



# National City Christian Church

## Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

### September 9, 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: Steven Baines, Valeria Foster, and Beverly Goines

Preacher: Stephen Gentle, Senior Pastor

CALL TO WORSHIP

Stephen Gentle

GATHERING MUSIC

*Jesus, Jesus, Jesus*

Timothy Wright

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus; Jesus, Jesus, Jesus; Jesus, Jesus, Jesus;  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.

Healer, healer, healer; ...  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.

Savior, Savior, Savior; ...  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.

*Let It Rise*

Holland Davis

Let the glory of the Lord rise among us,  
Let the glory of the Lord rise among us.  
Let the praises of the King rise among us, let it rise.

Let the songs of the Lord rise among us,  
Let the songs of the Lord rise among us.  
Let the joy of the King rise among us, let it rise.  
Oh, let it rise. Oh, let it rise.

*repeat*

✠ OPENING HYMN

*How Great Thou Art*

No. 33 (1-3)

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder  
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
How great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;  
How great thou art, how great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;

*Refrain*

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin.

*Refrain*

✘ RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE Steven Baines  
Leader: God of love, you teach us a life journey that calls us to deny what is unhealthy and unloving.  
People: **Lead us in that pathway.**  
Leader: Awaken us to the ever-new abundance that is ours through your Word.  
Unison: **We worship in the name of the One who died and rose, Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.**

✘ SONG OF THANKSGIVING No. 39  
*My Tribute*  
To God be the glory, to God be the glory,  
To God be the glory for the things you have done.  
With his blood Christ has saved me,  
With your power you have raised me,  
To God be the glory for the things you have done.

✘ MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP, WELCOME OF VISITORS Stephen Gentle

✘ CALL TO PRAYER No. 609 (1, 3)  
*Take My Life*  
Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise,  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.  
  
Take my voice and let me sing; unto God my praise I bring.  
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee,  
filled with messages from thee.

PASTORAL PRAYER Steven Baines

CHORAL PRAISE Eli Wilson Jr.  
Kyle Kelley  
*Acceptable to You*  
*Let Me Live in My Worship*

## THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Steven Baines

*James 3:1-12*

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue — a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

✘ HYMN OF PREPARATION No. 323 (1, 2)  
*Wonderful Words of Life*

SERMON Stephen Gentle  
*Words Matter*

- ✘ INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP *Lord, Speak to Me* Frances Havergal  
 Lord, speak to me, that I may speak in living echoes of your tone;  
 as you have sought, so let me seek your wandering children, lost, alone.  
 O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious things which you impart;  
 and wing my words, that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.  
 O fill me with your fullness, Lord, until my heart shall overflow  
 in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

## THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S GRACE

- INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING Beverly Goines
- PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP Mary Paradise  
Gary Lewis
- 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 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* No. 422

## THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

- ✘ BENEDICTION Stephen Gentle
- ✘ CLOSING HYMN *Stars in My Crown* Eliza Hewitt  
 I am thinking today of the beautiful land I shall reach when the sun goeth down;  
 When through wonderful grace by my Savior I stand, will there be any stars in my crown?  
 In the strength of the Lord let me labor and pray, let me watch as a winner of souls,  
 that bright stars may be mine in the glorious day, when his praise like the sea billow rolls.  
Refrain  
 Will there be any stars, any stars in my crown  
 When at evening the sun goeth down?  
 When I wake with the blest in the mansions of rest  
 Will there be any stars in my crown?

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; Douglas and Chieko Cook;  
Dorothy Davis; Eddie Franklin; Helen Gray;  
Constance Jennings; Courtney and Betty Jones;  
Gary Lewis; Tawanna Lloyd; Steven Nowicki;  
Beverly Schacht; Esther Tyson;  
John Scott and Beverly Williams;  
persons in military and civil service around the world.

## CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

United Christian Parish, Reston, Virginia

## GLOBAL MINISTRIES

Emmanuela Loccident, Morocco

## PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Lord Jesus, help me walk blamelessly and do what is right, to speak the truth in love, to avoid gossip and slander, and do good to all I meet, that I may abide in your presence and dwell in fellowship with you.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The flowers** were given in honor of Deloris Ruddock's birthday by the Food Pantry crew.

### **Dismantling Racism: Key Stills for Anti-Racism Allies**

Tuesday, September 25, 6:30 p.m., at the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, 1313 New York Avenue. Supper will be provided for all participants at 6 p.m. Register at <http://bit.ly/DismantleRacism>.

**Regional Assembly - Registration Now Open!** The keynote speaker will be Rev. Sandhya Jha, pastor, author, founder and director of Oakland Peace Center. The preacher will be Rev. Yvonne Gilmore, pastor, poet and a spoken word artist, and Associate Dean of the Disciples Divinity House at the University of Chicago. Childcare will be available as well as a special program for youth that includes an overnight lock-in. Register at [www.cccadisciples.org/regional-assembly-2018](http://www.cccadisciples.org/regional-assembly-2018). For more information please contact Rev. Ciara Simonson at [Ciara@springfieldchristianchurch.org](mailto:Ciara@springfieldchristianchurch.org).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**

**Birthday Celebration for Deloris Ruddock** - Please join the Food Pantry team and Christian Pathways class in the Atrium after the 8:30 a.m. service for cake and fellowship.

**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.

**Diaconate Meeting** - 12:30 p.m., 3rd Fl Conf. Room

**Elders Meeting** - 12:30 p.m., 2nd Fl. Conf. Room

### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

**Prayer call at 6:30 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 Training** - 6 p.m., Music Suite

**Potomac Fever Choir** - 7 p.m., Howland Center

### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

**National Children's Chorus** - 3:30 p.m., Music Suite, Howland Center, Community Room

**Gay Men's Chorus** - 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

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

### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

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

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

**Fortissima Singers** - 7 p.m., Music Suite

### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

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

**Latinx Congregation Service** - 7 p.m., Community Room

### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

**Music at Midday - Free! 12:15 p.m.**, Sanctuary. The **Barclay Brass** (Washington, D.C.) will make the majestic sanctuary resound with music both familiar and new, including a recent work for organ and brass by NCCC organist Kenneth Lowenberg.

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**

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

## 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](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](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.