



National City Christian Church

Second Sunday of Easter

April 8, 2018, 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: Steven Baines, Beverly Goines, Kenneth Lowenberg
and Michael McMahon

Preacher: Stephen Gentle, Senior Pastor

PRELUDE

O Filii et Filiae (Hymn 220)

Jean-Francois Dandrieu
(ca. 1682-1738)

MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND WELCOME

Stephen Gentle

INTROIT

This Is the Day

This is the day; this is the day that the Lord hath made.
We will rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia! Amen!

Lanson F. Demming

(Psalm 118:24)

✠ OPENING HYMN

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

No. 229
PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

✠ RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: This is a new day.

People: The day of the risen Christ!

Leader: Christ lives in our hearts and in our world.

People: Christ lives. Let us love our neighbors!

Leader: Christ lives. Let us share God's abundance.

People: Christ lives. Let us care for God's creation!

Leader: Christ lives. Let us rejoice!

People: Christ lives. Let us worship God!

All: Alleluia! Amen.

Beverly Goines

✠ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Alleluia

No. 106
ALLELUIA

THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 4:32-35

Beverly Goines

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

(✠ Please stand as you are able.)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

O Look and Wonder (Psalm 133)

David Robeck, percussion

The choir will sing the refrain in both English and Spanish. Please repeat the refrain in both languages after the choir and again after each stanza of the psalm.



O look and won - der: how good it is!
¡Mi - ren qué bue - no, qué bue - no es!

How good it is when brothers dwell in peace with one another;
it is like precious oil when running fresh on Aaron's beard. **R.**

How good it is when sisters dwell in peace with one another,
fresh like the morning dew that falls on Zion's holy hill. **R.**

How good it when all earth's people dwell in peace together:
that is where God will pour the blessing, life forevermore. **R.**

Text and music: Pablo Sosa (Argentina), 1972. © 1972, GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-723406.

SCRIPTURE READING

Beverly Goines

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

HYMN

No. 220 (1, 4, 5, 6)

O Sons and Daughters, Sing Your Praise

O FILII ET FILIAE

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

SERMON

Stephen Gentle

In Defense of Doubt

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

Stephen Gentle

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

Open My Eyes, That I May See

No. 586

OPEN MY EYES

GIVING AND RECEIVING OF THE OFFERING

Steven Baines

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Matthew Glandorf

Peace I Leave with You

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you;
not as the world gives do I give unto you.

Text: John 14:27

✠ DOXOLOGY

O Risen Christ, Our Blessed Lord

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

O risen Christ, our blessed Lord, all praise to you let earth accord, alleluia, alleluia!
You are while endless ages run with Father and with Spirit one, alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Steven Baines

PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP

Kathryn Farley
Loretta Franklin

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Steven Baines

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

Become to Us the Living Bread

No. 423 (3)

GELOBT SEI GOTT

May Christians all with one accord
unite around the sacred board,
to praise your holy name, O Lord.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠ GOING FORTH

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

No. 216

EASTER HYMN

✠ BENEDICTION

Stephen Gentle

POSTLUDE

Gelobt sei Gott (Hymn 423)

Healey Willan

(1880-1968)

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

Fay Arrington; Richard Bahr; Barbara Boward;
Paul Campbell; Doug Cook; Dorothy Davis;
Eddie Franklin; Tracie Foxx; Helen Gray;
Constance Jennings; Courtney and Betty Jones;
Cyril Jones; Tawanna Lloyd; Mary Paradise;
Robin Schacht; Lily Stewart; Wes Strotman;
Esther Tyson; David Williams; persons in military
and civil service around the world.

CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

First Christian Church
Hagerstown, Maryland

GLOBAL MINISTRIES

Chimiste Doriscar, Haiti

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Let's Talk Worship with Mike and Stephen - Sunday, April 8, at 12:30 p.m. in the Music Suite. All are invited to a dialogue regarding the 11 a.m. worship service. Please join us!

Planning Retreat for Our Church's Future - Saturday, April 14, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 3rd Floor Conference Room. Simple lunch provided. All are welcome to attend an exciting day of learning as we consider the places that God is leading National City Christian Church. RSVP today at Atrium front desk or sbaines@nationalcitycc.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - 9 a.m., Music Suite
Christian Pathways Adult Study - 10 a.m., 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
Let's Talk about Worship with Mike and Stephen - 12:30 p.m., Music Suite. All are invited!

UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY, APRIL 9

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, APRIL 10

National Children's Chorus - 4 p.m., Howland Center, Music Suite, Atrium
Capital Pride Meeting - 7 p.m., 3rd Floor Conference Room

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

Toddler Playgroup - 9:30 a.m., Community Room
Food Pantry - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Atrium
Matha's Table Outreach - 4:45 p.m., Martha's Table
Fortissima Choir - 7 p.m., Howland Center
LGBTQ Bible Study - 7 p.m., Music Suite. This month's session will focus on Mark 1:1-17 and will be led by Rev. Miriam Gentle. All are welcome

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

Lambda Squares - 6:30 p.m., Music Suite

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

Music at Midday - FREE! 12:15 p.m., Sanctuary. Organist Axel Flierl, from Dillingen an der Donau, Germany, will perform transcriptions and reconstructions of works by Charles Tournemire, Richard Wagner, and Pierre Cochereau

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

Planning Retreat for Our Church's Future - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 3rd Floor Conference Room. Simple lunch provided. RSVP today at the Atrium front desk
Heritage Music Festival - Sanctuary, Howland Center, Community Room

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

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

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.