



**National City Christian Church**  
**Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**November 19, 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, Beverly Goines, and CJ Rodriguez

Preacher: Stephen Gentle, Senior Pastor

CALL TO WORSHIP

Stephen Gentle

GATHERING MUSIC

*In the Presence of Jehovah*  
In the presence of Jehovah,  
God almighty, Prince of Peace,  
Troubles vanish, hearts are mended  
In the presence of the King!  
(repeat)

arr. Walter Owens, Jr.

*Hallelujah: You're Worthy*  
Hallelujah! You're worthy to be praised!  
Hallelujah! You're worthy to be praised!  
Hallelujah! You're worthy to be praised!  
Hallelujah! You're worthy to be praised!

Judith Christie-McAllister

I lift my hands; I praise you, Lord.  
I bow my head; I honor you, Lord.  
I lift my hands; I praise you, Lord.  
I bow my head; I honor you, Lord.

✠ OPENING HYMN

*We Are Walking (Siyahamba)*

No. 442

✠ RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Beverly Goines

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.**

✠ SONG OF THANKSGIVING

*Lord, I Thank You*  
Lord, I thank you, thank you, thank you.  
Lord, I thank you, thank you, thank you.  
I thank you all the days of my life.  
Lord, I thank you, thank you, thank you.  
Lord, I thank you, thank you, thank you.  
I thank you all the days of my life.

✠ MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP, WELCOME OF VISITORS

Stephen Gentle

✘ CALL TO PRAYER

*Thank You, Lord*  
Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord,  
I just want to thank you, Lord.

No. 531 (1, 2)

Been so good, been so good, been so good,  
I just want to thank you, Lord.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Beverly Goines

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

*My Life, My Love, My All*

Kirk Franklin

## THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Beverly Goines

*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 OF PREPARATION

*Find Us Faithful*

Jon Mohr

O may all who come behind us find us faithful;  
May the fire of our devotion light their way.  
May the footprints that we leave lead them to believe,  
And the lives we live inspire them to obey.  
O may all who come behind us find us faithful.  
(repeat)

SERMON

Stephen Gentle

*You've Got Talent!*

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

*Take My Life*

No. 609 (1, 2, 4, 6)

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.

Take my moment and my days;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise,  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee,  
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose  
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.

Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee,  
ever, only, all for thee.

## THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S GRACE

INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING

CJ Rodriguez

PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

CJ Rodriguez

### 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

*There Is a Fountain*

William Cowper

There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Immanuel's veins;  
And sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.

Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains.  
And sinned plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day,  
And there may I, though vile as he, wash all my sins away.

Wash all my sins away, wash all my sins away;  
And there may I, though vile as he, wash all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood shall never lose its pow'r,  
Till all the ransomed Church of God be saved to sin no more.

Be saved to sin no more, be saved to sin no more.  
Till all the ransomed Church of God be saved to sin no more.

## THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✘ BENEDICTION

Stephen Gentle

✘ CLOSING HYMN

*Take the Name of Jesus with You*

Robert Fryson

Take the name of Jesus with you;  
take the name of Jesus with you;  
take the name of Jesus everywhere you go  
and you'll be happy when we meet again.

*(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.

## **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](mailto: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!

## **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

## **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.

## **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](mailto: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.