



# National City Christian Church

## Commitment Sunday

October 15, 2017, at 8:30 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.

### THE COMMUNITY GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

Worship Leaders: Valeria Foster, Stephen Gentle, and C. J. Rodriguez

Guest Preacher: Miriam Gentle, pastor of Congregational Care at the Village Church at Greenspring Retirement Community

CALL TO WORSHIP

Stephen Gentle

GATHERING MUSIC

*We Have Come into His House*

Bruce Ballinger

We have come into his house and gathered in his name to worship him;  
We have come into his house and gathered in his name to worship him;  
We have come into his house and gathered in his name to worship Christ the Lord.  
Worship him, Christ the Lord.

So, forget about yourself, concentrate on him and worship him.  
So, forget about yourself, concentrate on him and worship him.  
So, forget about yourself, concentrate on him and worship Christ the Lord.  
Worship him, Christ the Lord.

*O Give Thanks*

J. Christie-McAllister

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; yes, He is good.  
O give thanks unto the Lord, for HE is good; yes, He is good.

For He is worthy, worthy; for He is good; yes, He is good;  
For He is worthy, worthy; for He is good; yes, He is good.

✠ OPENING HYMN

*Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

No. 453

✠ RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

C.J. Rodriguez

Leader: We come together in this holy space because of God;

**People: We are created and sustained by the power of God's love.**

Leader: We have come together because of Jesus;

**People: We accept his example that shows us what life means.**

Leader: We come together because of the Spirit;

**People: We experience the presence that inspires us and blesses our fellowship.**

**Unison: Through the blessings of the Holy Spirit, let us worship God through Jesus, the Christ.**

✘ SONG OF THANKSGIVING                      *Jesus, We Just Want to Thank You*                      Gloria & William Gaither  
Jesus, we just want to thank you; Jesus, we just want to thank you;  
Jesus, we just want to thank you, thank you for being so good.  
Jesus, we just want to praise you; Jesus, we just want to praise you;  
Jesus, we just want to praise you, praise you for being so good.  
Jesus, we just want to serve you; Jesus, we just want to serve you;  
Jesus, we just want to serve you, serve you for being so good.

✘ MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP, WELCOME OF VISITORS                      Stephen Gentle

✘ CALL TO PRAYER                      *You Can't Beat God Giving*                      Doris Akers  
You can't beat God giving, no matter how you try.  
And just as sure as you are living and the Lord is in heaven on high,  
the more you give, the more he gives to you.  
Just keep on giving because it's really true  
that you can't beat God giving, no matter how you try.

PASTORAL PRAYER                      C.J. Rodriguez

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.

CHORAL PRAISE                      *Koinonia*                      V. Michael McKay

## THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING                      2 Corinthians 9:6-15                      C.J. Rodriguez

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

HYMN OF PREPARATION                      *For the Life That You Have Given*                      Carl P. Daw, Jr.  
For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known,  
With theses fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own:  
Here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring;  
Give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.

SERMON

Miriam Gentle

*Partners in Mission*

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

*God of the Fertile Fields*

No. 695

**THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S GRACE**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING

Stephen Gentle

PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP

James Ferguson  
Mary Paradise

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Stephen Gentle

**SHARING AND RECEIVING OF GIFTS**

The Lord's Supper is for all believers in Christ Jesus. Please come forward down the center aisle as directed by the Deacons. Baskets are available at the front for your offering and "Connect With Us" cards. When receiving communion, take a piece of bread or wafer, dip it into the cup, and partake. After you have received the Lord's Supper, please return to your seat by the side aisle.

COMMUNION HYMN

*Down at the Cross*

Elisha Hoffman

Down at the cross where my Savior died,  
Down where for cleansing from sin I cried,  
There to my heart was the blood applied. Glory to His name!

*Refrain*

Glory to His name, precious name.  
Glory to His name, precious name.  
There to my heart was the blood applied.  
Glory to His name!

I am so wondrously saved from sin,  
Jesus so sweetly abides within;  
There at the cross where He took me in, glory to His name!  
*Refrain*

Come to this fountain so rich and sweet,  
Cast thy poor soul at the Savior's feet;  
Plunge in today, and be made complete. Glory to His name!  
*Refrain*

**THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE**

✠ BENEDICTION

Stephen Gentle

✠ CLOSING HYMN

*Let the Church Say, "Amen"*

Andraé Crouch

Let the church say, "Amen." Let the church say, "Amen."  
God has spoken. Let the church say, "Amen."  
*repeat*

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 fellowship immediately following the service.

## CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

Springfield Christian Church, Springfield, Virginia

## GLOBAL MINISTRIES PRAYER CONCERNS

Jeff Wright, Israel/Palestine

## PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY

Willie Alexander; Fay Arrington; Dorothy Davis;  
Eddie Franklin; Sue Frost; Helen Gray; Constance Jennings;  
Courtney & Betty Jones; Tawanna Lloyd; Robin Schacht;  
Lily Stewart; Jessica Sylvester; David Williams;  
persons in military and civil service around the world.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The flowers** were given by Kathy Swihart in honor of Teresa Swihart's birthday and Carla & Bill Wilson's anniversary.

**Pulpit Guest: The Reverend Miriam Gentle** is Pastor of Congregational Care at The Village Church at Greenspring Retirement Community, Springfield, Virginia. She is a graduate of Wesley Theological Seminary and ordained at National City Christian Church where she is presently serving as an Elder.

**Sunday's Message:** Working on God's kingdom here on earth means partnering with others. "Koinonia" or fellowship means that we partner with God and others, to bring God's message of love and shalom to all. Who are you partnering with?

**Commitment Sunday:** On this day, you are invited to prayerfully make an estimate-of-giving for 2018. Sharing your giving plans helps our leaders to faithfully prepare for the ministries and mission for next year. An estimate-of-giving represents your best intentions based on what you know at this present time. At any time it can be adjusted, should circumstances change. Our Commitment Sundays are October 15, 22, and 29. Thank you for sharing!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15**

**Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal** - 9 a.m., Music Suite.  
**Christian Pathways** - 10 a.m., Large Atrium.  
**Toddler Class** - 10 a.m., 2nd Floor Work Room. Barbara Kelley and Aixa Diaz, leaders  
**Sanctuary Tour** - 12:15 p.m. Meet at the back of the Sanctuary, near the President Garfield Memorial Window, for a special guided tour of National City.

### **MONDAY, OCTOBER 16**

**Prayer call at 6 a.m.** - All are invited to join the weekly conference prayer line for National City. Simply dial 712-775-7031, enter access code 371015. For more information, contact Loretta Tate at 202-489-2020.

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17**

**National Children's Chorus** - 4 p.m., Music Suite, Howland Center, Community Room  
**DMV Sanctuary Meeting** - 6:30 p.m., 3rd Floor Conference Room  
**Gospel Choir Rehearsal** - 7 p.m., Music Suite

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18**

**Toddler Playgroup** - 9:30 a.m., Community Room  
**Food Pantry** - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Atrium  
**Fortissima Choir Rehearsal** - 7 p.m., Music Suite

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19**

**DC Lambda Squares** - 6:30 p.m., Scott Hall  
**LGBTQ Happy Hour** - 6 p.m., at Uproar, 639 Florida Ave., NW. Suggested donation minimum donation of \$10 to benefit Center Global, which advocates for and acts on behalf of LGBTQ refugees.

### **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20**

**Music at Midday** - 12:15 p.m., Sanctuary, **free**. John Walker, former President of the American Guild of Organists, will perform organ works by Louis Vierne, Pierre Cochereau (transcription), Chelsea Chen, and John Knowles Paine.

### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22**

**Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal** - 9 a.m., Music Suite.

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## FOR OUR GUESTS

**EN ESPAÑOL** - Culto en la Capilla Phillips, Domingo 11 a.m.

**Membership at National City Christian Church** - 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](mailto:sgentle@nationalcitycc.org)

**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.

**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 office hours.

## CONNECT WITH US

Visit [www.nationalcitycc.org](http://www.nationalcitycc.org) and click the "sign up" tab to subscribe to our email list. **Get Social** - Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram [@nationalcitycc](https://www.instagram.com/nationalcitycc)