

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

September 27, 2026

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

Starlene Keppel

Choir Response

Gathering Words ~ *adapted from Stephen M. Shick in*

"Be the Change: Poems, Prayers & Meditations for Peacemakers and Justice Seekers"

One: From the loneliness of troubled times, we come

Many: To discover that we are not alone.

One: Into this dwelling place of togetherness, we come

Many: To collect the remnants of hope.

One: From the fear that all is lost, we come

Many: To discover what will save us.

One: Into the comfort of each other's arms, we come

Many: To feel the strength that has not yet vanished.

One: Into the refuge of fading dreams, we come

Many: To remove the illusions and focus on new visions.

One: From despair that walks alone,

All: We come to journey together.

First Reading ~ *Numbers 13:32 – 14:4*

Out of fear they spread false reports about the land they had explored and said, "The land that we scouted is a country that consumes its inhabitants. And the people we saw there were huge! We saw giants there- the descendants of the Anakim, a whole race of giants, and we felt like mere grasshoppers, and so we must have seemed to them!"

At this the whole community broke out with loud cries, and even in the night the people wailed. The Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron and said to them, "If only we had died in Egypt! Or died in this wilderness. Why should YHWH bring us to this land only for us fall dead in battle and leave our spouses and children to become spoils of war? The best thing we can do is return to Egypt!" And they talked among themselves of choosing a leader to lead them back to Egypt.

(continued)

Then Moses and Aaron threw themselves face down on the ground before the whole Israelite community gathered there. Joshua and Caleb, members of the scouting team, tore their clothes, and told the whole Israelite community gathered there, "The land we passed through and scouted is extremely good land. If YHWH is pleased with us, we will be led into it and it will be given to us, a land flowing with milk and honey.

Second Reading ~ *adapted from Dawna Markova*

I will not die an unlived life. I will not live in fear.
I choose to inhabit my days, to allow my living to open me,
to make me less afraid, more accessible,
to loosen my heart until it becomes a wing, a torch, a promise.
I choose to risk my significance;
To live so that which came to me as seed
goes forth to the next as blossom,
and that which came to me as blossom,
goes on as fruit.

Song of Response

Reflection

Changes

Fear

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

Benediction and Sending Forth

Rev. Emma Chattin

Postlude

❧ Go in Peace ❧