

**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH  
OF 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.*

*Celebrating 44 Years of Being Out in Northern Virginia*

## *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

First Reading ~ *Ruth 1:1-19* Starlene Keppel

In the days when the judges governed Israel, a famine swept over the land. So a family from the town of Bethlehem in Judah, a woman and a man and their two children, went to live in the country of Moab. The name of the man was Elimelech; the woman's name was Naomi, and their two sons were named Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites, that is, from Bethlehem in Judah. They arrived in the country of Moab and settled there. Soon afterward, Elimelech died, leaving Naomi and the two sons to fend for themselves. The two sons eventually married Moabite women, whose names were Orpah and Ruth. They had lived in the land of Moab for about ten years, when both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband.

Now that Naomi had lost both of her children as well as her husband, she prepared to take her daughters-in-law and leave the land of Moab and return to her homeland, for she had heard that YHWH had visited the people by providing an abundance of food. So she and her two daughters-in-law left the house where they had been living, and set out on the road to Judah. But Naomi told each of her daughters-in-law, "Return to your mother's house. May the Most High care for you with the same kindness that you have cared for your dead and for me. May the Most High give you security and true fulfillment, and lead you to new spouses."

*(continued)*

Then she kissed them both. But they wept loudly and said to her, "No, we want to go back with you to the land of your people!" But Naomi said to them, "Go back, my daughters. Why do you want to come with me? I have no more sons inside me that you may take as spouses. No, you must go back, my daughters. I am too old to marry again. Even if I told you that there was still hope for me, if I were to find a spouse and have children tonight, would you be willing to wait until they are grown to marry them? Would you refuse to re-marry for this far-off hope? No, if you did that, it would tear me apart, for the hand of the Most High has been raised against me." And once more, they wept loudly. Then Orpah kissed Naomi, and returned to her people. But Ruth stayed by her side. Naomi said to Ruth, "Look, your sister-in-law has returned to her people and to the god of her ancestors. You, too, must go. Follow your sister-in-law." But Ruth said to her, "Please don't ask me to leave you and turn away from your company. I swear to you: Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried beside you. I swear- may YHWH be my witness and judge -that not even death will keep us apart."

Seeing that Ruth was determined to go with her, Naomi said no more. And together they walked, until they came to Bethlehem.

Contemporary Witness

Kurt Jaeger

Response

God Made from One Blood

No. 427

Reflection

CHOSEN FAMILY

Rev. Emma Chattin

Community Dialogue

Offering Invitation

Cornelius Butler

Offertory

We Are An Offering  
by Dwight Liles

MCC NoVA Choir

❖ Welcome To The Table! ❖

Kurt Jaeger & 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

Love Will Guide Us

Insert

Benediction and Sending Forth

Rev. Emma Chattin

Postlude

❖ Go in Peace ❖