

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Spirit, Community, Action – Inside & “Out”

Celebrating 42 Years

Easter VI May 14, 2023

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

Gathering Words ~ *adapted from a Khasi Prayer*

One: You who are known by many names, source of all, one who calls us to life,

Many: We ask for boldness in confronting injustice.

One: When you are within us, we have the power to counter all that is unjust.

Many: O Mother and Father of all humankind,

One: Remind us that we are a part of you, and you a part of us.

Many: Help us to do good work,

ALL: And to use our differences to be stronger together!

Prayers of the Community

Dale Bradshaw

First Reading ~ *John 14:1-12a*

Don't let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith in me as well. In God's house there are many dwelling places; otherwise, how could I have told you that I was going to prepare a place for you? I am indeed going to prepare a place for you, and then I will come back to take you with me, that where I am, there you may be as well. You know the way that leads to where I am going."

Thomas replied, "But we don't know where you're going. How can we know the way?" Jesus told him, "I am the Way- I am the Truth, and I am the Life. No one comes to Abba God but through me. If you really knew me, you would know Abba God also. From this point on, you know Abba God and you have seen God." "Rabbi," Philip said, "show us Abba God, and that will be enough for us."

Jesus replied, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and still you don't know me? Whoever has seen me has seen Abba God. How can you say, 'Show us the Heavenly Parent?' Don't you believe that I am in Abba God and God is in me? The words I speak are not spoken of myself. It is Abba God living in me, who is accomplishing the works of God. Believe me that I am in God, and God is in me, or else believe because of the works I do. The truth of the matter is, anyone who has faith in me will do the works that I do- and greater works besides.

Second Reading

~ adapted from Father Richard Rohr in "Beyond Gender"

What we are searching for in any authentic spirituality is the good and healthy meaning of maleness, femaleness, and an awareness of all the space in between, all being a part of that mystery of Divinity (Genesis 1:26-27). We may approach spirituality differently, have different starting places and different symbols, and while we have quite different entrance points, nevertheless, we end up in much the same place, because the goal is identical -- union, divine union, where we are a part of the One who is neither male nor female, but "all in all" (1 Corinthians 15:28).

Song of Response	Bring Many Names	No. 11
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Reflection	Why Church?	
	Thinking Bigger	
	Mother / Father God	Rev. Emma Chattin

Community Dialogue

Offering Invitation

Offertory	We Are An Offering by Dwight Liles	MCC NoVA Choir
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☞ Welcome To The Table! ☛

Rev. Emma Chattin

Invitation To The Table

Consecration & Words of Institution

Sharing The Open Meal of Christ

Community Blessing ~ Kurt Jaeger

Closing Song	Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise	No. 1
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Benediction & Sending Forth	Rev. Emma Chattin
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Postlude

☞ Go in Peace ☛