

# METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

October 8, 2023

*Spirit, Community, Action – Inside & “Out”*

*Celebrating 42 Years of Being Out in Northern Virginia*

*There is a book at the Sanctuary entry where prayer requests may be entered. There is also a Square device at the entry of the Sanctuary if you would like to make your Offering Donation via credit card.*

*Like Life, The Order of Worship is Subject to Change*

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Gathering Music

Jorge Martinez

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Emma Chattin

Centering

At the sound of the singing bowl,  
please take a few moments to prepare yourself for our worship together

Illumination

Tee

Gathering Words

Starlene Keppel

One: I looked for you in the morning God,

**All: And found you in the sunrise.**

One: I looked for you in the evening God,

**All: And found you in the evening star.**

One: I looked for you in the anguish of disaster and violence,

**All: And found you in the hands and hearts of those who tried to help.**

One: I looked for you inside myself,

**All: And found you in the love I felt for others.**

Prayers of the Community

Starlene Keppel

First Reading ~ John 10:11-16

Leigh Anne Arnold

"I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd would die for the sheep. The hired hand, who is neither shepherd nor owner of the sheep, catches sight of the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away — and the wolf snatches the sheep and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as God knows me and I know God. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

## Second Reading ~ Luke 15:1-6

By this time a lot of people of dubious reputation were hanging around Jesus, listening intently. The Pharisees, scribes, and legal experts were not at all pleased. They grumbled, "He takes in sinners and eats meals with them, treating them like old friends." Jesus then addressed this parable to them. "Who among you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, doesn't leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and search for the lost one until its found? And finding it, you put the sheep on your shoulders in jubilation. Once home, you invite friends and neighbors in and say to them, 'Rejoice with me! I've found my lost sheep!'

## Song of Response

Reflection                      Animals of the Bible: Sheep

UFMCC Celebrates 55 Years  
Who Are The Other Sheep?

or

God Loves Ewe

Rev. Emma Chattin

## Community Dialogue

Offering Invitation

Tee

Offertory

We Are An Offering  
by Dwight Liles

MCC NoVA Choir

❧ Welcome To The Table! ❧

Rev. Emma Chattin

Invitation To The Table

Consecration & Words of Institution

Sharing The Open Meal of Christ

Time of Individual Prayer and Blessing

Community Blessing ~ Kurt Jaeger

## Closing Song

Benediction and Sending Forth

Rev. Emma Chattin

## Postlude

❧ Go in Peace ❧