



*Lessons
& Carols*

THE NATIONAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 14, 2014

LEADING PEOPLE TO BECOME FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST
TOGETHER IN GOD'S WORLD

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

*I have given my servant as a promise to the people,
and a light to the nations.*

Isaiah 42:6

Dr. David Renwick, *Senior Pastor* · Dr. Quinn Fox, *Associate Pastor*
Rev. Donna Marsh, *Associate Pastor* · Rev. Evangeline Taylor, *Associate Pastor*
Parish Associates: Rev. Nancy T. Fox and Dr. Donald R. Wilson

Rev. Michael Denham, *Director of Music Ministries* · William Neil, *Organist* · Hilda Gore, *Contemporary Music Leader*
Ministry Directors: J. Theodore Anderson (Library & Older Adults), Jill Meek (Children),
Leslie Saum (Connections), McLane Stone (Youth), and Sally Swanson (Serve)

ORDER OF WORSHIP

9:15 & 11 A.M.

Kindly turn off your cell phone and other electronic devices.

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Brass Quintet

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 9

Dr. David Renwick

▲ HYMN 31

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

9:15 a.m. Donna Marsh & Ken Levinson with Jamie and Lauren Levinson

11 a.m. Laurel Davis & Trevor Blow with Ella and Aurora Davis

CHORAL RESPONSE

Awake, Arise and Hail the Morn

Mack Wilberg

Awake, arise and hail the morn (*Halle, Hallelujah*), for unto us a Savior's born (*Halle, Hallelujah*).

See how the angels wing their way (*Halle, Hallelujah*) to usher in the glorious day (*Halle, Hallelujah*).

To us a child is come from heav'n (*Halle, Hallelujah*), to us the Son of God is giv'n (*Halle, Hallelujah*).

His name the Wonderful shall be (*Halle, Hallelujah*); his wonders heav'n and earth shall see (*Halle, Hallelujah*).

Come join the angels in the sky (*Halle, Hallelujah*), "Glory to God who reigns on high!" (*Halle, Hallelujah*).

Let peace and love on earth abound (*Halle, Hallelujah*), while time revolves and years roll round (*Halle, Hallelujah*).

Hark! What sweet music, what a song (*Halle, Hallelujah*) sounds from the bright celestial throng (*Halle, Hallelujah*)!

Sweet song whose melting sounds impart (*Halle, Hallelujah*) joy to each raptur'd, list'ning heart (*Halle, Hallelujah*).

Our faith in grateful triumph boast (*Halle, Hallelujah*) these wonders of the Lord of Hosts (*Halle, Hallelujah*);

And trust the zeal that form'd the plan (*Halle, Hallelujah*) to perfect what the zeal began (*Halle, Hallelujah*).

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION *in unison*

Dr. Quinn Fox

We praise you, O Lord, as we remember the coming of your Son our Savior.

We marvel that you have revealed yourself in his incarnation.

Your thoughts are beyond our most daring imaginations,

yet you have spoken simply and surprisingly,

through the humble birth of a child in Bethlehem.

You have bent low to rescue us from dark and empty ways.

Forgive us and hold us fast, gracious God,

as we behold your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Gloria

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;

Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Glo-----ria in excelsis Deo! Glo-----ria in excelsis Deo!

HEARING GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Dr. David Renwick

Micah 5:2, 4

Children may meet their Sunday School leaders in the Court of Flags:

9:15 a.m. (*Grades K-5*) for Sunday School in the School Building

11 a.m. (*Grades K-2*) for Children's Church in Church Room 106. Children return after the sermon.

WELCOME

LESSON

Philippians 2:4-11

Rev. Evangeline Taylor

CHANCEL CHOIR

Thou Who Wast Rich

Molly Ijames

French Carol

Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor;
Throne for a manger did surrender, sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor all for love's sake becamest poor.
Thou who art God beyond all praising all for love's sake becamest man.
Stooping so low, but sinners raising heav'nwards by God's eternal plan.
Thou who art God beyond all praising all for love's sake becamest man.
Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.
Emmanuel, within us dwelling, make us what thou would'st have us be.
Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.

LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

Rev. Nancy Fox

CHANCEL CHOIR

Calm on the Listening Ear of Night

Kenneth Jennings

Calm, on the listening ear of night, come heav'ns melodious strains,
Where wild Judea stretches far her silver-mantled plains.
Celestial choirs, from courts above, shed sacred glories there;
And angels, with their sparkling lyres, make music on the air.
The answering hills of Palestine send back their glad reply,
And greet, from all their holy heights, the Dayspring from on high.
"Glory to God!" the sounding skies loud with anthem ring:
"Peace to the earth, to all good will," from heav'n's eternal King!
Light on thy hills, Jerusalem! The Prince of Peace is born!
And bright, on Beth'hem's joyous plains, breaks the first Christmas morn.

SERMON

A New Promise

Dr. David Renwick

Jeremiah 31:31-34

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

CHANCEL CHOIR

Sweetest Music, Softly Stealing

Elaine Hagenberg

Sweetest music, softly stealing through the silence of the night;
To the shepherds, now revealing, Christ is born the Son of light.
Glory unto God the Father, who has sent his only Son.
That he may all the nations gather round his feet, and make them one.
Shepherds, to the stable hasten, there your Savior Christ is born,
Son of Mary lowly maiden, on this first glad Christmas morn!
Glory unto God the Father, who has sent his only Son.
That he may all the nations gather round his feet, and make them one.
He, from highest heav'n descending, comes on earth your woes to heal,
That, your every need attending, love of God he may reveal.
Glory unto God the Father, who has sent his only Son.
That he may all the nations gather round his feet, and make them one.

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

An Advent Affirmation

Rev. Donna Marsh

We believe in one God, whose almighty word brought forth the universe,
who speaks to us by his Spirit through what he has created,
and through what has been written for us in Holy Scripture.
We believe that at the right moment in time, God's Word became flesh
in the life of Jesus of Nazareth, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the Virgin Mary.
We believe that the same angels who heralded Jesus' birth also point us to the cross
on which Jesus died, and to his empty tomb. There the angel's message "He is risen!"
heralded the glorious good news of Christ's resurrection.
We believe that this same Jesus is alive to meet us every day, and to offer us new
and abundant life.
We rejoice in the knowledge that one day he will return to rule in righteousness,
to renew the earth, and to claim us as God's own.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Advent Carol

Hal Hopson
Veni Emmanuel
Grace Chimes

▲ ADVENT DOXOLOGY

Regent Square

Praise and honor to the Father, praise and honor to the Son,
Praise and honor to the Spirit: God th' Eternal Three-in-One;
One in grace and one in glory while unending ages run.

▲ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

▲ CAROL

Joy to the World!

John Rutter

Congregation

Antioch

Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing...

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns; let us our tongues employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy...

Choir

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found...

Congregation

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love...

▲ BENEDICTION

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hallelujah

G.F. Handel

please see insert for words and music

Messiah

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

- ▲ Congregation standing, as able

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Johanna Huijssoon and her husband Terry, in loving memory of her mother and his "Mutti," Diny Huijssoon, remembering her December 14th birthday.

The flowers at the entrance to the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Noble and Anne McCartney by their friends at NPC.

Consider honoring a loved one during the Advent season. Donations for our Advent floral arrangements may be made by check to "NPC Flower Fund." Envelopes for donations and dedication wording are at the information table.

Take flowers to brighten someone's day. Are you planning to visit someone who is ill or home-bound? Take along flowers to bring some cheer! Bud vases with fresh flowers may be found on the table outside of Elson Parlor.

Chapel prayers after worship: If you have a joy or concern on your heart, come to the chapel down the hall to the right as you exit the sanctuary. A pastor, elder or deacon, and Stephen Minister will be there to pray with you privately about your concerns and celebrations.

TODAY

MISSION GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS

Today, Stone Hall

Get your Christmas shopping done, and make a difference for people who really need it! Mission Gifts for Christmas offers you an opportunity to give to 39 different charities in honor of a friend, family member, teacher, or coworker. *You can also shop online through the end of December at: www.nationalpres.org/mission-gifts*

NEW MISSION GIFTS CHILDREN'S MARKET

Make Christmas more about giving than getting for your children! Our new Mission Gifts Children's Market provides children the opportunity to give teachers, friends, or family a gift that helps others. Your child can see samples of four \$1 gifts that will help other children in important ways.

WHOLENESS AND HEALING SERVICE

Today, 1:30 p.m., Chapel

All are invited to a service of Wholeness and Healing lead by Pastors, Deacons, and Stephen Ministers. Come experience Jesus' healing touch at this beautiful and powerful chapel service. Communion will be served and anointing with oil will be available for those who wish to receive it.

MUSIC AT NATIONAL

4:30 p.m., Sanctuary

The City Choir of Washington presents "The Holly and The Ivy," their traditional holiday concert featuring festive music for chorus, brass and organ. *Tickets and information: www.citychoir.org.*

YOUNG ADULTS

12:15 p.m., Church Room 110/111

"Across the Aisle" group for young adults (ages 22-35) gathers for lunch and conversation. This will be the last meeting until January. *Contact: Under35@NationalPres.org.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR

ADULTS, YOUTH, AND CHILDREN

9:30–10:30 a.m., see p. 8 for locations

Sunday School classes conclude today until January. *(see pg. 6 for upcoming January Term)*

NPC YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

*5 p.m., "Yellow House"
(4010 Van Ness St NW)*

Don't miss our annual Christmas party! There will be a white elephant gift exchange and lots of fun. Youth group and Sunday school will resume on January 4.

PECAN SALES

Tables outside Stone Hall

Mammoth pecan halves (1 lb, \$12), fruitcakes (1 lb., \$7), and wild rice (\$10) may be purchased today. All proceeds are donated to mission projects by the Business & Professional Women's Guild.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENTS

We are now at 300 commitments out of our goal of 500! If you have not yet done so, please prayerfully consider how you will support God's work in and through NPC in 2015.

Mail your commitment card to the church, submit it online (nationalpres.org/giving), or place it in the offering plate. *Commitment cards can be found on the information table.*

THIS WEEK AND UPCOMING

U.S. ARMY CHORUS FREE CONCERT

Monday, Dec. 15, 1 p.m., Sanctuary

Come and bring a friend to this amazing *free* concert of Christmas favorites (both sacred and secular)! All are invited to the Adult Fellowship Luncheon at noon in Stone Hall before the concert. *For lunch reservations (\$10), call 202.537.0800.*

WEDNESDAY ADVENT SERVICE

Wednesday, Dec. 17, 7–7:55 p.m., Chapel

Advent Vespers are a time of mid-week worship with communion during the busy Christmas season. This week Dr. Quinn Fox will preach on “The Moment in Time.” *Complimentary childcare (age 5 and under) is available with RSVP to: childcare@NationalPres.org.*

WELCOME HOME COLLEGE LUNCHEON

Sunday, Dec. 21, 12:15 p.m., Parlor

Welcome home, college students! Come catch up with old friends, and new, over a special lunch. Feel free to bring a friend!

YOUR GIFTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

The NPC and NPS family collected **over 50 bags of winter clothes containing over 700 items, and monetary donations of \$250** for local mission partners.

THANKSGIVING FOOD COLLECTION

Because of your donations, NPC gave **over \$1,100** to mission partner Central Union Mission.

CARE PACKAGES FOR STUDENTS

50 care packages with dozens of homemade cookies and other goodies were sent to NPC college students during their final exams, thanks to you!

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Wednesday, Dec. 24

Invite a friend!

FAMILY SERVICE

5 P.M.

A Christmas pageant for children of all ages.

CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

8 & 10 P.M.

Dr. Renwick will preach and Communion will be served.

“JANUARY TERM” CLASSES FOR ADULTS

Sundays, January 4–25, 2015, 9:30 a.m.

As the new year begins, a four-week “January Term” will be offered in Adult Sunday School. A variety of three week courses will be followed by a plenary class with Dr. Curt Thompson, medical doctor and author of a highly acclaimed book on the relationship between brain science and spiritual practice. Why not make it a New Year’s Resolution to become part of a class in January? *Contact: Holly Novak, HNovak@NationalPres.org.*

DECEMBER’S FOOD DONATION: CANNED TUNA

Please bring donations of canned tuna for mission partner Martha’s Table to the baskets outside of Stone Hall, or upstairs at the information table. *You can help gather food donations or pack and deliver food to Martha’s Table! Contact: Nancy Chapman Colb, nancy@nchapman.com.*

PRAYER MINISTRY

Please pray for:

Larry Kegley
Robert “Bob” Rosette
Krishnaswami Viswanathan

*Confidential prayer requests:
nationalpres.org/prayer*

TIME TO MAKE NPC YOUR CHURCH HOME?

Sunday, Jan. 25, 8:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Learn more about the Christian faith and membership at NPC, and spend time with church leaders at the Pathway of Christian Discipleship Class. *Contact Kemet Rakiatu to register: KRakiatu@NationalPres.org or 202.537.7578.*

JOB OPPORTUNITY AT NPC

Be part of a great team serving Christ and the church! NPC is currently seeking an Administrative Assistant for Serve Ministries. This is a paid, 35 hour per week position reporting to Rev. Marsh. *The job description and instructions on how to apply can be found at www.nationalpres.org/jobs*

EXPERT ADVICE FOR OLDER ADULTS

Lisa Rindner, MSW LGSW, is a trusted resource to our congregation, providing expert advice on practical and emotional matters of aging. *Free appointments available at NPC. Contact Lisa at 202.895.9440 or LRindner@iona.org*

PREPARE FOR MARRIAGE SEMINAR *Saturday, February 14, 2015*

8:45 a.m. – 3 p.m. Elson Parlor

Are you planning on getting married in 2015? Join other engaged couples for a day of preparation, information, and reflection. This class is offered once per year and is required for all couples whose weddings will be held at NPC. Cost: \$100 per couple. *Contact: Holly Novak, HNovak@NationalPres.org; 202.537.7527.*

VOLUNTEER AT INGLESIDE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Once a month, you can assist in wheeling residents from their rooms to a Sunday morning (10:30 a.m.) hymn sing or Sunday afternoon (4 p.m.) chapel service. This is a great opportunity to volunteer as a family! *Contact: Rebekah Liu at Paulreb3@msn.com*

NPC STRATEGIC PLAN

God is calling our community here at NPC to lead people to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ together in God's world. Learn more about this vision by reading the plan, which is available at the information table and at nationalpres.org/strategic-plan *Questions or comments? strategicplan@nationalpres.org*

YEAR END GIVING TO NPC

Please consider supporting the mission and ministry of NPC with your year-end giving as we end 2014 and look forward to what God has planned for us in 2015.

- Set up **recurring gifts** at NPC Online (link at the bottom of the NPC website, www.nationalpres.org)
- **Easy one-time gifts** to NPC can be made on www.nationalpres.org/giving. Your gift will be processed through PayPal, but you do not need to have a PayPal account.
- You can contribute to NPC by **shopping on Amazon!** Input "The National Presbyterian Church, Inc." as your designated charity using Amazon Smile (www.smile.amazon.com), and NPC receives a donation of .05% of the price of your eligible purchases.
- **Stock donations** may be made by providing the following information to your broker:
Deliver to: Morgan Stanley Smith Barney
DTC Clearing Number: 0015
Client Account number: 504-152559-468
Client Name: The National Presbyterian Church, Inc.
NPC TIN: 53-0196611

(Please be sure to identify yourself as the donor to ensure proper acknowledgement.)

Questions?

Contact Finance Manager, Joe Abatemarco, 202.537.7484 or JAbatemarco@NationalPres.org

CLASSES AND GROUPS

ADULTS

LECTIONARY READINGS

Year 1

Dec. 14 - 21

Sunday

Psalms 24; 110

Isaiah 13:1-13

Hebrews 12:18-29

John 3:22-30

Monday

Psalms 122; 67

Isaiah 8:16-9:1

2 Peter 1:1-11

Luke 22:39-53

Tuesday

Psalms 33; 94

Isaiah 9:2-7

2 Peter 1:12-21

Luke 22:54-69

Wednesday

Psalms 50; 17

Isaiah 9:8-17

2 Peter 2:1-10a

Mark 1:1-8

Thursday

Psalms 18:1-20; 62

Isaiah 11:1-9

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 3:16-21

Friday

Psalms 102; 16

Isaiah 11:10-16

Revelation 20:1-10

John 5:30-47

Saturday

Psalms 90; 72

Isaiah 28:9-22

Revelation 20:11-21:8

Luke 1:5-25

Sunday

Psalms 24; 110

Isaiah 29:9-24

Revelation 21:9-21

Luke 1:26-38

Sunday Classes, 9:30 a.m. *These classes conclude today*

- Life in Progress: Seeking God Amidst Life's Complexities *School Room 236*
- Men's Sunday School Class *Agencies 101*
- Exploring John's Gospel: A Bible Study *Agencies 105*
- A Living Faith for Hostile Times: Guidance from the Apostle Paul *Church Room 5*
- Wrestlers *Agencies Lower Level*
- Ephesians: Growing Up in Christ, Learning to be the Church *Elson Parlor*

Groups

- Across the Aisle (ages 22-35) **Sundays, 12:15 p.m.** *Church Room 110/111*
- Adult Fellowship Luncheon **3rd Monday of the month, Noon** *Stone Hall*
- Cub Scout Troop 1946, **Every other Tuesday, 6-7 p.m.** *MP Bldg. & Agencies Lower Level*
- "Real Moms" Coffeehouse **Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m.** *Church Room 107*
- Wednesday Women **2nd Wednesday of the month, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.** *Church Room 110/111*
- Boy Scout Troop 1946, **Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m.** *Agencies Lower Level*
- Afternoon T.E.A. Bible Study **2nd Wednesday of the month, 1:30-3 p.m.** *Elson Parlor*
- WomenConnect **3rd Wednesday of the month, 7-8:45 p.m.** *Elson Parlor*
- Community Bible Study **Thursdays, 7-9 p.m.** *Agencies 105*
- Men's Breakfast **1st Saturday of the month, 8 - 9:30 a.m.** *Stone Hall*
- B&P Women's Guild Luncheon **1st Saturday of the month, Noon** *Stone Hall*
- Saturday Morning Bible Study **Saturdays, 8:30 - 10 a.m.** *Satellite Library*
- Women in the Word Bible Study **Saturdays, 9:30-11 a.m.** *Church Room 105*
- GriefShare **Resumes in January, Sundays, 12:30 p.m.** *Culbertson Library*

YOUTH

Sunday School, 9:15 - 10:30 a.m., Resumes January 4

- Middle School (6th & 7th grade) *MP Building; Multipurpose Room 101*
- Middle School (8th grade) *Agencies 102*
- High School (9th - 12th grade) *Youth House*

Youth Group, Sundays, 5-7:30 p.m.. Resumes January 4

- Middle School (6th-8th grade): **5-6 p.m.** *Youth House*
- NPC Youth dinner (*parents welcome!*): **5:45-6:45 p.m.** *Multipurpose Room*
- High School (9th-12th grade): **6:30-7:30 p.m.** *Youth House*

CHILDREN

Preschool Sunday School, 9:15 - 10:30 a.m.

Parents drop off children between 9:10-9:15 and pick up children in their classrooms at 10:30 a.m.

- 2-year olds: Church Room 8
- 3-year olds: School Room 104
- 4-year olds: School Room 106

Elementary Sunday School, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Children meet teachers in the school gym at 9:30 a.m., whether coming directly to Sunday School, or from worship after the Time for Children. Parents, pick up children in their classrooms at 10:30.

- Kindergarten: School Room 108
- 1st Grade: School Room 132
- 2nd Grade: School Room 200
- 3rd Grade: School Room 208
- 4th Grade: School Room 240
- 5th Grade: School Room 242

Children's Church, 11 a.m.

Church Room 106

Children grades K-2 begin in worship, attend the children's church program, and return after the sermon.

CHILDCARE 8 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

- Crib Room: Babies 6 weeks - Crawling *Church Room 16*
- Walker Room: Toddlers and walkers up to 4 yrs. *Church Room 7*

MUSIC

- Chancel Choir **Wednesdays during Advent, 8 p.m.** *Choir Room*
- Contemporary Music Team **Wednesdays during Advent, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.** *Sanctuary*
- Grace Chimes Handbells **Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.** *Church Room 110*
- Children's Choir (K-5th grade) **Sundays, 10:30-10:55 a.m.** *School Building*
- Youth Choir (6th grade +) **Sundays, 10:25-10:55 a.m.** *Multipurpose Room*

BOOKSTORE & LIBRARY Sundays 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

- Culbertson Library (also: M-TH 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.) *Admin. Bldg., Second Floor*
- Satellite Library & Moehrle Bookstore *Adjacent to Stone Hall*

THE NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4101 Nebraska Ave. NW Washington, DC 20016 • 202.537.0800 • www.NationalPres.org