

# METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

*Spirit, Community, Action – Inside & “Out”  
Celebrating 42 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.*

**January 21, 2023    Epiphany III**

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

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Gathering Music

Jorge Martinez

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Emma Chatten

Centering

At the sound of the singing bowl,  
please take a few moments to prepare yourself for our worship together

Illumination

Genevieve Walker

Gathering Words ~ *adapted from Clinton Lee Scott*

Tee

One: The call to serve and do something for others leads us beyond ourselves,

***Many: Leads us to new discoveries, new places, strangers,  
and friends we have not yet met,***

One: Calls us out of the safety of our comfortable places,

***ALL: And into the adventure of our lifetime.***

Prayers of the Community

Dale Bradshaw

First Reading ~ *Mark 1:14-20*

Leigh Anne Arnold

After John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming God's good news, saying, 'Now is the time! Here comes the realm of God! Change your hearts and your minds, and believe this Good News!'

While walking by the Sea of Galilee, Jesus saw the brothers Simon and Andrew casting their nets into the sea, since they fished by trade. Jesus said to them, 'Come, follow me, I'll show you how to fish for people.' They immediately left their nets and followed Jesus. As he went a little farther, he saw the brothers James and John Bar-Zebedee (Zebedee's sons). They, too, were in their boat putting their nets in order. At that very moment, Jesus called them, and they left their father, Zebedee, standing in the boat with the hired help, and followed Jesus.

## Second Reading

~ adapted from Sister Macrina Wiederkehr in "A Tree Full of Angels: Seeing the Holy in the Ordinary"

This afternoon I started packing. I've been throwing things away with a passion. I wish it were as easy to clean up the inside of my life, to throw away my rebellious spirit, my selfishness, my pride and control, my pettiness. The packing continued. I sat down in the midst of my clutter. Unless I go away, the spirit will not come. I do feel that unless I go from here, the spirit cannot do a new thing in my life. And a new thing is wanting to be done. Very much so. I hear it calling, I hear it asking for birth. And who am I to say no to birth? I think I've loved it here more than any other place I've ever been. And yet, I feel the same about every other place I've ever been. I love them all the best. I love ministry. I love being a facilitator of life.

Song of Response    As With Gladness, Those of Old    No. 159

Reflection    Following Yonder Star

The First Disciples

Rev. Emma Chattin

Community Dialogue

Offering Invitation    Marcie Babey

Offertory    We Are An Offering    MCC NoVA Choir  
by Dwight Liles

❧ Welcome To The Table! ❧

Rev. Emma Chattin

Invitation To The Table

Consecration & Words of Institution

Sharing The Open Meal of Christ

Time of Individual Prayer and Blessing

Community Blessing ~ Dale Bradshaw

Closing Song    Called As Partners in Christ's Service    No. 495

Benediction and Sending Forth    Rev. Emma Chattin

Postlude

❧ Go in Peace ❧