

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

January 18, 2026 Epiphany II Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Sunday
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

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

Gathering Words ~ *adapted from Clinton Lee Scott*

Ken Williamson

One: Always it is easier to pay homage to prophets than to heed the direction of their vision.

Many: It is easier to blindly venerate the saints than to learn the quality of their sainthood.

One: To worship the wise is much easier than to learn from their wisdom.

Many: Great leaders are honored, by following their insights and values.

One: The Grandchildren of those who stoned the prophet
sometimes gather up the stones to build the prophet's monument.

***Many: Always it is easier to pay homage to prophets
than to heed the direction of their vision.***

Introduction To Prayer

Choir

Prayers of the Community

Andrea Albamonte

Song of Response

Choir

First Reading ~ *1 Samuel 3:1-10*

Kurt Jaeger

Now young Samuel was in the service of God under Eli. In those days, the voice of God was rarely heard — visions were not widespread. One night, Eli, whose eyes had grown so weak that he could no longer see, was sleeping in his bed. The lamp of God had not gone out, and Samuel was sleeping in the Tent of Meeting, near the Ark of the Covenant.

Then God called to Samuel. Samuel answered, “Here I am!” and ran to Eli saying, “You called. Here I am!” Eli said, “I didn’t call you. Now go back to sleep.” He went back to sleep.

A second time, God called Samuel, and he got up and went to Eli. “Here I am!” Samuel said, “You called me.” Eli repeated, “I did not call you. Go back to sleep.” At that time Samuel had not yet encountered God, and the word of God had not yet been revealed to him.

God called Samuel a third time, and Samuel got up, went to Eli, and said once more, “Here I am. You called me.” Then Eli realized that God was calling the boy.

So he said to Samuel, “Go back and go to sleep, and if you are called, say, ‘Speak, God, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went back to sleep.

And God called, “*Samuel! Samuel!*”

And Samuel replied, “Speak, God, for I am listening.”

Second Reading

Margo Scheiffley

~ from Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in a speech given in Chicago (West Lawndale) in 1966.

I choose to identify with the underprivileged. I choose to identify with the poor. I choose to give my life for the hungry. I choose to give my life for those who have been left out of the sunlight of opportunity. I choose to live for and with those who find themselves seeing life as a long and desolate corridor with no exit sign. This is the way I'm going. If it means suffering a little bit, I'm going that way. If it means sacrificing, I'm going that way. If it means dying for them, I'm going that way, because I heard a voice saying, 'Do something for others'.

Song of Response

Hush, Somebody's Calling My Name

No. 604

Reflection

A Long Journey

Calling

Rev. Emma Chattin

Community Dialogue

Offering Invitation

Cornelius Butler

Offertory

We Are An Offering

by Dwight Liles

MCC NoVA Choir

☞ Welcome To The Table! ☛

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

Closing Song

For the Healing of the Nations

No. 576

Benediction and Sending Forth

Rev. Emma Chattin

Postlude

☞ Go in Peace ☛