

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

March 22, 2026 Lent V

Spirit, Community, Action – Inside & “Out” Celebrating 44 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

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

Song of Response

Choir

First Reading ~ *Ezekiel 37:1-14*

Fab Fernandez

The hand of God came upon me, and brought me out by the spirit of God and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. God led me all around them — there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry — and said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?”

I answered, “O God, you know.”

Then God said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of God. Thus says God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am God.” So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then God said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as God commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then God said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am God, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, God, have spoken and will act, says God.”

Second Reading

Margot Scheiffley

~ adapted from Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor in "A Memoir of Faith"

I know plenty of people who find God most reliably in books, in buildings, and even in other people. I have found God in all of these places too, but the most reliable meeting place for me has always been creation. To lie with my back flat on the fragrant ground is to receive a transfusion of the same power that makes the green blade rise. To remember that I am dirt and to dirt I shall return is to be given my life back again. Where other people see acreage, timber, and soil, I see God's body, or at least as much of it as I am able to see. In the only wisdom I have at my disposal, the Creator does not live apart from creation but spans and suffuses it. When I take a breath, God's Holy Spirit enters me. When a cricket speaks to me, I talk back. Like everything else on earth, I am an embodied soul, who leaps to life when I recognize my kin.

Song of Response Come Share The Spirit No. 62

Reflection

O God, You Know

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

Journey Blessing for Lee Shadwick

Closing Song God Be With You No. 81

Benediction and Sending Forth Rev. Emma Chattin

Postlude

☞ Go in Peace ☜