

# METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

*Celebrating 41 Years*  
***Spirit, Community, Action – Inside & “Out”***      ***October 23, 2022***

*There is a book at the Sanctuary entry where prayer requests may be entered.*

*There is also a Square device at the entry of the Sanctuary  
if you would like to make your Offering Donation via credit card.*

***Like Life, The Order of Worship is Subject to Change***

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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

Gathering Words

Leigh Anne Arnold

One: Loving God who cradles the Universe,

**Many: Awesome God who refreshes the Earth and all the life it contains,**

One: Transform us as we gather together.

**Many: Help us to reconcile among and within ourselves, one to the other.**

One: Give us the courage to be surprised, and the willingness to experience  
and be the instruments of healing grace in unlikely places from unlikely people;

**All: Draw us closer, O God, as we join together in worship of You!**

Community Prayers

Dale Bradshaw

Readings

Darren Foster

**First Reading ~ Luke 18:9-14**

Jesus spoke this parable addressed to those who believed in their own self-righteousness while holding everyone else in contempt:

“Two people went up to the Temple to pray; one was a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing on their own, prayed like this: ‘I give you thanks, O God, that I’m not like the others— greedy, crooked, adulterous —or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week. I pay tithes on everything I earn.’ The tax collector, however, standing far off, did not even dare to look up to heaven. In real humility, beating their chest, all the tax collector said was, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner.’”

“I tell you,” Jesus said, “the tax collector went home from the Temple justified, right with God, while the other didn’t. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, while those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

*(over)*

## Second Reading

~ adapted from *Nelson Mandela in “Conversations With Myself”*

In judging our progress as individuals, we tend to concentrate on external factors such as one's social position, influence and popularity, wealth and standard of education. But internal factors may be even more crucial in assessing one's development as a human being: honesty, sincerity, simplicity, humility, purity, generosity, absence of vanity, readiness to serve others— qualities within the reach of every soul. These are the foundation of one's spiritual life. Never forget that a saint is a sinner that keeps on trying.

Response MCC NoVA Choir & Community

## Reflection Where Are You Standing?

Community Dialogue Rev. Emma Chattin

## Offering Invitation

# ❖ Welcome To The Table! ❖

Rev. Emma Chattin

# Invitation To The Table Consecration & Words of Institution Sharing The Open Meal of Christ

## Community Blessing ~ Kurt Jaeger

Closing Song      MCC NoVA Choir & Community      No. 519

Benediction & Sending Forth Rev. Emma Chattin

## Postlude

Go in Peace