

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

September 3, 2023

Spirit, Community, Action – Inside & “Out”

Celebrating 42 Years of Pride

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

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

Genevieve

Gathering Words ~ *adapted from Dorothy Day*

Tee

One: People say, what is the sense of our small effort.

**Many: They cannot see that we must place one brick at a time,
take one step at a time.**

One: A pebble cast into a pond creates ripples that spread in all directions.

Many: Each one of our thoughts, words, and deeds is like that.

One: No one has a right to sit down and feel small and hopeless.

Many: There is too much work to be done.

Prayers of the Community

Dale Bradshaw

First Reading ~ *Romans 12:1-2, 9-18, 21*

Leigh Anne Arnold

My siblings, I beg you through the mercy of God to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God – this is your spiritual act of worship. Don't conform yourselves to this age, but be transformed by the renewal of your minds, so that you can discern what God's will is – what is good and pleasing.

Your love must be sincere. Hate what is evil and cling to what is good. Love one another with the affection of sisters and brothers. Try to outdo one another in showing respect. Don't grow slack, but be fervent in spirit: the One you serve is Christ. Rejoice in hope; be patient under trial; persevere in prayer. Look on the needs of God's holy people as your own; be generous in offering hospitality. Bless your persecutors — bless and don't curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Have the same attitude toward everyone. Don't be condescending to those who aren't as well off as you; don't be conceited. Don't repay evil with evil. Be concerned with the highest ideal in the eyes of all people. As much as it depends on you, be at peace with everyone.

Don't be overcome by evil,
but overcome evil by doing good.

Second Reading~ ~ *adapted from Frederick Buechner*

There are all different kinds of voices calling you to all different kinds of work, and the challenge is to find out which is the voice of God, rather than that of society, or the super-ego, or self-interest. By and large, a good guide for discernment is this: The kind of work God usually calls you to is the kind of work (a) that you need most to do, and (b) that the world most needs to have done. The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deepest hunger meet, where your greatest joy meets the world's greatest need.

Song of Response

Reflection

Good Work

Rev. Emma Chattin

Community Dialogue

Offering Invitation

Lee Shadwick

Offertory

We Are An Offering
by Dwight Liles

MCC NoVA Choir

✚ 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 ~ Kurt Jaeger

Closing Song

Praise to the Living God

No. 8

Benediction and Sending Forth

Rev. Emma Chattin

Postlude

✚ Go in Peace ✚