

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Independence Day Sunday

July 5, 2009, at 11:00 am

Worship Leaders: Trey Flowers, Beverly Goines, and Steven Moore
Preacher: Stephen Gentle

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND WELCOME Steven Moore
Welcome! National City Christian Church is the national church of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and a house of prayer that is open and affirming of all people. We pray that today's worship will please God and edify God's people.

Please sign the Connect With Us card in the bulletin. If you are a first-time guest, please indicate your address, telephone number, and e-mail address. There is a space on the back for prayer concerns and comments. As we prepare for worship, please turn off all cellular telephones, pagers, and watch alarms. The service is approximately one hour and fifteen minutes. In this time let us offer our quietness to God as we prepare to worship the Lord.

PRELUDE Jean Langlais
Song of Peace
Kevin Biggins, Jr., guest organist

✠**HYMN OF PRAISE** No. 725
NATIONAL HYMN
God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

✠**RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE** Trey Flowers
Leader: We have come to sing, rejoicing in the good that walks this land by day.
People: We have come to be silent, repenting of the evil that stalks it by night.
Leader: We have come to this place because here we are reminded that you are both our creator and our conscience.
People: Here all of our loyalties are put in their proper place, ordered behind our allegiance to you.
Unison: Be with us in our celebration and our confession, that our citizenship might become more responsible, our nation more humble, and our world more dependent on you.

✠**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** No. 721 (4)
AMERICA
My Country, 'Tis of Thee
Our fathers' God, to thee, author of liberty, of thee I sing;
Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might, Great God our King.

THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Trey Flowers
NT p. 23
Matthew 22:15-21

ANTHEM arr. Moses Hogan
He's Got The Whole World
Alia Waheed, soprano; Wayne Jennings, tenor

CHILDREN'S TIME
Elementary school children will be invited by the pastor to leave the Sanctuary just before the sermon to attend a music-based program in the Howland Center. This celebration is led by a member of the Sanctuary Choir. Children will be dismissed to move to the Atrium to meet their parents at the end of the worship service.

SERMON Stephen Gentle
My Country, 'Tis Of Thee

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S WORD AND CELEBRATES 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 INVITATION** No. 722
FINLANDIA
This Is My Song

GIVING AND RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING Bevelry Goines
OFFERTORY SOLO Sy Miller and Jill Jackson
Let There Be Peace On Earth
Alia Waheed, soprano

✠**DOXOLOGY** No. 50
LASST UNS ERFREUEN
Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

INVITATION TO COMMUNION Beverly Goines

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Gary Lewis
Elder: Author and Finisher of our faith, you have set our feet firmly on freedom's foundation; we praise you and give you thanks.
People: There are those, O God, for whom freedom is costly: martyrs, prisoners, and the oppressed. Let them not be denied the birth-right of your blessing. Give to prisoners the hope that their confinement does not separate them from your mercy. Lift the oppressed and let them glimpse your glory. Set us on the path of Freedom's journey and we shall recount what great deeds you have done.

Elder: Draw us into a right relationship with you and our neighbor. Help us to teach others what it means to love you completely and our neighbors as ourselves.

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever.

PRAYER AT THE TABLE Richard Bahr

WORDS OF INSTITUTION
This table is for all believers in Jesus Christ. Please eat the bread as it is passed and hold the cup so that we may share it together.

COMMUNION HYMN No. 724 (3)
LLANGLOFFAN

O God of Earth and Altar
Awaken us to action and forge us into one,
defying sect and faction; O God, your will be done!
Oppressive systems snare us; our apathies increase.
Great God, in mercy spare us for justice and for peace!

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠**HYMN OF GOING FORTH** No. 631
LIFT EVERY VOICE
Lift Every Voice and Sing

✠**BENEDICTION**
POSTLUDE David German
Trumpet Tune

For some, the postlude serves as uplifting music to accompany their going out into the world. Many prefer to remain seated and listen. Those departing can help those who listen by holding their greeting of others until they exit the sanctuary.

Following the worship service, our pastors are at the back and side doors 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 Theresa Beaton in memory of Abraham Beaton, and by James Ferugson in celebration of Christine Ferguson's 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.

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE NATIONAL CITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

National City Christian Church is a community of believers in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, called into being by our early leaders as a unique witness in our nation's capital. We are bound together in a covenant of love with God and one another.

Our mission is to witness to our faith and to serve people in our neighborhood, region, nation and the world.

We will provide regular opportunities for worship, spiritual growth and fellowship. We will minister to the special needs of individuals through programs to nurture people in discipleship.

We will seek to help everyone journey toward a fuller commitment to Christ by being an inclusive church family which fully embraces in its life and ministries people of every race, gender, age, culture, economic circumstance, sexual/gender orientation, family configuration, physical or mental condition, and all other distinctions which are the rich tapestry of God's creation.

We will feed, heal, serve, love, educate and bring hope to the people of the community and the world. We will support the work of our partner churches and the church ecumenical.

With the National City Christian Church Foundation we will be stewards of the physical facilities and fulfill our role and responsibilities as the National Church of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Adopted November 1990 Amended July 2001

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

In our quest to embody Christian unity, led and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we believe God calls us:

OUR VISION

To be a faithful, growing church that demonstrates true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice. (Micah 6:8)

OUR MISSION

To be and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps *to the ends of the earth*. (Acts 1:8)

OUR IMPERATIVE

To strengthen congregational life for this mission. (Ephesians 4:11-13, 15-16)

To accomplish this, we shall:

Become the Good News: Nurturing faith; Practicing and teaching the spiritual disciplines; Fostering Disciples identity; Renewing congregational life; Developing leaders.

Share the Good News: Emphasizing ministry with children, youth, young adults and families; Doing evangelism; Establishing new congregations; creating ministries with older adults.

Serve from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth: Engaging in ministries of reconciliation, compassion, unity, and justice.

OUR COVENANT

In accepting our Vision, Mission and Imperative, we affirm our need to: be anti-racist/pro-reconciliation church, strengthen relationships among all manifestations of the church, share mutually and more fully the stewardship of God's gifts of our life in Christ, encourage our growing diversity within our church family and community, work with our many ecumenical and global partners to heal the brokenness of the body of Christ and the human community.

WELCOME TO NATIONAL CITY

MEMBERSHIP—It would be our joy to welcome you into the membership of this congregation. You may unite with us through transfer of membership from another congregation; through a statement of faith; or through profession of faith and baptism. You may choose between full and associate membership. Please feel free to talk with any of our staff members if you have questions about membership.

PASTORAL NEEDS—If for whatever reason, you would like to talk with one of our pastors, please call 202.232.0323.

TOUR—Tours of our historic sanctuary are available following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. If you are interested, please meet by the Garfield Window in the rear of the sanctuary (pulpit side).

SPECIAL SERVICES—The sanctuary has an assisted listening system; please request a receiver from an usher. Elevator access to the sanctuary is available via the courtyard entrance. If you would like to request a handicapped parking space for Sunday, please call the church office by the close of business on Friday.

SUNDAY SCHOOL — 10 A.M. SUNDAY

• **Children's Ministry:** Children are invited to a welcoming and safe place. Children through age four meet in the nursery area off of Fellers Foyer. Elementary school children meet in Room 101 in the Campbell Building. Responsible staff work to make sure the young people are engaged in a meaningful experience.

• **Chi Rho - Middle School - 10 am** in Miller Hall.

• **CYF - High School - 10 am** in the Library in the Campbell Building.

• **Intergenerational Class - 10 am** in Howland Center. See the weekly Announcements for each week's speaker.

CHILDCARE—Childcare is available during worship services in the Nursery located in Fellers Foyer.

PARKING—Parking is available at the Washington Plaza Hotel garage on Vermont Avenue. Coupons are available for discounted direct billing of the charges to the church at the 14th Street entrance reception desk. Free valet parking is available on the 14th Street side of the church on Sundays.

AUDIO TAPES—Tapes of the sermon from today's 11:00 a.m. worship service are available for \$4.00. Tapes may be ordered by completing the form at the reception desk in the Atrium or by calling the church office. Please add \$2.00 per tape for mailing.

EN ESPAÑOL— Culto en la Capilla Phillips, Domingo 11:00 a.m.

NATIONAL CITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

Dr. Stephen W. Gentle
Ms. Valeria Foster
Rev. Beverly Goines
Mr. Morris Jackson
Rev. Noemí Mena
Mr. Charles A. Miller
Rev. Steven Moore
Dr. Peter Morgan
Mrs. Kathleen Swihart
Dr. William C. Howland, Jr.

Senior Pastor
Gospel Choir Director
Assistant Pastor
Building Superintendent
Pastor for Hispanic Ministry
Minister of Music and Organist
Associate Pastor for Stewardship
Historian-in-Residence
Associate for Senior Adult Ministries
Senior Minister Emeritus

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11:00 am



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(Disciples of Christ)