

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Worship Leaders: Judith Allen, Beverly Goines, 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

I Love You, Lord, Today William Hubbard
I love you. I love you. I love you, Lord, today
Because you care for me in such a special way.
And yes, I praise you. I lift you up. I magnify your name.
That's why my heart is filled with praise.

My heart, my mind, my soul belong to you.
You paid the price for me way back on Calvary.
And yes I praise you. I lift you up. I magnify your name.
That's why my heart is filled with praise.

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!

✠OPENING HYMN No. 633

Lead On, O Cloud of Presence
Lead on, O cloud of Presence, the exodus is come,
In wilderness and desert our tribe shall make its home.
Our slavery left behind us, new hopes within us grow.
We seek the land of promise where milk and honey flow.
Lead on, O fiery Pillar, we follow yet with fears,
But we shall come rejoicing though joy be born of tears.
We are not lost, though wandering, for by your light we come,
And we are still God's people. The journey is our home.
Lead on, O God of freedom, and guide us on our way,
And help us trust the promise through struggle and delay.
We pray our sons and daughters may journey to that land
Where justice dwells with mercy, and love is law's demand. Amen.

✠RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE Noemi Mena

Leader: We praise and thank you, O Lord, for all that we have been given!

People: We praise you for earth and oceans, rain and sun, for food and homes, for the blessings of life and faith and hope.

Leader: We thank you for family and friends, for neighbors and coworkers, for blessing us with the human family.

People: We praise and thank you, O Lord, for blessing us beyond all expectations.

(✠ Please stand as you are able.)

Leader: For all blessings which compel us to reach out to those with less, to be of service to any in need, to keep company with the unwelcome, to seek peace and make friends of our enemies.

Unison: O Lord, Our God, you have enriched us, saved us, loved us. Open our hearts and minds to your will that we may be free to share that which we have been given. Keep us always in your work – the work of Christ and Christ's kingdom, your kingdom, O God.

✠SONG OF THANKSGIVING Leona Von Brethorst

He Has Made Me Glad
I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart;
I will enter His courts with praise;
I will say this is the day that the Lord has made;
I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

He has made me glad, He has made me glad.
I will rejoice for He has made me glad.
He has made me glad, He has made me glad.
I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

✠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 Kelly Willard

Make Me a Servant
Make me a servant, humble and meek,
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak;
and may the prayer of my heart always be:
make me a servant, make me a servant,
make me a servant today.

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 *In the Beauty of Holiness* Nettie Sawyer Lester

First Fruits Margaret Douroux
Judith Allen, guest pianist

SCRIPTURE READING Noemi Mena
OT p. 178

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

HYMN OF PREPARATION No. 714 (1, 2)
For the Fruit of All Creation

SERMON Stephen Gentle
From Seeds to Flowers

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. 606 (1, 3)
God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S GRACE

INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING Beverly Goines

ELDERS' PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP David McKinney
Shana Pereira

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. 425
Let Us Break Bread Together

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠BENEDICTION

✠RESPONSE Thomas A. Dorsey

God Be with You
God be with you; God be with you;
God be with you until we meet again.
God be with you; God be with you;
God be with you until we meet again.

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 Darrell Ertzberger in memory of Dewey Childs.

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 pray that God's blessing will be upon your life – and our life together – as we worship the Lord in this place. How do we give, in difficult times? The Deuteronomy writer knew that life was difficult; it had been difficult for the Israelites. But even in times of struggles and economic uncertainty, we trust that God will be our helper and our guide. Thus, we bring to God the first fruits of our blessings. On our financial commitment Sunday, we come together today to share our gifts and to pledge our giving for the next year that God is leading us into. Welcome to worship!

Earthquake damage – Please excuse our state of disrepair in the chancel, the capitals of the columns near the apse, and the damaged organ pipes due to the recent earthquake. Special donations may be made by designating an offering to the "earthquake fund."

EVERY SUNDAY

Sunday School – 10 a.m. for children, youth, and adults

Classes for middle school students (Chi Rho) will meet in Scott Hall.

Classes for high school students (CYF) will meet in the 2nd Floor Conference Room.

Christian Pathways – Small group teaching 'Connecting with God' in the Howland Center

***Teachers and substitute teachers are still needed, especially for our elementary students. Materials will be provided. Please contact Teresa Swihart if interested at tisatcamp@yahoo.com**

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.

FOR OUR GUESTS

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 memberships are available. Please feel free to talk with any minister or email 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.

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 business hours.

National City Online – Visit online at www.nationalcitycc.org to find a recording of Sunday's sermon. 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 email list at <http://www.nationalcitycc.org/register.asp>.

TODAY

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.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Disciples Women Luncheon - Charles Miller will speak at the program for Disciples Women at 11 a.m. in the Music Suite. He will continue the group's study of the Beatitudes and will speak on the 4th Beatitude -- Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be filled. Ann Cappiello will have the devotions. Circle 1 will host. All are invited and encouraged to bring a sandwich to supplement the soup that will be served.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

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

D-Space – Join National City's young adults (Yada) for study and conversation at 6:45 p.m. Email Beau Underwood at beau.underwood@gmail.com for more information.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Magical, Mystical, Musical Machine – Pipe organ recital and demonstration series. 12:15 - 1 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Free. This week features Rich Spotts from Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fall Assembly of the Council Of Churches of Greater Washington – Sunday, November 6, at 3 p.m. at historic St. Aloysius Church. Mayor Vincent Gray is the invited guest to speak. All are welcomed to attend this free event. St. Aloysius Church is located at 19 "I" Street NW ("I" Street NW and North Capital Street). Refreshments will be available following the Assembly.

General Board To Meet Sunday, November 13 - The General Board of National City will meet at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 13. On the agenda is the proposed 2012 budget and the proposed leadership slate for 2012 from the nominating committee.

World Outreach Committee – Tuesday, November 15. The committee will meet at 7 p.m. to discuss the job situation and a program to ease getting a job and improving the employment situation in the greater D.C. region. All are invited – the employed who may be of help to others looking for a job, the unemployed, under-employed, the misemployed, and the retired, especially those who might contribute time to the effort. The meeting will be a prelude to the Council of Churches of Greater Washington meeting on employment on November 20 at National City.

Council of Churches of Greater Washington – Sunday, November 20. National City will host a jobs program meeting of the Council of Churches of Greater Washington at 2 p.m. All are invited. The council will introduce an innovative program to help people get jobs, a program to be supported by churches, business, foundations, union, and the government.

Donations Needed – Sara Imhulse is collecting winter coats for men, women, and kids at her office. They are going to give them to those in need in her community. They need coats. Donations are tax-deductible. Please email Sara at nkugrad@yahoo.com for more information.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY

Russell Chapin; Chieko Cook; Polly He; Will Hill;
William C. Howland, Jr.; Emma King; Tawanna Lloyd;
Enid Maitland; C. William and Claudine Nichols;
Denise Ross; Martha Thompkins; David Tyson;
and those in military and civil service.

CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

Wilson Boulevard Christian Church, Arlington, Virginia

**PLEASE SEND ANNOUNCEMENTS TO COLLEEN WALSH
BY NOON ON WEDNESDAY**

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



from seeds to flowers

October 30, 2011

8:30 a.m.



National City Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)