

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Spirit, Community, Action – Inside & “Out” Celebrating 43 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.

June 9, 2024 Pridetide 2

Like Life, The Order of Worship is Subject to Change

Gathering Music

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

Genevieve Walker

One: As we grow beyond the confines that contain us,

Many: We discover new possibilities in life and in love.

One: We may also become as strangers to those who once claimed to know us best.

Many: Our sense of family grows beyond the walls of our childhood,

One: And as we discover who we are and the world around us, we make more family,

ALL: And those who once knew us may come to know us again.

Prayers of the Community

Dale Bradshaw

First Reading ~ Mark 3: 20-35

Starlene Keppel

Then Jesus went home, and again a crowd gathered so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. When Jesus' family and relatives heard about this, they went out to take charge of him, thinking he had lost his mind. The religious scholars who had come down from Jerusalem said, "He is possessed by Beelzebub," and "He casts out demons through the ruler of demons."

Summoning them, Jesus spoke in parables: "How can Satan cast out Satan? If a realm is divided against itself, it cannot last. If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. And if Satan has suffered mutiny in the ranks and is torn by dissention, the devil is finished and cannot endure. No attacker can enter a stronghold unless the defender is first put under restraint. Only then can the attacker plunder the stronghold."

"The truth is, every sin, failing, and blasphemy the people utter will be forgiven. But those who blaspheme against the Breath of God will never have forgiveness. They are guilty of an eternal transgression." Jesus spoke all this because they said, "He is possessed by an impure spirit."

(continued)

Jesus' mother and brothers arrived outside and sent in a message asking for him. A crowd was sitting around Jesus and they said to him, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you." Jesus replied, "Who is my mother? Who is my family?" And looking around at everyone there, Jesus said, "This is my family! Anyone who does the will of God, that person is my sister, my brother, my sibling, my mother."

Second Reading ~ *adapted from The Margins, The Poetry of Chosen Families, by Catherine Chen*

A chosen family requires a language for forgiveness as much as one of resistance. In many cases, the relationships I've forged with my friends provide the kinds of nurturing that our families of origin did not provide. Many of us came from homes that informed our cultural upbringing but could not comprehend the parts of us that are queer, different, struggle with mental illness, or lead non-traditional lives. However, we did not completely disregard the idea of family. Rather, we had to unlearn what we had been taught about family in order to model intimacy as a source of possibility in our everyday lives.

Song of Response

Reflection PRIDETIDE: The Tide Always Turns
Jesus! Are You Crazy?

Rev Emma Chattin

Community Dialogue

Offering Invitation

Offertory We Are An Offering MCC NoVA Choir
by Dwight Liles

☞ **Welcome To The Table!** ☛
Rev. Emma Chattin & Lee Shadwick

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** ☛