

# METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

*October 6, 2024*

## ***World Wide Communion Sunday ~ UFMCC's 56 Anniversary***

*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.*

***Spirit, Community, Action – Inside & “Out” Celebrating 43 Years of Being Out in Northern Virginia***

***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

Tee

Gathering Words ~ *adapted from the MCC Statement of Faith*

Fab Fernandez

One: Metropolitan Community Church is one chapter in the story of the church, the body of Christ;  
***Many: We are people on a journey, learning to live into our spirituality.***

One: We don't all believe exactly the same things,  
***Many: And yet in the midst of our diversity, we build community,***

One: Community that is grounded in God's radically inclusive love for all people.  
***Many: We are part of an on-going conversation on matters of belief and faith.***

One: Our chapter begins when God says to us:  
***ALL: “Come and See”.***

Prayers of the Community

Margot Sheiffley

First Reading ~ *Luke 22:7-13*

Genevieve Walker

When the day of the Feast of the Unleavened Bread arrived, when the Passover lamb was to be sacrificed, Jesus sent Peter and John out with the instructions, “Go and make the preparations for us to eat the Passover.” They asked, “Where do you want us to prepare the Seder?” Jesus answered, “When you enter the city, you will encounter a man carrying a jar of water. Follow him into the house he enters. Say to the owner of the house, ‘The Rabbi asks, “Where is the guestroom where I can eat the Passover Seder with my disciples?”’ The owner will show you a larger furnished upper room. Make the preparations there.” They went out and found everything as Jesus had told them. And they prepared the Passover.

**Second Reading** ~ *adapted from Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins, Senior Minister, UFMCC, Sunshine Cathedral*

On Oct. 6, 1968, Troy D. Perry, a young, gay, defrocked Pentecostal minister, held a worship service in his living room. 12 people showed up. The coffee table became the communion table and altar. An album of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir provided the service music. Lesbian, Gay, and straight, male and female, Trans and Gender-Queer, Christian and Jew were some of the labels of the people in the room. More than 9 months before Stonewall, this worship experience meant to welcome and affirm and celebrate LGBTQ people (known by various terms over the years) began a religious movement known as Metropolitan Community Churches.

Whatever becomes of MCC, the world will always be better because Troy Perry started a movement that said the LGBTQ members of the human family were part of the divine diversity of creation, and were fully embraced and loved by God; and that movement helped change hearts and minds and bring hope and healing to countless lives. MCC blessed our unions, performed our funerals, visited us in hospitals, debated the fundamentalists, spoke to city councils and state legislatures, and prepared and ordained ministers for ministry. Over 50 years ago, a prophet was raised up, and spoke the word of God's all-inclusive and unconditional love, and the Church and the world would never be the same again.

**Song of Response**

No.

**Reflection**

**The Way to the Upper Room  
( Jesus Had No Reservations )**

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**

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.***

© 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

**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** ❧