

National Avenue is a brave place for all people. We celebrate our diversity of race, creed, religion, cultural backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions. We extend a warm welcome to all this morning, especially those who are worshipping at National Avenue for the first time. Your presence enriches us in this time of celebration together~

3/5

Reflection

Finding our path

Rev. Simmons

Musical Reflection

Be a Light

HAYDEN

CHANCEL CHOIR

Sharing in Baptism of our beloved Reed Bisso
Prayer after Baptism:
Spirit of Christ, your love never fails us.
May we grow in this love as one family among the family of God.
May we practice together courage and compassion in lasting solidarity with all our siblings
and neighbors to whom your love binds us forever. Amen.

Offering of Ourselves
We invite you to share your offerings of time, passion, energy, and resources. Thank you for investing in Spirituality, Justice, and Community as it comes to life at NACC.

Musical Gift

You Say

SORRENSON

CHANCEL CHOIR

* Pentecost Doxology
Praise God whose breath fills all the earth
Whose love reveals our sacred worth
Whose Spirit forms one family
Whose grace brings peace and harmony. Amen. [rogerlyn]
Prayer of Gratitude Dr. Etta Madden

Sharing the Lord’s Supper
with Rev. Jody Furnas-Wright & Ashley Quinn, Elders & Deacons
We give you thanks, our Divine Creator.
You declared from the beginning that we were created in your image, a reflection of what is holy, each, in our own way, a glimpse of you.
We praise the works of your creative hand that fills our life with beauty.
Every flower that blooms, every animal that delights,
every body of water that sustains our life –
all part of your good works.
Despite the abundance of life around us, we still turn to destruction.
Each in our own ways, we have failed to embrace you by failing to embrace all your people, especially those different than us.
We have, at times, sided with political
and religious powers that refuse to recognize your image in all people.
And so we turn to Jesus, who showed us what it looks like to live into our true selves as people of God.
He was humble yet grounded in your love for him.
He sought out the despised and made them friends.
He confronted every power that belittled, marginalized, and oppressed.
His commitment to living out the image of God enfleshed could not be swayed, even in the face of death.
On the night of his arrest,
he gathered around table with his companions.
He took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to his disciples and said,
“This is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”
He did the same with the cup after the supper, saying,
“This cup that is poured out is the new covenant.”
Even in death, O God, your love prevailed.
Through you Spirit, Christ was raised from the grave.
No person, no institution,
no force of evil could extinguish the work of your hand.
And so, by the same Spirit, may we experience in these gifts of colorful bread and cup that they may be the living Christ within us today;
compelling us to be agents of love,
uncompromising on our commitment to protecting every one of your creatures and creations. [enfleshedliturgy]
Prayer at the Table Neil Guion

Sharing of the Bread and Cup
This morning we will receive communion by intinction. You are invited to come forward and to take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup, eat, and leave your toothpick in the bowl. The bread is gluten, nut, and dairy free so all may share at the table. If you would prefer a pre-packaged communion, remain seated and we will bring one to you. All are welcome to share at the table set by Jesus.

Sending Song

Wind upon the Waters

247

Words for Our Journey
They told me the Divine is a strict practitioner of the straight
and narrow, the cisgender and fixed,
but I have come to know Them as anything
but controlled and controlling.
The Divine is a promiscuous love,
a very queer experience,
an embrace as fluid and changing as water,
as baptism,
as blessing.
I have learned this through pleasure and pain – mine and generations.
Now, I see all around me the strange
and nonconforming ones and cry
Holy, Holy, Holy. [mjk]
As we go forth, may we add our echoes everywhere we walk,
Holy, Holy, Holy.
It is so.

Postlude
National Avenue Christian Church
417.869.9176 natlave@sbcglobal.net www.nationalavenuecc.com
Rev. Jenn Simmons, Lead Pastor | Ashley Quinn, Pastor for Public Theology
Rev. Jody Furnas-Wright, Adjunct Pastor for Faith Formation with Families
Rev. Dr. John White, Theologian in Residence
Jonathan Raney, Music Director | Jennifer Forni, Music Assistant
Alex Bates, Sound Technician |Sarah Cybulski, Finance Coordinator
Hayley Norton, Communication Coordinator | Nicholas & Olivia Villaroel, Sextons
Greta Allen & Aydia Lancaster, Nursery Caregivers
Kylie Robertson & Claudia Brown-Jackson, UNO Team
John Scroggins, Board Moderator
Dr. Etta Madden, Dr. Robyn Hagerman, Neil Guion, Elders
Doug Steere, Emogene Casey, Desmond Simmons, Miles Pearson, Deacons

National Avenue Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)



Finding a Path of Connection to Ourselves

Pentecost

8 June 2025