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

Gathering Music

I Love You, Lord, Today
William F. Hubbard

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.
Rick Founds

Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior
Fanny J. Crosby

(*) Please stand as you are able.)
RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Gracious and all merciful God, we give you thanks, for each day your mercies are new.
People: We proclaim your goodness and your strength and we call upon you in praise and thanksgiving.

Leader: Bless us and bless your people everywhere this day with your holy presence.
People: Help us to worship you in a manner worthy of our calling and to render to you the tribute due to your name.

Unison: We ask it through Jesus Christ our Lord.

* SONG OF THANKSGIVING

We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise

Kirk Dearman

We bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the Lord.
We bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the Lord.
And we offer up to you the sacrifices of thanksgiving,
And we offer up to you the sacrifices of joy.

* MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP, WELCOME OF VISITORS

Stephen Gentle

* CALL TO PRAYER

Open Our Eyes

Bob Cull

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen,
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.
Repeat

Pastoral Prayer

Beverly Goines

CHORAL PRAISE

In His Place

V. Michael McKay

I Will Bless the Lord
Shirley Berkeley/arr. V. Foster

His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD’S WORD

Scripture Reading

Mark 10:46-52

Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means “son of Timaeus”), was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.” So they called to the blind man, “Cheer up! On your feet! He’s calling you.” Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus. “What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked him. The blind man said, “Rabbi, I want to see.” “Go,” said Jesus, “your faith has healed you.” Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

* HYMN OF PREPARATION

A Blind Man Sat Beside the Road

Herman Stuempfle

A blind man sat beside the road and begged for charity until he heard a stranger’s step and asked, “Who can this be?”

“He must not pass me by,” he cried; “He must in pity see these empty hands, these sightless eyes! Have mercy, Lord, on me!”

Then Jesus stopped, in mercy spoke: those sightless eyes he healed which opened wide, by faith made whole, the Son of God revealed.
Our blindness cries for vision bright, our poverty for grace.
O Lord, have mercy now on us; to us reveal your face.

Sermon

Looking to Jesus

Stephen Gentle
INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Lead Me, Guide Me

Lead me, guide me, along the way, for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, oh Lord, lead me.

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD’S GRACE

INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING

Steven Baines

PRayers FOR THE BREAD AND CUP

Ben Moore

James Ferguson

Words of Institution

Steven Baines

Sharing and Receiving of Gifts

The Lord’s Supper is for all believers in Christ Jesus. Please come forward down the center aisle closest to you. 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 outside aisles. Gluten-free Communion Wafers are available in the marked cup on the bread tray.

Communion Hymn

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

No. 422

Let us talents and tongues employ,
Reaching out with a shout of joy:
Bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
Pass the word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
Pass the word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one.
At the table he sets the tone,
Teaching people to live to bless,
Love in word and in deed express.

Refrain

Jesus calls us in, sends us out
Bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
Gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) everywhere!

Refrain

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

Benediction

Stephen Gentle

Closing Hymn

As We Go

Jeremy Johnson

As we go, may your Spirit go before us.
As we go, may we follow where you lead.
May we live what we have learned,
share the message we have heard,
And be a light unto the world as we go.

(repeat)

All are invited to the gather outside the Howland Center for coffee and fellowship immediately following the service.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28
Christian Pathways Adult Study - 9:45 a.m., Atrium.
Children’s Class - 10 a.m., 3rd Floor Classroom.
Barbara Kelley and Aixa Diaz, leaders
Sanctuary Tour - 12:30 p.m. Meet Rick Bahr at the Communion Table and he will take you upstairs for a tour of the beautiful Sanctuary. All are welcomed to attend.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29
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.
Potomac Fever Chorus - 7 p.m., Howland Center

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30
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
Women’s Support Group - 6 p.m., 3rd Fl. Conference. All women survivors of sexual assault are invited to a support group led by Ms. Marie Temple and resourced by Rev. Dr. Beverly Goines. Please contact Dr. Goines at bgoines@nationalcitycc.org.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31
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, NOVEMBER 1
NBA XPLOR Luncheon - 11:30 a.m., Howland Center
Lambda Squares - 6:30 p.m., Music Suite
Latinx Congregation Service - 7 p.m., Community Room

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2
Music at Midday - Free! 12:15 p.m., Sanctuary. Organist Stefan Donner is traveling from Vienna, Austria, to perform a program of great works by J. S. Bach, Charles-Marie Widor, and Louis Vierne.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3
National City Christian Church Foundation Board Meeting - 9 a.m., Howland Center, Community Room

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4
Gospel & Sanctuary Choirs Rehearsal - 9 a.m., Sanctuary
Celebrating 175 Years! - 10 a.m., Sanctuary. One service with brunch following! Please RSVP at 175th@nationalcitycc.org