



National City Christian Church

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 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: Kathryn Farley, Beverly Goines, Kenneth Lowenberg, and Michael McMahon

Preacher: Stephen Gentle, Senior Pastor

PRELUDE

We Gather Together (Kremser)

arr. Wayne Wold
(b. 1954)

MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND WELCOME

Stephen Gentle

INTROIT

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God, do not be afraid; lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

Jacques Berthier

✧ OPENING HYMN

We Gather Together

No. 276
KREMSER

✧ RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Kathryn Farley

Leader: Awesome God, you created the world and all that is in it.

People: You blessed each element of creation with your love.

Leader: You called us from darkness into the light of witness and service.

People: Be with us this day as we gather to worship.

Leader: Clear our minds of all the distractions which would draw us away from you.

People: Open our hearts and spirits, and let your healing and empowering love flow in.

Leader: Prepare us to be witnesses to your power and love as we use the gifts with which you have blessed us in your service.

People: For we offer our worship in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

✧ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Glory Be to the Father

No. 35
GREATOREX

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world with end. Amen. Amen.

THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Kathryn Farley

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

(✧ Please stand as you are able.)

The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

PSALM

No. 67

O God, Our Help in Ages Past (Psalm 90)

ST. ANNE

Please join in singing verses 1, 2, 4, and 6. The choir will sing verses 3 and 5.

SCRIPTURE READING

Kathryn Farley

Matthew 25:14-30

[Jesus answered his disciples,] "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

HYMN

Come, Labor On

ORA LABORA

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



(Choir) 1. Come, la- bor on. Who dares stand i - dle on the har - vest plain while all a - round us
 All 2. Come, la- bor on. Claim the high call - ing an - gels can - not share; to young and old the
 (Choir) 3. Come, la- bor on. Cast off all gloom - y doubt and faith - less fear! No arm so weak but
 All 4. Come, la- bor on. No time for rest, till glows the west - ern sky, till the long shad - ows



waves the gold - en grain? And to each ser - vant does the Mas - ter say, "Go work to - day."
 gos - pel glad - ness bear. Re - deem the time; its hours too swift - ly fly. The night draws nigh.
 may do ser - vice here. Though fee - ble a - gents, may we all ful - fill God's righ - teous will.
 o'er our path - way lie, and a glad sound comes with the set - ting sun, "Well done, well done!"

Text: Jane Laurie Borthwick, 1859; rev. 1863, alt. Tune: ORA LABORA, 4.10.10.10.4, by Thomas Tertius Noble, 1918.

SERMON

Stephen Gentle

You've Got Talent!

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

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

No. 606

NETTLETON

GIVING AND RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

Beverly Goines

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

May the Work I've Done Speak for Me
Alia Waheed Ky, soloist

Sullivan Pugh
arr. Colin Lett

May the work I've done speak for me,
May the work I've done speak for me,
When I'm resting in my grave,
there is nothing then can be said,
May the work I've done speak for me.

May the life I live speak for me,
May the life I live speak for me,
When the best I try to live,
my mistakes he will forgive.
May the life I live speak for me.

May the service I give speak for me,
May the service I give speak for me,
When I've done the best I can
and my friends don't understand,
May the service I give speak for me.

The work I've done it seems so small,
Sometimes it seems like nothing at all,
But when I stand before my God,
I want to hear him say, "Well done,"
May the work I've done speak for me.

✠ DOXOLOGY

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 pow'r uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

No. 50

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Beverly Goines

PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP

Gary Lewis
Kathryn Farley

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. **Gluten-free Communion Wafers** are available in the marked cup on the bread tray.

COMMUNION HYMN

A Hymn of Joy We Sing
A hymn of joy we sing around your table, Lord;
again our grateful tribute bring, our solemn vows record.
In self-forgetting love be our communion shown,
until we join the church above, and know as we are known.

No. 404 (1, 3)

BOYLSTON

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠ GOING FORTH

Now Thank We All Our God

No. 715

NUN DANKET

✠ BENEDICTION

Stephen Gentle

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God (from Cantata 79)

J.S. Bach

(1685-1750)

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.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY

Willie Alexander; Fay Arrington; Dorothy Davis;
Eddie Franklin; 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.

CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

Haitian Pentecostal Church
Salisbury, Maryland

GLOBAL MINISTRIES

Anne Gregory, Thailand

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Daily Prayer for the Week: Lord God, you are the source of all that is good. Through the gift of your son Jesus Christ you have made me capable of sharing your goodness with others. When you ask for an account of what I have done with my life, may I hear from your own lips, that I have been a good and faithful servant. Grant this, through Christ our Lord, that I may enter your lasting joy.

Financial Estimate of Giving: Members and friends of National City Christian Church are invited to prayerfully make an estimate-of-giving for 2018. Sharing your plans to give helps our leaders to faithfully prepare for the ministries and mission for next year. Simply fill out estimate-of-giving card and return it to Treasurer Gentry Alexander at gentry.alexander@gmail.com. Thank you!

Hanging of the Green - You are invited to help decorate one of churches many Christmas trees during the **week of November 27**. Specify the day and time that you are available by emailing mail@nationalcitycc.org.

Join Our Caroling Ministry! - Come and join members of the Sanctuary Choir and others in "Caroling on the Circles" (i.e., Thomas and Logan) after the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 3. We will meet in the Music Suite immediately after the service and head out at 12:55 p.m. to sing in the streets during the annual Logan Circle House Tour. Don't miss out on the joy of singing and helping to make the voice of National City heard in our neighborhood!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Thanksgiving Special Offering - Today we will be collecting the Thanksgiving Offering. This offering goes directly for the support of Disciples universities, colleges, and theological institutions. These gifts help in continuing the tradition of developing leaders for the Disciples churches and community.

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.

Thanksgiving Luncheon - today, the church family comes together for special food and church business, as we give thanks to God for all of God's blessings. Donation is \$12.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

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, NOVEMBER 21

Gospel Choir Rehearsal - 7 p.m., Music Suite

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Toddler Playgroup - 9:30 a.m., Community Room

Food Pantry - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Atrium

Task Force - 5 p.m., Community Room

Fortissima Choir Rehearsal - 7 p.m., Music Suite

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23

THANKSGIVING - NCCC OFFICES CLOSED

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24

NCCC OFFICES CLOSED

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

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

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)

FOR OUR GUESTS

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

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.