NEW LIFE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

10:45 a.m.

November 22, 2020

MORNING WORSHIP Rev. Mark Byrd ACTING ON FAITH

While Holding Up Our End of the Bargain

GATHERING CALL Heb. 13:15-16 Ps. 103:1-4 Let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise Ofrezcamos continuamente a Dios un sacrificio de alabanza

Not forgetting to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased. Sin olvidar hacer el bien y compartir con otros, porque con tales sacrificios Dios se agrada.

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, Bless his holy name! Bendice, alma mía, al SEÑOR y a todo lo que hay dentro de mí, **¡Bendice su santo nombre!**

Bless the LORD, who forgives, heals, and redeems your life with love and mercy,

Bendice al SEÑOR, que perdona, sana y redime tu vida con amor y misericordia,

Bless the LORD, O my soul, Bendice, alma mía, al SEÑOR

1 Kings 17:7-16

Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land. Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah: "Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food." So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, "Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?" ¹¹ As she was going to get it, he called, "And bring me, please, a piece of bread."

"As surely as the LORD your God lives," she replied, "I don't have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die."

Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the LORD sends rain on the land.'" She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah.

Matthew 25:31-45

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.' "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' "He will reply, 'Truly I tell vou, whatever vou did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

HOLY COMMUNION

- One: The Lord is with you!
- All: And also with you!
- **One:** Lift up your hearts!
- All: We lift them up to the Lord!
- One: Let us give thanks to the Lord!
- All: It is right to give God thanks and praise!
- All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One Who comes in the Name of The Lord!

Hosanna in the highest! Proclamation of our faith: All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ shall come again. Hallelujah!

PRAYING TOGETHER

Prayer(s) for our Capital Campaign

Creator God, in your love for us you have blessed us abundantly. We glorify you and give you thanks for all the gifts you have given us: Our faith, our lives, our loved ones, and especially for the wisdom and love of our founding members whose example of sacrifice in time, talent and treasure, continues to bless us.

Most of all, we thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ whose sacrifice on the cross is made present to us through Christ's presence in each of us.

We also thank you for the opportunity to purchase our church home and for making that purchase possible by supplying our every need, according to Your riches. You have blessed us with both the gifts and finance necessary to reach our goal.

Continue to pour out your Spirit upon us, give us hearts of humility and gratitude. Help us to live as disciples modeling our lives after Christ's own pattern of self-giving love.

We humbly ask you to send your Spirit upon our community during this crucial time as we embark upon this campaign to build upon the foundation laid by those who came before us in faith.

We offer our prayers, joys, works, and treasures to you and we unite them to the love and grace of Christ. Let the beauty of you our God be upon us and establish the work of our hands for us. May our work manifest our gratitude and glorify you Oh God, forever and ever.

Amen.

In addition, the Prayer Team offers these three daily prayers for our New Life Capital Campaign. Please feel free to use these and your own prayers as you feel led, as the Spirit guides and empowers us toward reaching our goal of raising the necessary funds together to purchase the church building at 1000 Sunset Drive, Norfolk, VA.

Morning Prayer:

God of Abraham and Sarah, hear our voice as the faint light of morning grows on the horizon. We recall the journey of our faith ancestors who changed their lives in response to Your call. As this day unfolds before me, keep my ears open to Your call for this church as we move forward with this capital campaign in response to Your holy "nudge." We lay our request before you and wait expectantly. Amen.

Afternoon Prayer:

This afternoon, O God, I stop in the middle of a busy day to reflect on the manifestations of Your Spirit in the life of this church and in my own life. Remind me each and every moment that every gift I have comes from You. Please give me a willing heart to use them well and use them for You. Thank you for blessing my efforts.

Amen.

Evening Prayer:

As we end our day together, O God, I thank You for today and the opportunities I have had to bring my congregation and its capital needs into the Light of Your presence. Although the light of day has now faded from sight, let me rest assured that Your Light shines forever. May the bricks and frame of our church building serve as a beacon of that Light to all who still search for it. Thank you for blessing our efforts on behalf of them. Amen.

NLMCC Song Sheet

Sunday, November 22, 2020 CCLI Music/Streaming License: 482751/20125643

OPENING CELEBRATION We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise (Medley)

We bring the sacrifice of praise, Into the house of the Lord. We bring the sacrifice of praise, Into the house of the Lord. And we offer up to You, The sacrifices of thanksgiving. And we offer up to You, The sacrifices of joy

God is great, And greatly to be praised. Glory glory to His name. God is great, And greatly to be praised. Bless the Lord oh my soul.

GATHERING CALL

Choral Response: **Bless the Lord** R: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is with-in me, bless God's holy name!

V: God has done great things, God has done great things, God has done great things, bless God's holy name!

WELCOME

CELEBRATING OUR COMMITMENT

Choral Response: We Will Work Together

C: We will work together, serve together; Building on the blessings of the lord; We will sow together, reap together; Trusting all that Jesus has in store.

We can trust him faithfully; Because God is on our side; By my faith I am set free; I'll conquer mountains, hills, or tides; Cuz we will...(C)

OUR JOINT PRAYERS TOGETHER Choral Response:

I Will Bless Thee, O Lord I will bless Thee, O Lord; I will bless Thee, O Lord. With a heart of thanksgiving, I will bless Thee, O Lord. With my hands lifted up And my mouth filled with praise, With a heart of thanksgiving, I will bless Thee, O Lord.

We will bless Thee, O Lord; We will bless Thee, O Lord. With a heart of

thanksgiving, We will bless Thee, O Lord. With our hands lifted up And our mouths filled with praise, With a heart of thanksgiving, We bless Thee oh Lord.

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN SCRIPTURE & SONG

1 Kings 17:7-16 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.

Choral Response:

Come Ye Thankful People Come V1: Come ye thankful people come, Raise the song of harvest-home, All is safely gathered in, Ere the winter storms begin. God our Maker doth provide For our wants to be supplied; Come to God's own temple come, Raise the song of harvest-home

V2: All the world is God's own field. Fruit unto His praise to yield, Wheat and tares together sown. Unto joy or sorrow grown, First the blade and then the ear, Then the full corn shall appear, Lord of harvest grant that we Wholesome grain and pure may be

OFFERTORY

You Are My All In All V1: You are my strength When I am

weak; You are the treasure; That I seek; You are my all in all. Seeking You as a precious jew'l; Lord to give up I'd be a fool; You are my all in all.

C: Jesus Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name. Jesus Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.

V2: Taking my sin My cross my shame Rising again I bless Your name; You are my all in all. When I fall down You pick me up; When I am dry You fill my cup; You are my all in all.

Congregational Response: Doxology

MORNING MESSAGE

HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Meditation: Sometimes By Step

V1: Sometimes the night is beautiful; Sometimes the sky was so far away. Sometimes it seemed to stoop So close you could touch it, But your heart would break. Sometimes the morning came too soon; Sometimes the day could be so hard. There was so much work left to do, But so much you'd already done.

C: Oh God You are my God, And I will ever praise You. Oh God You are my God, And I will ever praise You. And I will seek You in the morning, And I will learn to walk in Your ways, And step by step You'll lead me, And I will follow You all of my days.

V2: Sometimes I think of Abraham, How one star he saw had been lit for me. He was a stranger in this land, And I am that no less than he. And on this road to righteousness, Sometimes the climb can be so steep. I may falter in my steps, And never beyond Your reach

E: And I will follow You all of my days. And I will follow You all of my days. And step by step You'll lead me. And I will follow You all of my days.

THE LORD'S PRAYER - unison

CLOSING SONG

Count Your Blessings V1: When upon life's billows, You are tempest tossed. When you are discouraged, Thinking all is lost. Count your many blessings, Name them one by one, And it will surprise you, What the Lord hath done.

C: Count your blessings, Name them one by one. Count your blessings, See what God hath done. Count your blessings, Name them one by one. Count your many blessings, See what God hath done.

V2: Are you ever burdened, With a load of care. Does the cross seem heavy, You are called to bear. Count your many blessings, Every doubt will

fly. And you will be singing, As the days go by. [C]

V3: So amid the conflict, Whether great or small. Do not be discouraged, God is over all. Count your many blessings, Angels will attend. Help and comfort give you, To your journey's end. [C]

BENEDICTION

I Thank You, Jesus

V1: I Thank You, Jesus. I thank You, Jesus. I thank You, Jesus, I thank You Lord; Oh, You've brought me from a mighty long way, (a mighty long way.) I Thank You, Jesus. I thank You, Jesus. I thank You, Jesus, I thank You Lord; Oh, You've brought me from a mighty long way, (a mighty long way.)

V2: You've been my mother, You've been my father, You've been my sister, my brother too; Oh, You've brought me from a mighty long way, (a mighty long way.) You've been my doctor, You've been my lawyer, You've been my teacher, my friend indeed; Oh, You've brought me from a mighty long way, (a mighty long way.) OUR MISSION:

We are an inclusive, diverse, Christ-centered church, in which you have the freedom to be who you are, participate in community, explore spiritual transformation, and be part of social action.

OUR VISION: We Are... **ORDINARY PEOPLE** Somos... PERSONAS REGULAR Believing... GOD'S LOVE IS FOR ALL Creemos... EL AMOR DE DIOS ES PARA TODOS Called To ... **REVEAL GOD'S PRESENCE IN EVERYONE** Llamados... A REVELAR PRESENCIA DE DIOS EN TODO Y TODO