



National City Christian Church

Ascension Sunday

May 13, 2018, 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

He Is Exalted

Twila Paris

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high;
I will praise him.

He is exalted, forever exalted,
and I will praise his name!

He is the Lord; forever his truth shall reign.
Heaven and earth rejoice in his holy name.

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.
(repeat)

Awesome God

Rich Mullins

Our God is an awesome God. He reigns from heaven above
With wisdom, pow'r, and love. Our God is an awesome God.
repeat

He reigns! He reigns! He reigns!
Our God is an awesome God!
repeat

✠ OPENING HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns

No. 234

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing who died, and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

(✠ Please stand as you are able.)

✧ RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE CJ Rodriguez
Leader: Shout for joy, sing songs of praise,
People: for God reigns over all the earth!
Leader: God has gone up with a shout!
People: Sound the trumpets and sing songs of praise!
Leader: Sing praise to God; sing praise to our King!
People: God is King over all the world; praise the Lord with songs!
Leader: God sits on the throne and rules over the nations.
People: Let all people assemble with children of the God of Abraham.
Leader: More powerful than all forces is God.
Unison: God rules supreme! Alleluia. Amen.

✧ SONG OF THANKSGIVING No. 233 (1)
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus, risen now to reign in love.
Alleluia! Praise the Savior; with the multitudes above.
There the songs of saints and martyrs thunder like a mighty flood,
"Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by his blood."

✧ MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP, WELCOME OF VISITORS Stephen Gentle

✧ CALL TO PRAYER No. 590
Kum ba Yah

PASTORAL PRAYER CJ 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 Joseph Pace II
arr. Carol Cymbala
High and Lifted Up

THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING CJ Rodriguez

Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Thine Is the Glory

No. 218 (1)

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

SERMON

Ascension

Stephen Gentle

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

He Lives!

No. 226 (1, 3)

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S GRACE

INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING

Beverly Goines

PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP

James Ferguson
Ben Moore

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Beverly Goines

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

COMMUNION HYMN

Here at Thy Table, Lord

No. 384

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✘ BENEDICTION

Stephen Gentle

✘ CLOSING HYMN

I'll Fly Away

Albert E. Brumley

Some glad morning when this life is o'er, I'll fly away;
To that home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away.

Refrain

I'll fly away, O glory, I'll fly away;
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away.

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

Fay Arrington; Richard Bahr; Katie Campbell Morrison;
Douglas Cook; Dorothy Davis; Eddie Franklin; Tracie Foxx;
Helen Gray; Constance Jennings; Courtney
and Betty Jones; Tawanna Lloyd; Mary Paradise;
Beverly Schacht; Lily Stewart; Esther Tyson;
persons in military and civil service around the world.

CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

Rockville Christian Church, Rockville, Maryland

GLOBAL MINISTRIES

Nia Sullivan, Sierra Leone

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Questions for Reflection for Today's Scriptures: What do we make of the Ascension? We might say that the Ascension stands for the final liberation of Jesus from all limitations of space and time, so that he is free to be lovingly and powerfully present with every person, in every place, and in every age.

Daily Prayer for the Week: Gracious God, reside in my heart this day and give me eyes to see the ways that you are present throughout my day. Put your resurrecting power to work in my life and empower me to be a witness to Christ, that my life may be a song of thanksgiving to you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteer for Poor People's Campaign - Help National City provide hospitality, beginning tonight. Poor People's Campaign meetings are on Sundays, 6 - 7:30 p.m. If you can volunteer, come to the Atrium front desk between 5 - 5:30 p.m., tonight. Contact sbaines@nationalcitycc.org and thanks!



UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, MAY 13

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - 9 a.m., Music Suite
Christian Pathways Adult Study - 10 a.m., Atrium
Children's Class - 10 a.m., 3rd Floor Classroom. 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.
Poor People's Campaign - 6 p.m., Sanctuary

MONDAY, MAY 14

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.
Whitman-Walker Workshop - 6 p.m., Howland Center

TUESDAY, MAY 15

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Toddler Playgroup - 9:30 a.m., Community Room
Food Pantry - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Atrium
ANC 2F Meeting - 7 p.m., Howland Center
Fortissima Choir - 7 p.m., Howland Center

THURSDAY, MAY 17

Lambda Squares - 6:30 p.m., Music Suite
LGBTQ Happy Hour - 6 p.m., at Uproar Lounge and Restaurant, 639 Florida Ave., NW. Suggested donation of \$10 to support Brother, Help Thyself.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

Music at Midday - FREE! 12:15 p.m, Sanctuary. Basilica organist Benjamin LaPrairie performs works of twentieth century European composers Charles-Marie Widor, Jean Roger-Ducasse, and Joseph Jongen.

SUNDAY, MAY 20

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - 9 a.m., Music Suite
Dog Blessing - 10 a.m., on The Steps
Pentecost Celebration - Join us on the church steps after the 11 am service for ice cream cake and fellowship.
Poor People's Campaign - 6 p.m., Sanctuary

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.