



National City Christian Church

A Festival of Lessons and Carols



print of an Ethiopian Batik

**Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2019 at 10 a.m.**

Welcome to our Festival of Lessons and Carols in preparation for the celebration of Christmas!

We are delighted that you are worshipping with us this morning. National City Christian Church is the national church for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), home to a vibrant community of faith, an open and affirming congregation, and a house of prayer for all people. On this Third Sunday of Advent, we pray that God's Spirit will move in your life and in our life together as we worship God in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

If you are a visitor, we invite you to sign our guest register and to fill out a Connect with Us card, which may be found in your bulletin or available from a greeter. Please place the Connect with Us card in the offering plate so that we may be in contact with you should you require additional information, have prayer requests, or would like to speak with a pastor.

This service will last approximately 75 minutes. We kindly and respectfully ask that you please silence all electronic devices and that you refrain from using flash photography or any audio or video recording devices.

ABOUT THE SERVICE

The traditional Lessons and Carols Service was drawn up by E. W. Benson (who later became the Archbishop of Canterbury), for use in a Christmas Eve service in 1880 to be held in the wooden shed which then served as his cathedral in Truro, England. His son, A. C. Benson, recalled: "My father arranged from ancient sources a little service for Christmas Eve—nine lessons and nine short carols, which were read by various officers of the church, beginning with a chorister and ending with the Bishop." In its initial years the service began with the carol *Adeste Fideles (O Come, All Ye Faithful)* and concluded with the *Magnificat* (the Song of Mary).

Almost immediately other churches throughout England adapted the service for their own use. A wider fame developed when the service was sung at King's College Chapel at Cambridge University and was first broadcast to the world by the BBC in 1928. With the exception of 1929, the service has been broadcast annually, even during the Second World War, when the ancient glass (and with it, all the heat) had been removed from King's College Chapel and the name of King's College could not be mentioned for security reasons.

At National City Christian Church, we have adapted the service for use in Sunday morning worship during the Advent season, including six lessons from Scripture that invite us to reflect on the coming of Christ. Unlike the stand-alone service that is typically celebrated in most other churches, our celebration also honors the ancient Christian tradition of celebrating Holy Communion each Lord's Day.

Wherever the Festival of Lessons and Carols is celebrated and however adapted, the pattern and strength of the service is derived from the lessons and not the music. The main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God as revealed in the word of Scripture. The rich cultural diversity of our nation and world is manifested in the breadth of music to celebrate the coming of Christ, and the spirit and needs of the local community are reflected in the litany of intercession and prayers at the Lord's table. The center of the service is found in those who "go in heart and mind" and who faithfully follow along the path of discipleship where the story leads. Only then may they see revealed the God who is among us, and worship the Christ Child born long ago in Bethlehem.

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

PRELUDE

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
Kevin Biggins, Jr., organ

arr. Edward Broughton

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stephen Gentle, Senior Pastor

✧ PROCESSIONAL CAROL

Once in Royal David's City
Anne-Michele Maher, soloist

No. 165

Soloist:

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for a bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

Congregation and Choir:

Christ came down to earth from heaven, love incarnate for us all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor, the scorned, the lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

Jesus is our childhood's pattern; day by day like us he grew,
he was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew.
Thus he feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
for that child who seemed so helpless lives and reigns in heaven above;
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1848, alt.
Music: IRBY; Henry John Gauntlett, 1849

✧ RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE AND LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

Led by Aixa Diaz, Anthony Mague, and Agnes

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always!

People: Again I will say: Rejoice!

Leader: Let your gentleness be known to everyone.

People: The Lord is near!

Unison: Holy God, we rejoice that the signs of your coming are all around us. Open our eyes to recognize your presence among us here and in the world around us. Empower us to bring your light and joy to others in the name of Christ, who was, and is, and is to come. Amen.

✧ CONGREGATIONAL CAROL OF RESPONSE

One Candle Is Lit

No. 128 (3)

Come, festively sing while awaiting the birth,
join angels in dancing from heaven to earth.
Wave banners of good news, lift high thankful praise.
One candle is lit for the joy of these days.

Text: Mary Anne Parrott, 1988
Music: CRADLE SONG, William J. Kirkpatrick, 1895

✧ PRAYER

All pray together, led by Beverly Goines

**O God, most high and most near,
you send glad tidings to the lowly,
you hide not your face from the poor;
those who dwell in darkness you call into the light.
Take away our blindness,
remove the hardness of our hearts, and form us into a humble people,
that, at the advent of your Son,
we may recognize him in our midst and find joy in his saving presence.**

INVITATORY CAROL

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear:
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save, and give them victory o'er the grave:
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight:
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery:
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of Might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height,
In ancient times did give the law in cloud and majesty and awe:
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Words: Latin hymn (12th century)
Music: French melody (15th century); arr. Andrew Carter

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Read by Phillip Gentle

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Comfort, Comfort
Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

"Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!" So says our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow's load.
To God's people now proclaim that God's pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their war is over; God will reign in peace forever!

For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near.
Calling us to true repentance, since the Kingdom now is here.

Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way!
Let the valleys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him!

Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain!
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign!
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1611-1684; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre pseumes de David*, Geneva, 1551, arr. John Ferguson

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 7:10-14

Read by Beverly Goines

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Emmanuel

Sung by the Gospel Choir

Come, come let us adore him, kneel down before him, worship and adore him.
Come, come let us adore him, kneel down before him, worship and adore him.
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, we worship you, we worship you.

Text: Norman Hutchins
Music: Norman Hutchins and Jason White

THIRD LESSON:

Luke 1:26-38

Read by Steven Baines

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Canticle of the Turning

The Sanctuary Choir sings the first two verses as the congregation remains seated.
At the beginning of verse 3, please stand and join in singing.



1. My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the God of my heart is great,
2. Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
3. From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.
4. Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re - mem - ber who holds us fast:



And my spir - it sings of the won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
And your mer - cy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Let the king be - ware for your jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant from his throne.
God's mer - cy must de - liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my weak - ness you did not spurn,
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can nev - er earn;
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the prom - ise which holds us bound,



So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
There are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
'Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn!

FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

Read by Sadye Sanders

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain,

O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Every Valley
Sung by the Combined Choirs

Every valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry mountain made low;
and the crooked made straight, and the rough places plain.
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, revealed,
And all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Every valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry mountain made low,
and the crooked straight, and the rough places plain, and all flesh shall see it together.
For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, revealed,
And all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Text: Isaiah 40:4, 5
Music: John Ness Beck

FIFTH LESSON:

Matthew 1:18-25

Read by Loretta Franklin

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy
Sung by the Combined Choirs

The Virgin Mary had a baby boy,
And they said that his name was Jesus.
He come from the glory, he come from the glorious kingdom.

The wise men saw where the baby was born...
The angels sang with the baby was born...
The Virgin Mary had a baby boy...

Text: West Indian traditional
Music: West Indian carol; arr. Robert DeCormier

SIXTH LESSON:
Read by Anthony Mague

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

Of the Father's Love Begotten

No. 104 (1, 3)

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the world began to be,
Christ is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he!
Of the things that are, that have been and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!

Christ, to thee with God Creator, and O Holy Ghost, to thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore! Amen.

PRAYERS FOR ALL GOD'S PEOPLE

Led by Steven Baines

Leader: We have heard the good news of Christ's coming, and now we turn to God in prayer, remembering the needs of all people, especially those who are most vulnerable.

All: **O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

Leader: Let us pray for Christian churches and people everywhere: that they may proclaim the good news of peace and give lively witness to God's justice.

All: **O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

Leader: Let us pray for political leaders and all who wield worldly power, that they may be attuned to the cries of the oppressed; driven by a desire for the common good, filled with concern for the least among us; and strengthened to work tirelessly for peace in every corner of our planet.

All: **O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

Leader: Let us pray for those who are homeless or hungry: that they be sheltered and filled with good things.

All: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Leader: Let us pray for refugees and migrants, that they may be welcomed by people of good will, to live in dignity and freedom from fear.

All: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Leader: Let us pray for an end to forces that tear at the fabric of society, including violence and discrimination based on race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

All: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Leader: Let us pray for all those in need: for the sick, the poor, and the grieving, for those who are imprisoned, unemployed, or lonely, for all those listed in our prayer concerns, and for those who suffer in any way.

All: O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: God of promise, you have given us a sign of your love in the birth of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who was promised from ages past. We believe as Joseph did the message of your presence whispered by an angel. With confidence in your care and mercy for all creation we offer our prayers for your world in Christ's holy name. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Beverly Goines

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Joy

Whitney Houston, K. Franklin

Sung by the Gospel Choir. Kathy Mosley, soloist

Joy, joy, God's great joy; joy, joy, down in my soul.
Sweet, beautiful, soul-saving joy; O joy, joy in my soul.

Listen to the music, the sound of the angels.
Come and see the Child who can make you whole.
Lying in a manger, away from harm and danger, O joy, joy in my soul.

He's sent from up above, this special gift of love,
More precious than silver or gold.
He was sent this holy day to take the pain away, O joy, joy in my soul.

Then tell it on the mountain, shout it from the valley;
Tell them of the baby in swaddling clothes.
Folks in every nation join the celebration; O joy, joy in my soul.

✦ DOXOLOGY

Advent Doxology



Born your peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king!



We give back to you an off' - ring; you have giv - en us ev' - ry - thing!

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Stephen Gentle

PRAYERS AT THE TABLE

Gary Lewis, Mary Paradise

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Stephen Gentle

This table is for all believers in Jesus Christ. Please come forward by the center aisle as directed. When receiving communion, take the bread and dip it into the cup. Return to your seat by the side aisle. If you prefer to remain seated, communion will be brought to you. *Gluten-free Communion Wafers are available in a marked section on the bread tray.*

COMMUNION MUSIC

What Child Is This
Wind Quintet

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Led by Stephen Gentle

Minister: We thank you, O God,
that your Son has come among us in history
and continues to abide among us in this holy meal
and through the Spirit that he has poured forth into our hearts.

People: **Send us out into the world rejoicing,**
proclaiming good news of great joy to all the people,
and giving witness to his compassion, justice, and love.
We make our prayer in the name of the holy child of Bethlehem,
our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

✧ CAROL OF GOING FORTH

O Come, All Ye Faithful

No. 148

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; O come . . .

Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,
We would embrace thee, with love and awe.
Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly? O come . . .

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born for our salvation,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing. O come . . .

Words: John Francis Wade, 1743; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1841, and others
Music: ADESTE FIDELES; John Francis Wade, 1743

BENEDICTION

Led by Stephen Gentle

POSTLUDE

Toccata on Adeste Fideles
Kevin Biggins, Jr., organ

arr. David Hegarty

NATIONAL CITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH SANCTUARY CHOIR

Valeria Foster, *Minister of Music*
Kevin Biggins, Jr., *Organist*
David Robeck, *Percussionist*

Sanctuary Choir

Sopranos
Mona A. Corneiro
Dorothy Davis
*Alia Waheed Ky
Gina Ramirez
Sylvia Snyder
Teresa Swihart
Kathleen Walker

Altos
Kathleen Burger
*Anne-Michele Maher
Terri Malone

* *section leaders*

Tenors
Armin Bondoc
*Sterling Washington
Kent Woods

Basses
Douglas Cook
Steven Cook
Paul Heffron
David Walker
*Chris Wilde

Gospel Choir

Sopranos
Annice Majette
Kathy Mosley
Lolita Neal
Teresa Swihart
Marie Temple

Tenors
Dominicus So
William White

Basses
Cecil Talbott

Wind Quintet

Flute
Eric Abalahin

Oboe
Rhett Summers

Clarinet
Chris Epinger

Bassoon
Chris Akins

Horn
Jim McIntyre

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY

Douglas and Chieko Cook; Dorothy Davis; Eddie Franklin; Helen Gray; Constance Jennings; Jim King; Tawanna Lloyd; Lucas Lund; Alta Mainer; Drusilla McCain; Steve Selde; Kathleen Swihart; Esther Tyson; John Foster Woods; military and civil service persons around the world; and victims of disasters.

CAPITAL AREA PRAYER CALENDAR

Mount Olivet Christian Church,
Baltimore, Maryland

GLOBAL MINISTRIES

Mary Kathryn Ball
Ecuador

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Offering is received today and supports the Regional Ministries of the Church. Regional Ministries sponsor camps and conferences which are key to the leadership and development of church leaders.

Food Pantry Christmas December 18: Tube socks, hoodies, tote bags, book bags, sweat-shirts, hats, gloves and toiletries can be donated in the box in the Atrium. Monetary donations are appreciated as well, in the memo write "Food Pantry Christmas". Volunteers will assemble gift bags on December 15. Contact Lorraine Magnussen or Laurese Dancy for more information or to help out.

Poinsettias order forms: Place in offering plate or email to cwalsh@nationalcitycc.org before December 16.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

7 p.m. Prelude of Festive Music
7:30 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Sanctuary Choir Warmup - 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary
Gospel Choir Warmup - 9:15 a.m., Sanctuary
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.
Christmas Brunch - 11:30 a.m., Howland Center
Candlelight Carols Service at First Baptist Church - 4 p.m., at First Baptist Church 1328 16th St NW. National City will share in the music program. All are welcome!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

Gospel Choir Rehearsal - 7 p.m., Music Suite
Gay Men's Chorus - 7 p.m., Howland Center

WEDNESDAY, 18

Food Pantry - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Atrium
Fortissima Singers - 7 p.m., Howland Center

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

Poor People's Campaign - 1 p.m., 3rd Floor Conference Room
Lambda Squares - 6:30 p.m., Music Suite

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

Music at Midday - FREE! - 12:15 p.m., Sanctuary. Organist Jackson Borges (Rehoboth Beach, Delaware) will perform music for Advent and Christmas by J. S. Bach, Jeanne Demessieux, Robert Hall Elmore, and Garth Edmundson, and his own Meditation on "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly."

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

Weekly Prayer call at 8 a.m. - Simply dial 712-775-7031, enter code 371015. For information, contact Loretta Tate.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

Sanctuary Choir Warmup - 9 a.m., Music Suite

Tithe.ly Mobile Giving - National City can receive donations and offerings through the **Tithe.ly app**. Search for "National City," complete a quick, one-time setup, then all it takes is 3 clicks to give! It is also possible to give online at https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give and thank you for your generosity!

FOR OUR GUESTS

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

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

Membership at National City Christian Church -

It would be our joy to welcome you into the membership of this congregation. You may join through a 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 a 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.