

# METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

October 15, 2023

*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 entry of the Sanctuary if you would like to make your Offering Donation via credit card.*

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

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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

Gathering Words ~ *adapted from William F. Schultz*

Jamie Wallace

One: Come into this place of peace

**Many: And let its silence heal your spirit;**

One: Come into this place of memory

**Many: And let its history warm your soul;**

One: Come into this place of prophecy and power

**Many: And let its vision change your heart;**

One: Come into this place of hopes and dreams

**Many: And let its possibilities awaken you to action.**

Prayers of the Community

Dale Bradshaw

First Reading ~ *Song of Songs 2:8-15*

Leigh Anne Arnold

The voice of my beloved!

Look, coming here, leaping down the mountains, bounding over the hill!

My beloved is like a gazelle or young deer!

Look, there, standing behind our wall,

gazing in through the window like the moon,

My beloved calls me, “Come sweetheart, my pretty one,

for now winter is past, the rain is gone,

the flowers are blooming.

It’s time for singing;

Let’s walk out through the valleys

and listen to the song of the dove.

The fig trees are setting fruit,

and the grape vines are in blossom,

the air is full of fragrance.

Arise my love, my fair one, and come away.

O my little dove  
out here in the clefts of the rocks,  
in the covert of the cliff,  
let me see your face, let me hear your voice.  
Talk to me; let me hear the joy of your voice.  
O it is sweet, your voice is,  
like the voice of the dove.  
Catch us the foxes, the little foxes,  
that ruin the vineyards-  
for our vineyards are in bloom.

## Second Reading ~ adapted from the “Collected Sermons of Fred Craddock”

What a temptation when you're dealing with matters of major importance to miss the little things. "It was only one family." "It was just one church." "It was only one little community." "It was only one person." When you enlarge the screen of your awareness of the hugeness of a matter, it can be overwhelming, and a way of missing out on attending to one little thing.

The danger is to consider the big picture but never to improve the playground for the children in the neighborhood where they live. Do you understand? The fact that millions, millions in the world are starving is not a reason for me to spend my time pondering that, but never volunteering one hour at the soup kitchen of my local community or church.

## Song of Response

Reflection                  Animals of the Bible: The Fox  
It's The Little Things

Rev. Emma Chattin

## Community Dialogue

## Offering Invitation

Tee

## Offertory

# We Are An Offering

by Dwight Liles

MCC NoVA Choir

☞ Welcome To The Table! ☜

Rev. Emma Chatten

## Invitation To The Table

## Consecration & Words of Institution

## Sharing The Open Meal of Christ

### Time of Individual Prayer and Blessing

## Community Blessing ~ Kurt Jaeger

## Closing Song

## Benediction and Sending Forth

Rev. Emma Chattin

## Postlude

✿ Go in Peace ✿