame warm and bright;  
A candle of Hope in December’s dark night.  
While angels sing blessings from heaven’s bright sky  
Our hearts we prepare, for the Christ child is nigh.

A candle is burning, a candle of Peace;  
A candle to signal that conflict must cease.  
The Savior is coming to show us the way;  
Christ Jesus, our Peace, humbly laid in the hay.

A candle is burning, a candle of Joy;  
A candle to welcome sweet Mary’s small boy.  
Our hearts fill with wonder and eyes light and glow  
As Joy warms our hearts just as sunshine on snow.

✠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. 160

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

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

*O Come, Emmanuel* Jim Hammerly

*Mary, Did You Know?* Mark Lowry

## SCRIPTURE READING

Beverly Goines  
OT p. 629

Isaiah 35:1-10

## HYMN OF PREPARATION

No. 132 (3)

*When God Is a Child*

Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,  
Telling the world that the Savior is born.

Refrain

When God is a child there’s joy in our song.  
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,  
And none shall be afraid.

## SERMON

Stephen Gentle

*Lessons And Carols*

## 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. 164 (2, 3)

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

## THE COMMUNITY CELEBRATES GOD’S GRACE

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING Noemi Mena  
ELDERS’ PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP Kelly Swanson  
Steve Baines

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## SHARING AND RECEIVING OF GIFTS

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

Medley of Carols (*instrumental*)

## THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

## ✠BENEDICTION

## ✠RESPONSE

Kenneth Louis

*Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord*



Following the worship service, our pastors are at the doors of the sanctuary to greet you. All are invited to come down to the Atrium for a time of fellowship.

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 have many reasons for celebrating in this joyful season... and your presence in worship is one of them! We are so pleased that you are present with us on the Third Sunday of Advent. Today's message is that of Joy. May you experience something of the joyfulness of this season, as we worship on the Lord's Day.

### 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](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. 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.

**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>

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

### 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** – Howland Center.

**Children's Time** – Will not take place during the 11 am Worship Service this week. Children's Time will resume next week.

**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.

**Christmas Luncheon** - 12:30 in Scott Hall. Adult tickets are \$15. In this family friendly church activity, children 12 and under eat free.

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

**Yada D-Space** – The Young Adults gather for snacks and socializing (6:45 p.m.) and study (7-8:30 p.m.). It's a great time out of your week to develop spiritually and connect with other young adults. This is the last D-space/Advent study of 2010! If you are interested in leading a week of the study in 2011 or providing snacks, contact Ann at [aneeriemer@gmail.com](mailto:aneeriemer@gmail.com).

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

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

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

**Magical Mystical Musical Machine** from 12:15 to 1 p.m. in the Sanctuary, featuring Steven Kalnoske from Damascus, Maryland.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**In Sympathy** - Please keep our housekeeper, Mrs. Janice Glover, and her whole family in your prayers. Her mother, Mabel Huff, passed away on Monday morning, December 6. Services were held on Saturday, December 11, at Enon Baptist Church

**Food Pantry Donations** – Please donate non-perishable food items for the needy in the area any Sunday this season. You may leave your gift in the marked box found in the Narthex or in the Atrium. Donations of toiletries, socks, hats, and gloves are also needed. Thank you.

### PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY

Father of Steven Baines, James Green; William C. Howland, Jr.;  
Enid Maitland; C. William and Claudine Nichols;  
Hilda Reynolds; Martha Thompkins; Al Weaver;  
and those in military service.

### CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

Springfield Christian Church, Springfield, Virginia

PLEASE SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO COLLEEN WALSH  
AT [cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org](mailto:cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org) OR [cajwalsh@gmail.com](mailto:cajwalsh@gmail.com)

# We need a little Christmas



...right now!

**December 5, 2010**

**8:30 a.m.**



**National City Christian Church**  
(Disciples of Christ)