

NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
*Staying Connected in Christ*  
11 AM Online Worship, Sunday, December 6, 2020

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
COMMUNION

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Emmanuel

Reuben Morgan  
Joanna Zorack-Greene, piano

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. David Renwick

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Katie Francis and John Francis, with Wren, Cedar and Ozette

HYMN *please sing!*

Of the Father's Love Begotten

*Divinum mysterium*

1. Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,  
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore!
2. O ye heights of heav'n adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing;  
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King;  
Let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring,  
Evermore and evermore!
3. Christ, to thee with God the Father, and O Holy Ghost to thee,  
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be:  
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore!

CONFESSION OF SIN

Rev. Donna Marsh

As we bow in worship before you, O Lord, turn the key to my heart's door.  
I am too often ungrateful and disobedient, and it has gathered rust.  
Forgive me when in sin I turn from you and do not hear you knocking.  
Lord Jesus, oil the hinges of my heart's door,  
that it may swing gently and easily to welcome your coming.

Prayer from the church in New Guinea

## SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news of the Gospel. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

## CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *please sing!*

*In dulci jubilo*

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart, and soul, and voice;  
Now we need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls us one and calls us all to gain the everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Cate McCrory

### SCRIPTURE

#### 1 John 1:1-4

Elder Dennis Burgart

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—<sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

Jesus' Coming—Touching God  
Mark 5:25-34

Dr. Renwick

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

### RESPONSE

*Humility*

#### *Choir*

See, amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below,  
See, the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years.

#### ***Congregational Refrain***

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn, hail redemption's happy dawn,  
Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

#### *Choir*

Lo, within a manger lies he who built the starry skies;  
He who, throned in height sublime, sits among the cherubim. ***Refrain***

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

An Advent Affirmation

Dr. Quinn Fox

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 this good news of great joy which heralded Jesus' birth also points 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.

## **OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS**

**Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

Dr. Fox  
Meredith Andrews  
based on *Hyfrydol*

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.  
Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.  
You draw the hearts of shepherds, you draw the hearts of kings;  
Even as a baby you were changing everything.  
You called me to your kingdom before your lips could speak.  
Even as a baby you were reaching out for me.  
And now we are awaiting the day of your return  
When every eye will see you as heaven comes to earth  
Until the sky is open, until the trumpet sounds.  
The Bride is getting ready, the church is singing out.  
Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
Come, thou long-expected King.

based on Charles Wesley  
Joanna Zorack-Greene

## **THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

Dr. Fox

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation

**A Celtic Christmas Blessing**

Keith & Kristyn Getty

Now may the fragrance of his peace soar through your heart, like a dove released.  
Hide in his wings, O weary, distant soul; he'll guide your spirit home.  
And may his love poured from on high touch now the depths of your deepest sigh.  
O, come and drink from the only living stream and on his shoulder lean.  
And may the hope that will not deceive through every pain bring eternal ease.  
There is no night that can steal the promises his coming brings to us.  
So may his joy rush over you; delight in the path he has called you to.  
May all your steps walk in heaven's endless light because of Christmas night.

Joanna Zorack-Greene

Prayer of Response and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

**HYMN** *please sing!*

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright

*Puer nobis nascitur*

1. O splendor of God's glory bright, from light eternal bringing light;  
Thou light of life, light's living spring, true day all days illumining.
2. Come, holy sun of heav'nly love, shower down thy radiance from above,  
And to our inward hearts convey the Holy Spirit's cloudless ray.
3. O joyful be the passing day with thoughts as clear as morning's ray,  
With faith like noontide shining bright, our souls unshadowed by the night.
4. O Lord, with each returning morn thine image to our hearts is born;  
O may we ever clearly see our Savior and our God in thee.

Ambrose of Milan

**BENEDICTION**

Dr. Renwick

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**POSTLUDE**

Proclamation on "Sleepers, Wake!"

A. D. Miller  
Todd Fickley, organ

# Let's Stay Connected! Announcements for You

## Floral Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given by Annette Quick and Roger Coy to the glory of God and in loving memory of Elizabeth Featherston Quick and Howard Roland Quick.

## Prayers

Synod of Syria and Lebanon is a capital campaign partner ministering to displaced Syrian students in Lebanon. Please give thanks for the many conversions they have seen in recent years, and pray for hope for suffering people.

## Communion

Today, Dec 6, you are invited to share in the celebration of communion from your home. [Here are guidelines for preparation and serving of communion.](#)

## Wednesday Evening Worship

Dec 9 & 16 at 7:00 pm, find peace for your soul and celebrate the true meaning of the season in these peaceful, prayerful evening worship services. Join us on Wednesdays in December on our [Worship Live page](#).

## Men's Monthly Online Gathering

On Dec 5, at 8:30 am, Dr. Quinn Fox, Associate Pastor for Discipleship, will share some reflections on the unique situation in which we find ourselves this particular Advent season followed by a time of sharing and conversation about our lives in Christ as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Please [click here](#) for more info.

## Online Grief Support Seminar – *Surviving the Holidays*, Dec 12, 1:00 pm

When you are grieving a loved one's death, the holiday season can be especially difficult. The GriefShare "*Surviving the Holidays*" program helps participants prepare for the holidays and even discover hope for the future. Lead by Pastor Katie Francis on Dec 12 at 1:00 pm. RSVP by Dec 7th to [LMartin@NationalPres.org](mailto:LMartin@NationalPres.org).

## Christmas is coming!

We have put together a wonderful line-up of events to celebrate the birth of our dear Savior. You are invited!

- Dec 9 & 16 at 7:00 pm: Wednesday evening online worship
- Dec 13: Worship featuring prerecorded music
- Dec 19, 5-7 pm: (In person, outdoors) A Journey to Bethlehem - Living Nativity
- Dec 20, 7:00 pm: Handel's Messiah re-broadcast
- Dec 21, 1:00 pm: U.S. Army Chorus broadcast

## Christmas Eve

- 3:00 & 5:00 pm: (Online) The Christmas Story in Candles
- 7:00 pm: (In person) Outdoor Candlelight Vigil
- 8:00 & 10:00 pm: (Online) Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

[Click here](#) for all the details and mark your calendars!

## Mission Gifts for Christmas

Are you looking for a meaningful gift for a loved one? Visit our [Mission Gifts page](#) to select from a catalog of donations to organizations that are doing God's work locally and internationally.

## Dec 13 Special Music

Dec 13 worship will feature special prerecorded moments sung by our Chancel and Festival Choirs.

## A Journey to Bethlehem Living Nativity

Join us Dec 19, 5:00-7:00 pm for a live nativity! Beginning with the prophecy of Isaiah and ending at the manger with the Magi, we will recall the memorable story of our Lord's humble birth through Scripture and song. Please [click here](#) for more info, [click here](#) to register to attend or [click here](#) if you'd like to volunteer!

## Learn & Grow

### Adult, Children & Youth Sunday School

You are invited to join us! You can check out our options for each group here:

- [Adult Sunday School info](#)
- [Children Sunday School info](#)
- [Youth Sunday School info](#)

### Connect LIVE on Zoom

Immediately following online worship, you are invited to a casual virtual gathering where you can “pass the peace of Christ” with others and enjoy conversation. To join in, simply click the “Connect LIVE” button above the livestream window after the service.

### Prayer LIVE

Would you like to pray with a live person after worship? Please call 12-1 pm. A Pastor, Stephen Minister, or Deacon will be prepared to take your call. If all lines are busy, please leave a voicemail with your name and number and you will receive a return call. Phone: (202) 800-9121.

### National Presbyterian School

NPS offers special considerations NPC family applicants to Nursery (3 years old) through Sixth Grade, and we hope you'll join us for a weekly small group information session via Zoom. Applications are due Jan15. [Click here](#) for more information visit or contact Admissions Director Katy Harvey, [kh Harvey@nps-dc.org](mailto:kh Harvey@nps-dc.org) or (202) 537-7508.

### Re-gathering Volunteers Needed

Step one to re-gathering is to recruit and train volunteers to act as greeters, guides and ushers. If you would like to help please [click here](#) to fill in the form, and we will be in touch.

### COVID times are just plain hard!

We are in this together. The Care/Connections staff have prepared resources to use during this time. Use them on your own or share with a friend. Feeling Isolated? Grieving? Anxious? Needing to have a hard conversation with someone? Find these resources on the [Care webpage](#) or contact [Liz Martin](#) or [Leslie Saum](#).

## Your December Giving Makes a Difference - Thank you!

Because of your financial generosity, National continues to bear powerful witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ through worship that comforts and inspires, classes and groups for all ages, pastoral care in times of difficulty, and service to those in our city and world.

- Recurring and one-time gifts can be made at [nationalpres.org/giving](http://nationalpres.org/giving).
- Make a gift from your phone by texting the letters NPC to 77977.
- Stock donations. Ask your broker to identify you as the donor. Deliver stock information to: Morgan Stanley Smith Barney DTC
  - Clearing Number: 0015
  - Client Account number: 504- 041937-387
  - Client Name: The National Presbyterian Church, Inc.
  - NPC TIN: 53-0196611
- IRA Distributions: Required IRA minimum distributions made directly from your IRA to NPC are not subject to income taxes, which results in savings from a lower after-tax cost of the gift.

Thank you for your generosity!



### Building Faith Together in 2021

It's not too late to show your support for God's work in and through NPC in 2021! Please [click here](#) to make your commitment. For more information, [click here](#). Or if you have questions, you may contact [lskrine@nationalpres.org](mailto:lskrine@nationalpres.org) or call (202) 537-7495. As always, thank you for your faithfulness and generosity!

### Race Matters Series Now on YouTube

Dr. Renwick's discussion of matters of race titled "*God so loved THE WORLD: What to read? How to think? What to do?*" is now on YouTube. Please [click here](#) to listen to this series and more!