

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~

Reflecting in Song *Turning Over Tables* THE BRILLANCE

ReflectionLiving in the TensionRev. Simmons

Musical ReflectionWind Upon the Waters#247v. 2,3,4

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 GiftMore LoveSARA BAREILLES

Jennifer Forni & Jonathan Raney

* 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 GratitudeDebora Biggs

Sharing the Lord’s Supper
with Revs. Jody Furnas-Wright, Jenn Simmons, Elders & Deacons

Throughout history,
O God, we have struggled to claim the power you have given us.
Destructive forces within
and around us make us question your call upon our lives.
We turn ourselves over, in ways ordinary and remarkable, to what is.
To what has been. To the familiar.
But you have created us for so much more.
In Jesus, we saw a life lived in all its potential.
In all its Sacred power.
Life that is abundant.
Love that was creative, and fervent for justice.
We saw, too, the consequences of living as if the Kindom were close.
And so we wonder.
If we live with such courage, what will we lose?
In proclaiming truths that confront unjust power,
do we stand a chance of survival?
How will it go for us, if we are willing to risk everything for love?
You have never promised us safety,
but you have shown us what is possible.
The Spirit brings new life even to places of death.
Jesus, knowing the dangers ahead,
still did not cave to the threats of power
or give in to the temptations of the popular.
There was nothing he would trade for his love of the suffering
and betrayed,
not even his own life.
On the night of his arrest,
he gathered around table with his companions.
His friends.
His beloveds in the struggle.
Even the one who would turn him over to the cross.
He took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to all of them and said,
“This is my body which is given for you.

Take, eat, and remember me.”

After the supper, he did the same with the cup, saying,
“This is a symbol of the new covenant. Drink in remembrance of me.”

In remembering the life of Jesus,
we remember what he taught us about ourselves –
about the power God has given us.
We remember that God enfleshed is Good News that feeds,
that protects, that heals, and delivers.
We remember the words he spoke:
**“whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing,
and they will do even greater things than these.”**

And so we pray, pour out your Spirit on this bread and this cup,
O God.
Through these gifts,
fill our hearts with courage to believe the Kindom is within us,
to live boldly in pursuit of love that liberates,
and to follow the Wisdom that leads from the margins.
Blessed be this meal of hope.

Prayer at the TableRev. Dr. Peter Browning

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.

SendingWhen Love is Found#499 vs 2, 3, 5

Words for Our JourneyBlessing Aydia Lancaster

Postlude

National Avenue Christian Church

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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

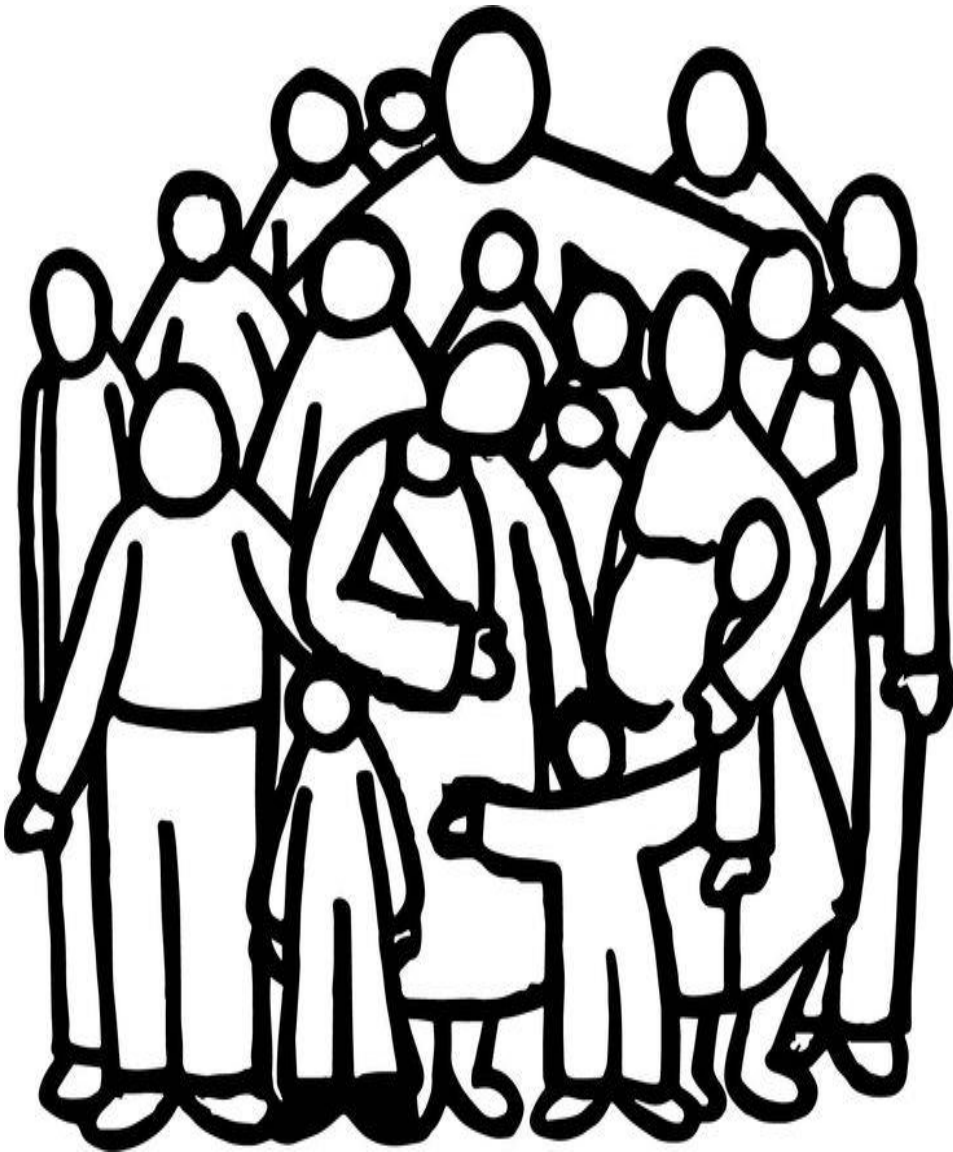
Debora Biggs, Rev. Dr. Peter Browning, Elders

Arthur Johnston, Kathy Pittman, Kim Schultz, Desmond Simmons, Deacons

National Avenue

Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)



Pathways of Healing:

Unsettling Ourselves

3 August 2025