



# National City Christian Church Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 3, 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.

## THE COMMUNITY GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

Worship Leaders: Beverly Goines, Kenneth Lowenberg, Anthony Mague, and Michael McMahon

Preacher: Stephen Gentle

PRELUDE

*The Gift to Be Simple*  
Kenneth Lowenberg, organ

Shaker Hymn, arr. Dale Wood

*The Gift to Be Simple*  
Chris Wilde, harmonica

Shaker Hymn, arr. Chris Wilde

MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND WELCOME

Stephen Gentle

INTROIT

George Brandon

*O Come, Let Us Sing*  
O come, let us sing unto the Lord!  
Let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation! (Psalm 95:1)

✠ OPENING HYMN

*Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

No. 461  
BEACH SPRING

✠ RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Anthony Mague

Leader: We come from different backgrounds, different histories, different places;  
**People: We follow the same Christ who leads us into New Life.**  
Leader: We have different faith experiences, different ways we have known God;  
**People: But the same Christ calls us to love our neighbor as ourselves.**  
Leader: Though our lives have been different, the same Christ calls us now,  
**Unison: May we enter this time of worship remembering that Christ makes us one. Amen.**

✠ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*  
Jesus, keep me near the cross: there a precious fountain,  
free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calv'ry's mountain.  
In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever,  
till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.

No. 587 (1)  
NEAR THE CROSS

## THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Anthony Mague

*Jeremiah 15:15-21*

O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. Therefore thus says the Lord: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

(✠ Please stand as you are able.)

*Your Love Is before Me (Psalm 26:1-8)*

Sterling Washington, cantor

Please sing the refrain after the cantor, and again after each stanza.



Your love is be - fore my eyes; I have walked faith-ful - ly with you.

Words and Music: John W. Becker from *Psalter for Worship, Cycle A*, © 1998 Augsburg Fortress Publishers.  
 Psalm Text: from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress Publishers.  
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Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity;  
 I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

Test me, O Lord, and try me;  
 examine my heart and my mind.  
 For your steadfast love is before my eyes;  
 I have walked faithfully with you. **R.**

I have not sat with the worthless,  
 nor do I consort with the deceitful.  
 I have hated the company of evildoers;  
 I will not sit down with the wicked. **R.**

I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord,  
 that I may go in procession around your altar,  
 singing aloud a song of thanksgiving  
 and recounting all your wonderful deeds. **R.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Anthony Mague

*Matthew 16:21-28*

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

RESPONSE

John L. Bell

*Take, O Take Me as I Am*

The choir will sing the response, then all sing it twice.



Take, O take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall



be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b.1949. Tune: John L. Bell, b.1949.  
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SERMON

*For What Will You Exchange Your Life?*

Stephen Gentle

PASTORAL PRAYER

Stephen Gentle

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 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

*Take My Life*

No. 609 (1, 4, 5, 6)

HENDON

GIVING AND RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

Beverly Goines

OFFERTORY HYMN

*Lord of the Dance*

Alia Waheed Ky and Chris Wilde, soloists

American Shaker melody  
adapt. Sydney Carter

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,  
 and I danced in the moon and stars and the sun,  
 and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.  
 At Bethlehem I had my birth.

*Refrain:*

Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
 I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
 and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
 and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,  
 but they would not dance and they would not follow me.  
 I danced for the fishermen, for James and John.  
 They came with me and the dance went on. *Refrain*

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame.  
 The holy people said it was a shame.  
 They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,  
 and left me there on a cross to die. *Refrain*

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black.  
 It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.  
 They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,  
 but I am the dance and I still go on. *Refrain*

They cut me down and I leapt up high.  
 I am the life that will never, never die.  
 I'll live in you if you'll live in me,  
 I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. *Refrain*

Text: Sydney Carter

✠ DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
 praise God, all creatures here below;  
 praise God above, ye heav'nly hosts:  
 Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

No. 47

OLD HUNDREDDTH

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Beverly Goines

PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP

Terri Malone  
Loretta Fanklin

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. 402 (3)

*According to Thy Gracious Word*  
When to the cross I turn my eyes, and rest on Calvary,  
O Lamb of God, my sacrifice, I must remember thee.

DUNDEE

COMMUNION MUSIC

arr. Healey Willian

*Dundee*

(1880-1968)

## THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✘ GOING FORTH

No. 463

*Renew Your Church*

ALL IS WELL

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

✘ BENEDICTION

Stephen Gentle

POSTLUDE

arr. Joel Raney

*Lord of the Dance*

(b. 1956)

Mike McMahon, piano; Ken Lowenberg, organ

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.