



National City Christian Church

Let Your Light Shine!

October 8, 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, Michael McMahon, and John Scott Williams

Preacher: Stephen Gentle, Senior Pastor

PRELUDE Voluntary on Love Unknown arr. Robert Lind
(b. 1940)

MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND WELCOME Stephen Gentle

INTROIT Charles Miller

O God, Make Us Worthy of Your Call
O God, make us worthy of your call,
so that the name of the Lord be glorified in us. Amen.

✘ OPENING HYMN *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* No. 275
WESTMINSTER ABBEY

✘ RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE John Scott Williams

Leader: Turn your hearts to Christ, follow the way of Jesus;

People: For in Christ you are loved and forgiven.

Leader: Love and serve God, by keeping God first in your life;

People: Love Jesus, and know Christ's love is with you.

Leader: Do not want what others have, and love your neighbor as yourself;

People: When God is first in your life, all other desires fall away.

Leader: In this time of worship, focus your mind on Christ;

Unison: For the way of Christ leads us to eternal life.

✘ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *To God Be the Glory* No. 72 (1)
TO GOD BE THE GLORY

To God Be the Glory
To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING John Scott Williams

Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

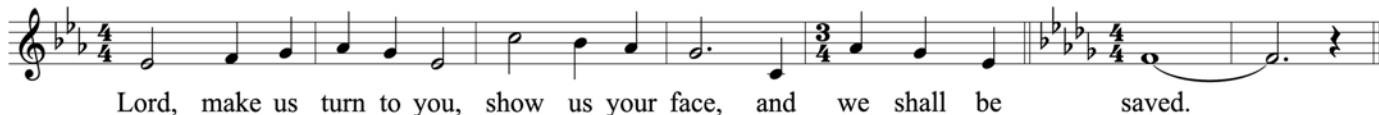
(✘ Please stand as you are able.)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, Make Us Turn to You (Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-20)

Terri Malone, cantor

Please repeat the refrain after the cantor and again after each verse of the psalm



Text: Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-20; Psalm 85:9-14; Luke 1:46-55; Marty Haugen. Music: Marty Haugen. © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-723406.

Shepherd of Israel, hearken from your throne and shine forth,
O rouse your power, and come to save us. **R.**

We are your chosen vine, only by your care do we live,
reach out your hand, O Lord, unto your people. **R.**

If you will dwell with us, we shall live anew in your love,
O shine upon us, great Lord of life. **R.**

SCRIPTURE

John Scott Williams

Matthew 21:33-46

[Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people:] "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.'" So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

ANTHEM

John Stainer

God So Loved the World

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,
that who so believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world,
but that the world through him might be saved.

Text: John 3:16-17

SERMON

Stephen Gentle

Heart of the Gospel

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

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

No. 344

ASSAM

GIVING AND RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

Beverly Goines

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

My Song is Love Unknown

John Ireland

My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,
love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.
O whom am I that for my sake
my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?

He came from heaven's throne salvation to bestow;
the world that was his own would not its Savior know.
But O my Friend, my Friend indeed,
who at my need his life did spend!

Sometimes we strew his way, and his sweet praises sing,
resounding all the day hosannas to our King.
Then "Crucify!" is all our breath,
and for his death we thirst and cry.

Unheeding, we will have our dear Lord made away,
a murderer to save, the prince of life to slay.
Yet steadfast he to suffering goes,
that he his foes from thence might free.

Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine:
never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine.
This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend.

Text: Samuel Corssman, 1664, alt.

✘ PRESENTATION HYMN

We Give Thee but Thine Own

No. 382 (1)

SCHUMANN

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Beverly Goines

PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP

Gary Lewis

Ben Moore

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

I Hunger and I Thirst

No. 409 (3)

IBSTONE

O true life-giving Vine, let me your goodness prove.
By your life sweeten mine, refresh my soul with love.

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✘ GOING FORTH

The Church's One Foundation

No. 272 (1, 2, 5)

AURELIA

✘ BENEDICTION

Stephen Gentle

POSTLUDE

Procesión Alegre

Gary Cornell

(b. 1940)

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.

CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

United Christian Parish
Reston, Virginia

GLOBAL MINISTRIES PRAYER CONCERNS

Linda James
Democratic Republic of Congo

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY

Willie Alexander; Fay Arrington; Dorothy Davis;
Eddie Franklin; Sue Frost; Helen Gray; Constance Jennings;
Courtney & Betty Jones; Shirley Kruse; 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 Steven Karsteter in memory of Lee and Dorothy Karsteter.

Hurricane Relief - Those interested in giving may note on their check or offering envelope "Week of Compassion." You can also visit www.weekofcompassion.org. Thank you for your thoughtful gifts and prayers.

Sunday's Message: At the heart of the Gospel is a message of love. Some of the Jewish leaders in Jesus' time had difficulty accepting this message, as demonstrated in Matthew 21:33-46. On this Sunday when we celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Gospel service, let us consider what is at the very heart of the Gospel message.

A special thank you to everyone that has helped to clean out the Campbell Building and move our ministries over the last few weeks. We have reached another milestone in the sale process. The developer will begin exploratory demolition in October to determine what work needs to be done to build to their specifications.

CONNECT WITH US

Visit 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)

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

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.
Gospel Choir 15th Anniversary - We hope you can join us as we include some favorite selections and praise God, in concert at 3 p.m.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9 -NCCC OFFICES CLOSED-

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 10

National Children's Chorus - 4 p.m., Music Suite, Howland Center, Community Room

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

Toddler Playgroup - 9:30 a.m., Community Room
Food Pantry - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Atrium
LGBTQ Bible Study - 7 p.m., Music Suite. Third in a series on what the Bible says—and doesn't say—about LGBTQ people and how they are to live.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

DC Lambda Squares - 6:30 p.m., Scott Hall

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

Music at Midday - 12:15 p.m., Sanctuary, **free**. Milwaukee cathedral organist Michael Batcho will perform works of Felix Mendelssohn, Louis Vierne, Theophane Hytrek, Richard Proulx, and Henri Mulet.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

Salt & Light Conference - 9 a.m. Visit www.cccadisciples.org/salt-light for more information

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

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

FOR OUR GUESTS

EN ESPAÑOL - Community Room, 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

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 in the 2nd Floor Conference Room. 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.