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. We are honored that you have chosen to worship with us. Please fill out the Connect with Us card, and place it in the offering tray. Today’s service is 1 hour and 15 minutes.

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

Worship Leaders: Steven Baines, Valeria Foster, Beverly Goines, and Teresa Swihart
Preacher: Stephen Gentle, Senior Pastor

GATHERING MUSIC

We Have Come into His House
Bruce Ballinger

Glory, Glory, Hallelujah
Spiritual

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
NETTLETON

OPENING HYMN

Come, let us celebrate, as part of the new creation in Christ!

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: We come into this space with our voice.
People: We come to sing praise to our God!
Leader: We come into this space with our presence.
People: We come to be united in fellowship with God!
Leader: We come into this space with our breath.
People: We come to give our being, our all, to God!
Leader: For all we have, and all we are, comes from our Creator who gives us new life in Jesus Christ!
Unison: Come, let us celebrate, as part of the new creation in Christ!

(※ Please stand as you are able.)
GREATOREX

Glory Be to the Father

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD’S WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stephen Gentle

CALL TO PRAYER

God Is So Good

God is so good; God is so good;
God is so good, he’s so good to me.

God answers prayer; God answers prayer;
God answers prayer, he’s so good to me.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER (UNISON)

Steven Baines

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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Teresa Swihart

Luke 15:1-10

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So he told them this parable: “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

ANTHEM

Steal Away

arr. Brazeal W. Dennard

Men’s Ensemble

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus.
Steal away, steal away home, I ain’t got long to stay here.

My Lord calls me. He calls me by the thunder.
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul. I ain’t got long to stay here.

Green trees a-bending. Poor sinner stands a-trembling
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul. I ain’t got long to stay here.

My Lord calls me. He calls me by the lightning.
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul. I ain’t got long to stay here.

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus.
Steal away, steal away home, I ain’t got long to stay here.

SERMON

Sharing God’s Love

Stephen Gentle

THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD’S GRACE

Those desiring to become members of National City Christian Church, by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith, transfer of membership or as an associate member, are invited to come forward during the hymn.

HYMN OF COMMITMENT

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing
INVITATION TO OFFERING

Steven Baines

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Koinonia
V. Michael McKay
How can I say that I love the Lord whom I’ve never, ever seen before; and forget to say that I love the one whom I walk beside each and ev’ry day?

How can I look upon your face and ignore God’s love? You I must embrace! You’re my brother; you’re my sister; and I love you with the love of my Lord.

I Need You to Survive
David Frazier
I need you. You need me. We’re all a part of God’s body. Stand with me. gree with me. We’re all a part of God’s body. It is his will that every need be supplied. You are important to me. I need you to survive. You are important to me. I need you to survive.

I pray for you. You pray for me. I love you. I need you to survive. I won’t harm you with words from my mouth. I love you. I need you to survive.

It is his will that every need be supplied. You are important to me. I need you to survive. You are important to me. I need you to survive.

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
LASST UNS ERFREUEN
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

DOXOLOGY

Beverly Goines

PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP

Terri Malone

TERESA SWIHART

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

This table is for all believers in Jesus Christ. Please come forward by the center aisle. When receiving communion, take the bread and dip it into the cup. Return to your seat by the outside aisle. Gluten-free communion wafers are available in the smaller silver tray.

If for any reason you would prefer to remain seated, please do so and communion will be brought to you.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Valeria Foster, piano

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

No. 625 (1, 2)

Hymn of Going Forth

Precious Name

Take the name of Jesus with you, child of sorrow and of woe;
It will joy and comfort give you; take it then, where’er you go.
Refrain
Precious name, O how sweet! Hope of earth and joy of heaven.
Precious name, O how sweet! Hope of earth and joy of heaven.

As You Go, Tell the World

As you go, tell the world; as you go, tell the world;
Tell the world about Jesus; tell them about His love.
Tell the world about Jesus; tell them about His love.
Repeat
As you go, tell the world.

Benediction

Stephen Gentle

All are invited to the back of the Sanctuary for coffee and fellowship

POSTLUDE

Pass It On

arr. Mark Hayes
**PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY**
Fay Arrington; Douglas and Chieko Cook; Byron Cotton; Dorothy Davis; Bill Eldred; Eddie Franklin; Constance Jennings; Cyril Jones; Barbara Kelley; Jim King; Tawanna Lloyd; Harold Magnusson; Drusilla McCaun; Sarah Rose; Beverly Schacht; Steve Selde; Kathleen Swihart; Esther Tyson; Beverly Williams; military and civil service persons around the world; and victims of disasters.

**CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR**
Good Samaritan Christian Church, Baltimore, Maryland

**GLOBAL MINISTRIES**
Jeanette Salley, Nicaragua

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Daily Prayer:** In the light of this new day, O God, give me the wonder and delight that I may enjoy this day that you have made; through Jesus Christ, our living Lord.

**Sermon & Scripture Talk at Teak Wood** - Today at 11:45 a.m., we are starting a new monthly Sermon & Scripture Conversation Series with Dr. Gentle at Teak Wood Thai Eatery. Teak Wood is located across 14th street near National City at 1323 14th Street; there we will meet, eat, and discuss (food & drink at own expense). Please join us.

**Vocal Workshop** - Would you like to improve your singing voice? Why not participate in our Vocal Workshop? Join us on Saturday, September 28 at 9:30 a.m. in the Music Suite. This workshop is for anyone who would like to sing with more confidence! For more information, contact Valeria Foster at vfoster@nationalcitycc.org.

**Food Pantry Needs** - NCCC gave out 187 bags filled with food this week to our neighbors in need. Please help us fill up our shelves by dropping off as much of the following in our collection basket in the Atrium as you can: Applesauce / fruit cups; tuna pouches / pop-top cans; granola bars; cookies; rice krispies treats; peanut butter crackers; cereal bowls; and water bottles / pouches.

**Reconciliation Offering** - On September 29 and October 6, we will be collecting the second Special Mission Fund offering for the year. The funds collected are used in the pro-reconciliation/anti-racism work of the Church. Within the region some of these funds are used to sponsor camp and conferences for adults and youth for education from the cultural and historical experiences of each other.

**Tithe.ly Mobile Giving** - National City is now on the Tithe.ly app. Just search for “National City,” complete a quick one-time setup, then all it takes is 3 clicks to give! Thank you for your generosity!

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - 9 a.m., Music Suite
Gospel Choir Rehearsal - 9:25 a.m., Music Suite
Christian Pathways Class - 9 a.m., Atrium.
Children’s Sunday School - 9 a.m., 2nd Floor. Gina Ramirez, teacher
Sanctuary Tour - 11:15 a.m. Meet in the back of the Sanctuary, near President Garfield Memorial Window, for a special guided tour.
Adoración en Español - 11 a.m., Community Room
Diaconate Meeting - 11:30 a.m., Howland Center
Sermon & Scripture: Let’s Talk about Luke 15 - 11:45 a.m., Teak Wood Thai Eatery, 1323 14th Street.
All are welcome. See info under Announcements.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**
Whitman-Walker Workshop - 6 p.m., Music Suite
Gay Men’s Chorus - 6:30 p.m., Howland Center

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**
National Children’s Chorus - 3 p.m., Atrium, Music Suite, Community Room, Howland Center
Gospel Choir Rehearsal - 7 p.m., Music Suite

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**
Toddler Playgroup - 9:30 a.m., Community Room
Food Pantry - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Atrium
ANC 2f - 7 p.m., Community Room
Fortissima Singers - Music Suite

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**
Moral March Interviews - 9 a.m.
Lambda Squares - 6:30 p.m., Music Suite

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**
Music at Midday - Free! 12:15 p.m., Sanctuary.
Internationally acclaimed pianist Solomon Eichner (Raleigh, North Carolina) will perform works of Debussy, Fauré, Paderewski, and Chopin.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**
Prayer call at 8 a.m. - Join the weekly prayer call. Simply dial 712-775-7031, enter code 371015. For information, contact Loretta Tate at 202-489-2020.
Clean Up Day - 10 a.m., Yard and Sanctuary

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - 9 a.m., Music Suite
Gospel Choir Rehearsal - 9:30 a.m., Music Suite
Worship - 10 a.m., Sanctuary
Sunday Brunch! - Join your National City family for brunch at 11:30 a.m. in the Howland Center!

**FOR OUR GUESTS**

Connect with us - visit www.nationalcitycc.org and click the "sign up" tab to subscribe to our email newsletter.

Get Social - follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @nationalcitycc.

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. Associate or student memberships are available as well. 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.