

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Independence Day Sunday

July 5, 2009, at 8:30 am

Worship Leaders: Beverly Goines and Steven Moore

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

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.

O Magnify the Lord

O magnify the Lord, for he is worthy to be praised!

O magnify the Lord, for he is worthy to be praised!

Hosanna! Blessed be the rock; blessed be the rock of my salvation!

Hosanna! Blessed be the rock; blessed be the rock of my salvation!

(repeat)

✠ OPENING HYMN

No. 725

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

✠ RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Steven Moore

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)

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.

✠ MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP, WELCOME OF VISITORS

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. 677

Let There Be Peace on Earth

PASTORAL PRAYER

Steven Moore

THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

CHORAL PRAISE

Jeffrey LaValley

Holy, Holy, Holy

Come, Holy Spirit, Come

Jalonda Robertson

SCRIPTURE READING

Steven Moore

NT p. 23

Matthew 22:15-21

HYMN OF PREPARATION

No. 668 (1, 2)

For the Healing of the Nations

For the healing of the nations, God, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords;
to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word,
help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase,
fear will die and hope increase.

SERMON

Stephen Gentle

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

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. 71 (1, 2, 4)

Your Love, O God

Your love, O God, is broad like beach and meadow,
wide as the wind, and our eternal home.
You leave us free to seek you or reject you,
you give us room to answer "yes" or "no."

We long for freedom where our truest being
is given home and courage to unfold.

We seek in freedom space and scope for dreaming,
and look for ground where trees and plants can grow.

O judge us, God, and in your judgment free us,
and set our feet in freedom's open space;
take us as far as your compassion wanders
among the children of the human race.

THE COMMUNITY CELEBRATES GOD'S GRACE

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING

Beverly Goines

ELDERS' PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP

Richard Bahr

Kelly Swanson

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. White 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

We Remember You

We remember you, we remember you;

by your sacrifice of love all glory now is due.

At this table here mercy hovers near.

Thanks is offered up; in this bread and cup we remember you.

Precious, risen Lamb, Jesus who was slain,
now enthroned in glory, forever you will reign.

Gladly we embrace both these signs of grace.

Thanks is offered up; in this bread and cup we remember you.

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠ BENEDICTION

✠ RESPONSE

God Bless America

God bless America, land that I love;

stand beside her and guide her -

through the night with a light from above.

From the mountains to the prairies,

to the oceans white with foam,

God bless America, my home sweet home,

God bless America, my home sweet home.

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 pulpit flowers were given by Theresa Beaton in memory of Abraham Beaton, and by James Ferguson 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.

(✠ Please stand as you are able.)

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 rear or courtyard entrances. 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, Howland Center. Check the weekly Announcements for this 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
Associate Pastor for Stewardship
Historian-in-Residence
Associate for Senior Adult Ministries
Senior Minister Emeritus

5 Thomas Circle, N.W., Washington, DC 20005
202.232.0323 Fax: 202.797.0111 www.nationalcitycc.org

*My country,
'tis of thee,
sweet land
of liberty,
of thee I sing.*

July 5, 2009

8:30 am



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