GATHERING

PRELUDE
Adagio in D Minor
Johann Mattheson
Kevin Biggins, Jr., organist
arr. Willard I. Nevins

WELCOME
Amy Butler

CALL TO WORSHIP
On the Pulse of Morning
by Maya Angelou
Beverly J. Goines

Lift up your eyes upon
This day breaking for you.
Give birth again
To the dream.
Women, children, men,
Take it into the palms of your hands,
Mold it into the shape of your most
Private need. Sculpt it into
The image of your most public self.
Lift up your hearts
Each new hour holds new chances
For a new beginning.
Do not be wedded forever
To fear, yoked eternally
To brutality.

The horizon leans forward,
Offering you space to place new steps of change.
Here, on the pulse of this fine day
You may have the courage
To look up and out and upon me, the
Rock, the River, the Tree, your country.
No less to Midas than the mendicant.
No less to you now than the mastodon then.
Here, on the pulse of this new day
You may have the grace to look up and out
And into your sister’s eyes, and into
Your brother’s face, your country
And say simply
Very simply
With hope —
Good morning.

INVOCATION
Amy Butler

PASSING OF THE PEACE
Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Beverly J. Goines

OPENING HYMN
Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun
Led by Valeria Foster
DUKE STREET

Jesus shall reign where’er the sun does its successive journeys run;
his love shall spread from shore to shore till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Christ shall endless prayer be made, and endless praises crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

Let every creature rise with song; honor and praise to Christ belong;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen!
PROCLAMATION

EPISTLE LESSON
Philippians 3:4b-14
Steven Baines
If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

SELECTION
Pues Si Vivimos (When We Are Living)
Gina & Angelina Ramirez, soloists
SOMOS DEL SEÑOR
Pues si vivimos, para Él vivimos y si morimos para Él morimos.
Sea que vivamos o que muramos, somos del Señor, somos del Señor.

When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus, and when we’re dying, it is in the Lord.
Both in our living and in our dying, we belong to God, we belong to God.

En esta vida, frutos hemos de dar. Las obras buenas son para ofrendar.
Ya sea que demos o que recibamos, somos del Señor, somos del Señor.

Through all our living, we our fruits must give. Good works of service are for offering.
When we are giving, or when receiving, we belong to God, we belong to God.

En este mundo, hemos de encontrar gente que llora y sin consolar.
Sea que ayudemos o que alimentemos, somos del Señor, somos del Señor.

Across this wide world, we shall always find those who are crying with no peace of mind,
but when we help them, or when we feed them, we belong to God, we belong to God.

SERMON
Draw the Circle Wide
Amy Butler

SONG OF REFLECTION
Draw the Circle Wide
Valeria Foster, soloist; Kevin Biggins, Jr., pianist
DRAW THE CIRCLE

Refrain

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide. Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
No one stands alone, we’ll stand side by side. Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Repeat

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still. Let this be our song: no one stands alone.
Standing side by side, draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Repeat

Music: Mark A. Miller. Words: Gordon Light

RESPONSE
Psalter
Psalm 19:1-9
Beverly J. Goines
The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.
Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat. The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD’S PRAYER**

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

**INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

If you have bread and juice to use at your home, we invite all to participate in Holy Communion after the minister offers Words of Institution and Prayer for the Elements.

**LITANY OF BREAD**

Adapted from Rev. Heather Prince Doss

Pastor: Today we celebrate World Communion Sunday, remembering our Christian brothers and sisters around the world who also celebrate this feast. We remember that this is our Lord’s Table, and all who seek Jesus are welcome.

Pastor: PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Matzah is unleavened bread that reminds us of all who eat their bread in haste. It symbolizes for us all the refugees who, like the ancient Israelites, leave their homes and flee from danger. May it remind us, too, of the homeless in our own city and country.

**We pray, O God, for your church among those with no place to call home. May we learn from their searching faith, and may we be a place of welcome for all who seek safety.**

Frybread reminds us of Africa, the birthplace of humankind where Christianity continues to flourish. It also reminds us of a legacy of slavery, and of a people who endured.

**We pray, O God, for your church in places where it flourishes, and we confess the times and places when we have enslaved our brothers and sisters. May we learn from the vibrant faith of our African brothers and sisters, and may we build a more just and peaceable world.**

Nom Chakie is a Cambodian bread that reminds us of Asia, where Christians are a minority among Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus, and others. It represents for us the ways our faith calls us beyond our culture and reminds us of our brothers and sisters who are persecuted for their beliefs.

**We pray, O God, for your church in places where Christianity is dangerous, politically or socially. May we learn from the steadfast faith of our Asian brothers and sisters and walk with Jesus through every trial.**

Tortillas remind us of Central and South America, where faith and culture have colored one another beautifully; but also a place where Christians live with violence, drugs, and conflict as a daily reality.

**We pray, O God, for your church in places beset by violence and still colored by hope. May we learn from the persistent faith of our Latinex siblings, and may we look upon them with compassion as our neighbors.**

The baguette reminds us of Europe, with its vast cathedrals. It represents those who keep the faith alive in lean times and reminds us that the church is not a building, but a community of people.

**We pray, O God, for your church in places where its power is diminished and its followers are few. May we learn from the age-old faith of our European brothers and sisters, and may we live our faith so that our faith might live.**

Cornbread reminds us of Native Americans who first recognized God in the rhythms of nature. It reminds us that the land we call home once belonged to others.

**We pray, O God, for your church as it exists in every land. May we learn from the earthy faith of our Native American siblings, and may we care for the land and all those who call it home.**
PASTOR: Come, Holy Spirit, dwell in these breads and in this cup that they might be for us the body and blood of Christ. Come, dwell in your people of every land and language that we might be united with one another to be the body of Christ in every corner of the world today. Amen.

CULTIVATING GENEROSITY

Steven Baines

HYMN OF GOING FORTH

Let Us Talents and Tongues and Employ

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! repeat

Refrain

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

Jamaican folk melody Words: Fred Kaan

Benediction

Amy Butler

POSTLUDE

Let Us Break Bread Together

Kevin Biggins, Jr., organist

Arr. Lawrence P. Schreiber

[Rev. Steven Baines, Interim Executive Minister (sbaines@nationalcitycc.org)
Rev. Dr. Amy Butler, Interim Organist (kbiggins@nationalcitycc.org)
Rev. Dr. Amy Butler, Interim Senior Minister (abutler@nationalcitycc.org)
Valeria Foster, Interim Music Minister (vfoster@nationalcitycc.org)
Rev. Dr. Beverly J. Goines, Assistant Minister (bgoines@nationalcitycc.org)]

Some Good Advice

During this two-week series on the Epistle to the Philippians we take heed to the good advice that Paul is giving the first church. Please be sure to tune in, post links to the services on your social media accounts, and invite friends to join us virtually for worship!

Reconciliation Special Offering will be collected on October 4. This special offering is used to fund our Church's mission to become a pro-reconciliation and anti-racist church through education and intentional dialogue. Please write “Reconciliation Offering” in the memo line of your donation via checks or tithe.ly.

Please join our Saturday morning prayer call at 8 a.m. (712-775-7031; code 371015).

Virtual Fellowship Hour - Sunday at 11 a.m. Bring your coffee and enjoy virtual conversation with your National City family! We will send out a link on Friday. Subscribe to our email list via our website www.nationalcitycc.org, or email Colleen Walsh at cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org, to receive the link.

Please remember the vital ministries of our church by giving of our tithes and offerings on tithe.ly. Checks are being received in the mail and deposited weekly. Stay healthy, pray without ceasing, and remember, God is faithful.

Prayers for Our Church Family

Phyllis Alexander; Douglas and Chieko Cook; Dorothy Davis; Eddie Franklin; Helen Gray; Constance Jennings; Jim King; Frederickia Lloyd; Tawanna Lloyd; Lucas Lund; Drusilla McCain; Beverly Schacht; Kathleen Swihart; Esther Tyson; John Foster Woods; and all medical personnel around the world.

Capital Area Prayer Calendar

Our Ecumenical and Interfaith Partners

Global Ministries Prayer Calendar

Sean Amato in Egypt