

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

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

April 14, 2024 Easter III

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 David C. Pohl

Margot

One: We come to this time and place:

Many: To rediscover the wondrous gift of free religious community;

One: To renew our faith in the holiness, goodness, and beauty of life;

Many: To reaffirm the way of the open mind and full heart;

One: To rekindle the flame of memory and hope,

Many: As a part of the great circle of humanity,

One: We gather together with our ancestors, our fellow travelers,
and those who will journey after us, to share for a time
our stories, our warmth, our nourishment, and our illumination,

Many: To witness and share the mysterious and the miraculous,

One: To reclaim the vision of a world made fair,

All: With all her people as one.

Prayers of the Community

First Reading ~ Luke 24:36-48

Genevieve Walker

While they were talking about this [the encounter on the Road to Emmaus], Jesus actually stood in the midst and said to them, “Peace be with you.” In their panic and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. Jesus said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” After saying this, he showed them the wounds. They were still incredulous for sheer joy and wonder; Jesus said to them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms had to be fulfilled.” Then Jesus opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day. In the Christ’s name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of all these things.”

Second Reading ~ *adapted from Father Richard Rohr*

The Risen Christ is the eternal icon of the Divine Presence that is beyond any boundaries or limits of space or time, or any attempts to limit God to "here" or "there". We cannot achieve being a Child of God; all we can do is awaken to it, become aware of it, know it, and start drawing upon a universal mystery. We live with an inherent dignity by reason of our very creation, a dignity that no human has given to us, and no human can take from us. All bear the divine fingerprint, as St. Bonaventure said.

Our inherent dignity has nothing to do with our race or religion or class. Hindus have it, Buddhists have it, Muslims have it, Jews have it, Pagans have it... All over the world. All are just as much children of God as we are. Objectively. Theologically. Eternally. Their Divine DNA is identical to ours.

We deny our "monotheism" (there is one God) if we believe anything else.

Song of Response This Is My Song No. 591

Reflection

Where In The World?
Here, There, and Everywhere
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
Invitation To The Table
Consecration & Words of Institution
Sharing The Open Meal of Christ
Time of Individual Prayer and Blessing
Community Blessing

Closing Song God of Change and Glory No.177

Benediction and Sending Forth Rev. Emma Chattin

Postlude

☞ Go in Peace ☞