



# National City Christian Church

## Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 21, 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: Valeria Foster, Beverly Goines, and CJ Rodriguez

Preacher: Stephen Gentle, Senior Pastor

CALL TO WORSHIP

Stephen Gentle

GATHERING MUSIC

*Awesome in This Place*

David Billington

Refrain

You are awesome in this place, Mighty God.  
You are awesome in this place, Abba Father.  
You are worthy of all praise, to you our lives we raise.  
You are awesome in this place, Mighty God.

*I Will Call Upon the Lord*

Michael O'Shields

I will call upon the Lord, for He is worthy to be praised.

So shall I be saved from my enemies.

I will call upon the Lord.

(repeat)

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

(repeat)

✠ OPENING HYMN

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

No. 464 (1-4)

✠ RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Beverly Goines

Leader: Gracious God, we thank you for calling us here today to refresh ourselves in your presence, to grow strong in your praises and wise in your counsels.

**People: We ask that your radiance penetrate any darkness that may be upon our hearts and that you would grant us peace as we meditate upon your word.**

Leader: This is the Sabbath that you have made, O Lord, we would rejoice and be glad in it, and give glory unto your name.

**People: Blow through this place and upon our lives with the power of your everlasting Spirit, and lift up your people in our worship of you.**

✠ SONG OF THANKSGIVING

*Praise the Name of Jesus*

Roy Hicks Jr.

Praise the name of Jesus, praise the name of Jesus,

He's my Rock, he's my Fortress,

He's my Deliverer, in him will I trust.

Praise the name of Jesus.

✠ MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP, WELCOME OF VISITORS

Stephen Gentle

✠ CALL TO PRAYER

*Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult*

No. 337 (1-4)

(✠ Please stand as you are able.)

PASTORAL PRAYER

Beverly Goines

LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

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.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CHORAL PRAISE

*Follow Me*

Glenn E. Burleigh

## THE COMMUNITY HEARS GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Beverly Goines

*Mark 1:14-20*

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

*You Walk Along Our Shoreline*

Sylvia Dunstan

You walk along our shoreline where land meets unknown sea.  
We hear your voice of power, "Now come and follow me.  
And if you still will follow through storm and wave and shoal,  
Then I will make you fishers but of the human soul."  
  
You call us, Christ, to gather the people of the earth.  
We cannot fish for only those lives we think have worth.  
We spread your net of gospel across the water's face,  
Our boat a common shelter for all found by your grace.  
  
We cast our net, O Jesus; we cry the kingdom's name;  
We work for love and justice; we learn to hope through pain.  
You call us, Lord, to gather God's daughters and God's sons,  
To let Your judgment heal us so that all may be one.

SERMON

*God Is Calling*

Stephen Gentle

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

✘ INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

No. 344

## THE COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO GOD'S GRACE

INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING

CJ Rodriguez

PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP

Chip Talbott  
Terri Malone

**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

*Here at Thy Table, Lord*

No. 384

**THE COMMUNITY GOES FORTH TO SERVE**

✠ BENEDICTION

Stephen Gentle

✠ CLOSING HYMN

*Jesus Is the Answer*

Andraé Crouch

Jesus is the answer for the world today.  
Above him there's no other. Jesus is the way.  
Jesus is the answer for the world today.  
Above him there's no other. Jesus is the way!

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; Dorothy Davis; Eddie Franklin;  
Helen Gray; Constance Jennings;  
Courtney & Betty Jones; Cyril Jones; Tawanna Lloyd;  
Mary Paradise; Robin Schacht; Lily Stewart;  
David Williams; persons in military and civil service  
around the world.

## **CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR**

Christian Temple  
Baltimore, Maryland

## **GLOBAL MINISTRIES**

Anne Gregory, Thailand

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Reflecting on the Gospel:** One of the thrills of being a Christian parent is seeing a child grasp the joy of faith, for the first time. A number of years ago, I remember with sheer delight my daughter clapping and singing in the back seat of the car: "I've decided to follow Jesus. I've decided to follow Jesus. No turning back. No turning back." While I knew she did not know all that it meant to follow Jesus, I remember giving thanks to God for the joy that she sang about in her decision to be a child of God.

What does it mean to follow Jesus? Does it mean, like we sing in another hymn, "to let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also"? That's what the disciples did, when Jesus called them to follow him. Let's explore together the calling of Jesus, on this Third Sunday after Epiphany.

**Daily Prayer** - Holy One, thank you for the gift of this new day. Help me to stay attentive to your creation and mindful of your teachings as I travel through it. Empower me to see and spread the good news of your grace for all people. Amen.

**Memorial Service** - Please join family and friends of Willie Alexander at a memorial service in the Sanctuary on Monday, January 22 at noon. Visitation starts at 11 a.m. Mr. Alexander passed away on January 15. We give thanks for this life redeemed in Christ Jesus.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 21**

**Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal** - 9 a.m., Music Suite.  
**Christian Pathways** - 10 a.m., Large Atrium.  
**Toddler Class** - 10 a.m., 2nd Floor Work Room.  
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 Luncheon** - 12:30 p.m., Howland Center  
**Elders Meeting** - 12:30 p.m., Narthex

### **MONDAY, JANUARY 22**

**Prayer call at 6 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.

### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 23**

**National Children's Chorus** - 3:30 p.m., Community Room, Visitors Center, Music Suite, Howland Center, Robing Room  
**Gospel Choir Rehearsal** - 7 p.m., Music Suite

### **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24**

**Toddler Playgroup** - 9:30 a.m., Community Room  
**Food Pantry** - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Atrium  
**Fortissima Choir** - 7 p.m., Music Suite

### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 25**

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

### **FRIDAY, JANUARY 26**

**Yada Bible Study** - 7 p.m., at Stephen and Miriam Gentle's home.

### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 28**

**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.