

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

September 13, 2026

Spirit, Community, Action – Inside & “Out”

Celebrating 45 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 Sanctuary entry if you would like to make your Offering Donation via credit card.

Like Life, The Order of Worship is Subject to Change Without Notice

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

Prayers of the Community

Andrea Albamonte

Choir Response

First Reading ~ Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of God appeared to Moses in a blazing fire from the midst of a thorn-bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is ablaze with fire and yet is not burned up."

When God saw Moses coming to look more closely, God called out to him from the midst of the bush, "Moses! Moses!" Moses answered, "Here I am." God said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground!"

"I am the God of your ancestors," the voice continued, "The God of Sarah and Abraham, the God of Rebecca and Isaac, the God of Leah and Rachel and Jacob!" Moses hid his face, afraid to look at the Holy One. Then God said, "I have seen the affliction of my people in Egypt. I have heard their cries under those who oppress them. I have felt their sufferings. Now I have come down to rescue them from the hand of Egypt, out of their place of suffering, and bring them to a place that is wide and fertile, a land flowing with milk and honey- the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the children of Israel has reached me, and I have watched how the Egyptians are oppressing them. Now go! I will send you to Pharaoh, to bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and lead the children of Israel out of Egypt?" God answered, "I will be with you, and this is the sign by which you will know that it is I who have sent you. After you bring my people out of Egypt, you will all worship at this very mountain." But Moses said, "When I go to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you, if they ask me 'What is this god's name?', what am I to tell them?'"

God replied, "I AM AS I AM. This what you will tell the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God spoke further to Moses, "Tell the children of Israel: YHWH, the I AM, the God of your ancestors, the God of Sarah and Abraham, of Rebecca and Isaac, of Leah and Rachel and Jacob, has sent me to you. This is my name forever; this is the name you are to remember for all generations"

Second Reading

~ adapted from Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor in "An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith"

I have a much easier time loving humanity than I do loving particular human beings. Particular human beings hug my bumper in rush-hour traffic and shoot birds at me when i use my brakes. Particular human beings drop my carefully selected portabella mushrooms into the bottom of my grocery bag and toss cans of beans on top of them. Particular human beings talk on their cell phones while I am having a nice quiet lunch, or are standing and scrolling on their phones while I am trying to step past them on the sidewalk. Particular human beings rarely do things the way I think they should do them, and when they prevent me from doing what I think I should be doing, then I can run very short on reverence for them. One remedy for my condition is to pay attention to them whenever I can, even when they are in my way. Just for a moment, I look for the human being instead of the obstacle.

Song of Response God of Change and Glory No. 177

Reflection Changes
Look More Closely

Rev. Emma Chattin

Community Dialogue

Offering Invitation Cornelius Butler

Offertory We Are An Offering MCC NoVA Choir

❧ Welcome To The Table! ❧

Kurt Jaeger and Ken Williamson
Sung Words of Institution:

"Let Us Be Bread"

By Thomas J. Porter

The Leader will sing the verses. Please join together on the refrain:

Let us be bread, blessed by our God, broken and shared, life for the world.

Let us be wine, love freely poured. Let us be one in our God.

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Invitation to the Table
Sharing The Open Meal of Christ
Community Blessing Kurt Jaeger

Closing Song Love Will Guide Us Insert

Benediction and Sending Forth Rev. Emma Chattin

Postlude

❧ Go in Peace ❧