

Against you, you only, have we sinned, and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.
Hide your face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities.
Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit.
Our sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

based on Psalm 51

SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news of the Gospel. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE OF PRAISE *please sing!*

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Dr. Renwick

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 32

Elder Jennifer Richwine

¹ Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
² Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

³ While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.
⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the LORD', and you forgave the guilt of my sin.
⁶ Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress,

the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.
⁷ You are a hiding-place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

⁸ I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
⁹ Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

¹⁰ Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.
¹¹ Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

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

SERMON

Exposing the Darkness
Matthew 25:41-46; 5:21-26

Dr. Renwick

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

CHORAL RESPONSE

You are my hiding place, you always fill my heart with songs of deliverance,
whenever I am afraid, I will trust in you.

I will trust in you, let the weak say, I am strong in the strength of the Lord.”

Michael Ledner

from Psalm 32

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Dr. Quinn Fox

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.

He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the
forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER 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.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Blessed Is the One

Craig Courtney

Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven. Blessed is the one whose sins are covered,
the one to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, in whose spirit is no guile.

You are my hiding place. You will preserve me from trouble,
surrounding me with songs of deliverance.

When mighty waters rise, they will not reach me. Blessed is the one, O Lord.

based on Psalm 32

DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN *please sing!*

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Azmon

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace!
2. Jesus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.

3. Christ breaks the power of cancelled sin, and sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean, Christ's blood availed for me.

4. My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.

Charles Wesley

BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Renwick

POSTLUDE

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Robert J. Powell
Mr. Fickley, organ

Let's Stay Connected: Announcements for You

Floral Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Marjorie Williams Wright in loving memory of Walter L. Wright, III (Tony) remembering their July 27 anniversary.

Connect LIVE

Following worship from 12-12:30 on Zoom You are invited to a casual gathering where you can "pass the peace of Christ" with others. To join, 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 between noon and 1:00pm. 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**

Nominations for Officers

The Congregational Nominating Committee asks for your help in selecting Elders, Deacons, board members for the Fund for Charitable Giving and next year's Congregational Nominating Committee. Submit recommendations [here](#).

Mission Partner Opportunity: Race Literacy 101

Our Capital Campaign mission partner, Little Lights, is offering a Race Literacy 101 Course. Register [here](#) for 11 consecutive Thursday evenings from August 20 to November 5, 7-8:30pm. Should the class fill up, you can sign up to be on the waiting list for the next class via [email](#).

Your Giving and Commitments

Make a Difference: Thank you!

Because of your financial generosity, National continues to bear powerful witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ at this critical time.

Not yet made a gift online or by phone? Go to nationalpres.org/giving or text "NPC" to 77977.

LEARN & GROW

Adult Sunday School Speaker Series

Speaker: N.T. (Tom) Wright, Professor of New Testament, University of St. Andrews, Scotland
Join us virtually on Sundays from 9:45-10:45am as we hear from speakers across the country. Next week (July 26), Professor Wright will speak on "God and the Pandemic."
[Click here](#) for more info.

Children and Youth Sunday School

Sundays, 10:00 am ET
Experience our summer curriculum, *Faith Heroes: Then and Now!* For more information about Children's Sunday School, [email Cate McCrory](#), and for Youth Sunday School, [email the Youth ministry](#).

The Gospel According to Baseball

Wednesdays, 7-7:45 pm ET
When Major League Baseball will return to play may be uncertain, but the centrality of "America's Favorite Pastime" to our nation's history and identity remains. Dr. Quinn Fox will finish his exploration into how baseball has been influenced by, and has in turn influenced, American life.

Middle School Stay-treat

Join your NPC youth friends for a "stay-treat" from July 31 through August 2, beginning at 6:00pm each evening. We'll have livestreamed worship and speakers, small groups, and outdoor games for 3 nights. Register by July 24 [here](#), or [email the Youth ministry](#).

Receive Care from a Stephen Minister

Stephen Ministers are available to listen to, comfort, and pray with you during this season. Contact Liz Martin via [email](#) or call (202)-537-7540 to request a Stephen Minister.

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.