

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

October 4, 2026

Stewardship Campaign I

UFMCC Anniversary Sunday

World Wide Communion Sunday

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

Choir Response

First Reading ~ *Matthew 21:33-46*

“Listen to another parable. There was a property owner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, installed a wine press, and erected a watchtower. Then the owner leased it out to tenant farmers and went on a journey. When vintage time arrived, the owner sent servants to the tenants to divide the shares of the grapes. But the tenants seized the servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. A second time the owner sent even more servants than before, but they treated them the same way. Finally the owner sent the family heir to them, thinking, ‘They will surely respect my heir.’ But when the tenants saw the heir, they said to themselves, ‘This is the one who stands in the way of our having everything. Come, with a single act of murder we could seize the inheritance.’ So they grabbed and threw the heir out of the vineyard and killed him. What do you suppose the owner of the vineyard will do to those tenants?” They replied, ‘The owner will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard out to others who will see to it that there are grapes at vintage time.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this is our God’s doing, and we find it marvelous to behold’? Therefore I tell you, the dominion of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will bear its fruit. ‘The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone upon whom it falls.’ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, who regarded Jesus as a prophet.

Second Reading ~ *adapted from Father Richard Rohr*

Kat Velkoff

For all its inspiration, for all the lives it has changed, the Bible is undeniably problematic. Put in the hands of egocentric, unloving, or power-hungry people or those who have never learned how to read spiritually inspired literature, it is almost always a disaster. History has demonstrated this, century after century, so this is not an unwarranted, disrespectful, or biased conclusion. The burning of heretics, the Crusades, slavery, apartheid, homophobia, and the genocide and oppression of native peoples were all justified through the selective use of Scripture quotes.

Song of Response

We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

No. 563

Reflection

Stewardship I

Stewardship not Ownership

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

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

No. 12

Benediction and Sending Forth

Rev. Emma Chattin

Postlude

❧ Go in Peace ❧