

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

May 3, 2026 *Easter V*

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

Gathering Words ~ *adapted from Lauralyn Bellamay*

Kat Velkoff

One: If we have found freedom here,

Many: *Let us take it with us into the world and share liberally.*

One: If we have found comfort here,

Many: *Then let us go share it with others.*

One: If we have dreamed dreams here,

Many: *Then let us help one another that they may come true.*

One: If we have been fed here,

Many: *Then let us go out and feed others.*

One: And if we have known care here,

All: *Then let us give some back to a weary world in need of care.*

Prayers of the Community

Andrea Albamonte

Song of Response

Choir

First Reading ~ *Acts 2:42-47*

Kurt Jaeger

The community devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and communal living, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Everyone felt a sense of awe because many signs and wonders happened through the apostles. There was an intense sense of togetherness among all who believed; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, they met together in the temple, and they broke bread in their homes, and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all people. And day by day God added to the community everyone who was experiencing liberation.

Second Reading

Margot Scheiffley

~ adapted from Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor in "Leaving Church: A Memoir of Faith"

I know that the Bible is a special kind of book, but I find it as seductive as any other. If I am not careful, I can begin to mistake the words on the page for the realities they describe. I can begin to love the dried ink on the page more than I love the encounters that gave rise to them. If I am not careful, I can decide that I am really much happier reading my Bible than I am entering into what God is doing in my own life, in my own time and place. Shutting the book to go outside will involve the very great risk of taking part in stories that are still taking shape, still unfolding. Neither I nor anyone else knows how these stories will turn out, since at this point they involve more blood than ink. The whole purpose of the Bible, it seems to me, is to convince people to set it down in order to become living words moving in the world for God's sake. For me, this willing conversion of ink back into blood is the full substance of faith.

Song of Response

No.

Reflection

Before It Was Written

Rev. Emma Chattin

Community Dialogue

Offering Invitation

Cornelius Butler

Offertory

We Are An Offering

MCC NoVA Choir

☞ Welcome To The Table! ☜

Kurt Jaeger

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

No.

Benediction and Sending Forth

Rev. Emma Chattin

Postlude

☞ Go in Peace ☜