

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.

April 28, 2024 Easter V

Like Life, The Order of Worship is Subject to Change

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 ~ *adapted from Lifting Our Voices*

One: Hope risks from the heart of life, here and now, beating with joy and sorrow.

Many: Hope longs for good to be affirmed, for love to prevail, for suffering to be alleviated, and for life to flourish in peace

One: Hope remembers the dreams of those who have gone before,

Many: And Hope says “Yes”. Hope always says “Yes”.

Prayers of the Community

First Reading ~ *Acts 8:26-40*

Genevieve Walker

Then an angel of God spoke to Philip and said, “Be ready to set out at noon along the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza, the desert road.” So Philip began his journey. It happened that an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official in charge of the entire treasury of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, had come to Jerusalem on a pilgrimage and was returning home. He was seated in his chariot reading the prophet Isaiah. The Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So when Philip ran up to it, he heard the eunuch reading the prophet Isaiah, and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” The eunuch replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. This was the passage of the scripture being read: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He ordered the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of God snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Second Reading ~ *adapted from Patricia Ryan Madson*

This is going to sound crazy. Say yes to everything. Accept all offers. Go along with the plan. Support someone else's dream. Say: "yes"; "right"; "sure"; "I will"; "okay"; "of course"; "YES!" Cultivate all the ways you can imagine to express affirmation. When the answer to all questions is yes, you enter a new world, a world of action, possibility, and adventure. It is undoubtedly an exaggeration to suggest that we can say yes to everything that comes up, but we can all say yes to more than what we normally do. Once you become aware that you can, you will see how often we use the technique of blocking in personal relationships simply out of habit. Turning this around can bring positive and unexpected results. Even try saying "yes and" instead of "yes but". This will make new things happen.

Song of Response

Take My Gifts

No. 562

Reflection

Where In The World Do We Find God?

YES

(IN THE AFFIRMATION)

Rev Emma Chattin

Community Dialogue

Offering Invitation

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

Closing Song

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You!

No.4

Benediction and Sending Forth

Rev. Emma Chattin

Postlude

❖ Go in Peace ❖