

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

February 8, 2026 Epiphany V
Black History Month

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

Gathering Words ~ *adapted from Beth Merrill Neel in “Hold Fast to What Is Good”*

One: This day we have gathered;

Many: We gather together bringing our questions and our joy.

One: In song and in silence we will listen –

Many: What is it that God would have us hear this day?

One: In our praise and in our prayers, we will remember;

Many: We will remember that God's glory shines around us and within us,

One: In all ways and in all days,

All: So let us all shine.

Prayers of the Community

Andrea Albamonte

Song of Response

Choir

First Reading ~ *Matthew 5:13-16*

Fab Fernandez

You are the salt of the earth. But what if salt were to lose its saltiness (its strength, its quality)? How could you restore it? It is no longer good for anything, but to be thrown out and trampled under foot. You are the light of the world. You don't build a city on a hill, then try to hide it, do you? You don't light a lamp, then put it under a bushel basket, do you? No, you set it on a stand where it may give light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give praise to your Heavenly Parent.

Second Reading ~ *adapted from a Prayer by Alcuin of York (735-804 AD)* Margot Sheiffley

God, go with us. Help us to be an honor to you. Give us the grace to follow Christ's word, to be clear in our task and careful in our speech. Give us open hands and joyful hearts. Let love be on our lips. May our lives reflect truth and compassion. Let no one come to us and go away sad. May we offer hope to the poor, and solace to the disheartened. Let us walk before God's people, that those who follow us might come into God's Dominion. Let us sow living seeds, words that are alive with life, that faith may be the harvest in people's hearts. In word and in example let your light shine in the night like the morning star. Do not allow the wealth of the world or its enchantment flatter us into silence as to your truth. Do not permit the powerful, or judges, or our dearest friends to keep us from professing what is right. Amen.

Third Reading ~ *from Voting Rights Activist Fannie Lou Hamer*

You can pray until you faint, but if you don't get up and do something, God is not going to drop it in your lap. I don't mind my light shining. And I don't hide that I am fighting for freedom. If you plan to walk in Christ's footsteps.. then you must be willing to launch out into the deep.

Song of Response Lead On Eternal Sovereign No. 573

Reflection A Long Journey
Let Us All Shine

Rev. Emma Chattin

Community Dialogue

Offering Invitation Cornelius Butler

Offertory We Are An Offering MCC NoVA Choir
by Dwight Liles

☞ Welcome To The Table! ☛

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.

© 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

Invitation to the Table
Sharing The Open Meal of Christ
Community Blessing

Closing Song You Are Salt for the Earth, O People No. 181

Benediction and Sending Forth Rev. Emma Chattin

Postlude

☞ Go in Peace ☛