



National City Christian Church Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 20, 2019, at 10 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. 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, please silence your cell phones.

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

Worship Leaders: Steven Baines, Kevin Biggins, Jr., Valeria Foster, Stephen Gentle, and Beverly Goines

Guest Preacher: Allen V. Harris, Regional Minister

PRELUDE

Sweet Hour of Prayer

GATHERING MUSIC

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

No. 305

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace!
Repeat

I Just Want to Praise You

Robert Fryson

I just want to praise you forever and ever and ever for all you've done for me.
Blessings and glory and honor, they all belong to you. Thank you, Jesus, for blessing me.
(repeat)

✧ OPENING HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

No. 25 (1, 3, 4, 5)

LOBE DEN HERREN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, who rules all creation.
O my soul, worship the wellspring of health and salvation.
All ye who hear, now to God's temple draw near. Join me in glad adoration.
Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work, and defend thee.
Surely God's goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, who with great love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,
fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee.
Then to thy need God as a mother doth speed, spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all of earth's peoples and races,
all that hath life and breath, give thanks for manifold graces.
Let the Amen sound from God's people again. Gladly forever sing praises.

✧ RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Stephen Gentle

Leader: God of all seasons, when autumn turns crisp and cold and we watch the leaves fall and crumble,
People: remind us that there is always a spring, always a bulb that is resting, waiting for the turning of the world to burst forth.

Leader: Remind us in the shadows of our own life that the sun will shine again.

Unison: Help us to trust in your covenant with us that your love endures forever, that forgiveness and new life are found in Christ Jesus our Lord.

✧ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

My Tribute

No. 39

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.

(✧ Please stand as you are able.)

THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stephen Gentle

✧ CALL TO PRAYER

No. 540 (1, 3)

ST. MARGARET

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

Beverly Goines

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 READINGS

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Beverly Goines

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt — a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

ANTHEM

O for a Faith

arr. Nathan Carter

Chris Wilde, bass; Anne-Michele Maher, alto

O for a faith that will not shrink tho' pressed by many a foe,
That will not tremble on the brink of any earthly woe.
That will not murmur nor complain beneath the chast'ning rod,
But in the hour of grief or pain will lean upon its God.

A faith that shines more bright and clear when tempests rage without,
That when in danger, knows no fear in darkness feels no doubt.

Lord, give me such a faith as this, and then, whate'er may come,
I'll taste e'en now the hallowed bliss of an eternal home.

O for a faith that will not shrink tho' pressed by many a foe,
That will not tremble on the brink of any earthly woe.

O for a faith, O for a faith.

SERMON

Prayerfully Persistent: In a Time of Change

Allen V. Harris

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

No. 629 (1, 3, 5)

Stand by Me

When the storms of life are raging, stand by me (stand by me);
when the storms of life are raging, stand by me (stand by me);
when the world is tossing me, like a ship upon the sea,
thou who rulest wind and water, stand by me (stand by me).

In the midst of faults and failures, stand by me (stand by me);
in the midst of faults and failures, stand by me (stand by me);
when I've done the best I can, and my friends misunderstand,
thou who knowest all about me, stand by me (stand by me).

When I'm growing old and feeble, stand by me (stand by me);
when I'm growing old and feeble, stand by me (stand by me);
when my life becomes a burden, and I'm nearing chilly Jordan,
O thou Lily of the Valley, stand by me (stand by me).

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Steven Baines

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Total Praise

Richard Smallwood

Lord, I will lift mine eyes to the hills knowing my help is coming from you.
Your peace you give me in time of the storm.
You are the source of my strength. You are the strength of my life.
I lift my hands in total praise to you. Amen.

✠ DOXOLOGY

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!

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Stephen Gentle

PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP

Barbara Boward
Steve Cook

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.

THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE

✠ HYMN OF GOING FORTH

No. 583

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.
(repeat twice)

✠ BENEDICTION

Stephen Gentle

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

POSTLUDE

Praise to the Lord! The Almighty

arr. Paul Manz

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY

Douglas and Chieko Cook; Dorothy Davis; Kelsey Goodman; Eddie Franklin; Constance Jennings; Cyril Jones; Barbara Kelley; Jim King; Tawanna Lloyd; Harold Magnussen; Drusilla McCain; Sarah Rose; Beverly Schacht; Steve Selde; Sylvia Snyder; Kathleen Swihart; Esther Tyson; John Foster Woods; Beverly Williams; military and civil service persons around the world; and victims of disasters.

CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

Retired clergy, those clergy who serve in non-congregational settings, seminarians, and persons under care by the Commission on the Ministry

GLOBAL MINISTRIES

Jerri Handy - Mexico

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daily Prayer: Loving God, thank you for the gift of this day. May I see the wonders of your presence in the world today. Help me to be open to all people you bring my way, for you make no distinctions, but are Lord or all. Amen.

Preaching Today: The Reverend Allen V. Harris began as Regional Minister in the Capital Area in June of 2015. Previously Rev. Harris had served congregations in Cleveland, Ohio; New York, New York; and Grapevine, Texas. Leading the 40 congregations in the Capital Area Region, from the District of Columbia, Maryland, Northern Virginia, Delaware, and one congregation in West Virginia, Rev. Harris brings an infectious joy and exuberant presence whenever he preaches. Rev. Harris is a passionate advocate for justice, equality, and peace and is dedicated to serve "the least, the last, the lost, and the loneliest" among us.

Food Pantry Needs - 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.**

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, OCTOBER 20

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - 9 a.m., Music Suite
Christian Pathways Class - 9 a.m., Atrium.
Children's Sunday School - 9 a.m., 2nd Floor. Gina Medina, teacher
Sanctuary Tour - 11:15 a.m. Meet in the back of the Sanctuary, near President Garfield Memorial Window, for a special guided tour.
Sermon Discussion and Lunch - 11:50 a.m. at Teak Wood Thai Eatery, 1323 14th Street, NW. All are welcome!

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21

Whitman-Walker Workshop - 6 p.m., Music Suite
Gay Men's Chorus - 6:30 p.m., Howland Center

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22

National Children's Chorus - 3 p.m., Atrium, Music Suite, Community Room, Howland Center
Gay Men's Chorus - 7 p.m., Sanctuary, Howland Center
Gospel Choir Rehearsal - 7 p.m., Music Suite

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23

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, OCTOBER 24

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Advocacy on the Steps
Lambda Squares - 6:30 p.m., Music Suite
ANC 2F Meeting - 7 p.m., Community Room

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25

Music at Midday - Free! 12:15 p.m., Sanctuary.
Washington native **David Brock** (Zephyr Springs, Nevada) returns to his home town to perform music of Jean Langlais, Scott Joplin, and Leo Sowerby.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

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.
Memorial Service for Bill Eldred - 1 p.m., Sanctuary

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - 9 a.m., Music Suite
LGBTQ Luncheon at Dupont Italian Kitchen - Noon.
Dupont Italian Kitchen is located at 1637 17th Street, NW.

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](https://www.instagram.com/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.