

NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“Staying Connected in Christ”

11 AM ONLINE WORSHIP, SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

CONFIRMATION & COMMUNION

(ORDER OF SERVICE BEGINS ON PAGE 2)

Celebrating our Confirmation Class of 2020!

with photos of our youth over the years and excerpts from the faith statements of this year’s confirmands.



Just because I can never completely understand God, that doesn't mean I can't know and have a relationship with him. God wants to have a relationship with everyone, with me, and I want to have a relationship with him. Our sin separates us from God, but because God loves me and all of us, he sent his only son Jesus Christ, down to earth to die for our salvation.



I think of studying scripture as applying it to your life and using it to provide you with guidance for however it may relate to you. Studying scripture can also mean discussing it with other people. By doing this with my mentor and my friends in confirmation sessions, I have been able to notice and understand things that I otherwise would not have. Scripture is also a great way to build my relationship with God.

Prayer is one of the most important things a Christian can do. It is a time you can communicate with God and it should be taken seriously but it does not have to be something complicated.



I believe that through His life on Earth, Jesus set an example for how all Christians should strive to act. I believe that it is our duty as followers of Christ to use our God-given talents to meaningfully help others.

Lastly, I wanted to talk about how I believe I should live as a Christian. As of now, I believe that the most important thing that I can do is live with love in my heart. Jesus said that the two greatest commandments were to love God with all of our being, and to love others as ourselves. I think that I should live in a way that reflects this.



Christianity has been a part of my life since I was born, but I never thought deeply about what it means to be Christian until my confirmation course. Throughout the past few months, I have been working to learn more about my faith and what it entails, while also seeing how it impacts my life. This confirmation process has helped me grow as a Christian and solidify my beliefs.

Congratulations!

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE Come Holy Ghost, Lord God, BuxWV 199 Dieterich Buxtehude
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Dr. David Renwick

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Donna Marsh

ALL:

God's Spirit prays for us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought.
The Spirit is the spirit of adoption, not fear; when we cry to God as "Father,"
it is God's Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God.
Indeed, if the Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead lives within you,
then God will use the power of Christ's resurrection to give life to your bodies, here and now.

ONE: Let us lift up our hearts and voices and worship God together.

Romans 8, selected verses

HYMN *please sing* Morning Has Broken *Bunessan*

1. Morning has broken like the first morning, blackbird has spoken like the first bird;
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them springing fresh from the dawn.
2. Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dew-fall on the new grass;
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation! Praise every morning: God's recreation of the new day!

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison* Rev. Marsh

Our Father in heaven, we praise you for leading us into your light.
We bless you for sending your Son our Savior to carry us from death to life.
We acknowledge that we were dead in sin before his call, but have been made alive in him.
Yet we confess that old habits are hard to throw off,
and that sin and sinful patterns remain in our lives.
Forgive us, O Lord. Guard us against this enemy within.
By the power of the Holy Spirit, help us live out our new life in Christ.

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

CONFIRMATION AND BAPTISM

Price Burton
Ella Davis
Alyssa DeSarbo
Drew Detlor

Nora Goodin
Dashiehl May
Davis Moore
Henry Nichols

Charlotte Norment
Emmanuel Tamen*

**baptism*

SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:1-8, 12-18

Eleanor Schmitt

When the day of Pentecost had come, Jesus' followers were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?' ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?

¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' ¹³But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.' But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "*Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.'*"

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

SERMON

Power to Really Live
Acts 2:9-11

Dr. David Renwick

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *please sing!*

St. Agnes

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. *Repeat*

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.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Union Seminary

Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in your name
Two or three are met together you are in the midst of them
Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now your garment's hem.
As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
Then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia! So now bind our friendship up.
All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of you,
That by caring, helping, giving, we may be disciples true.
Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve with faith anew.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Solo Meditation

Lord of the Small

Dan Forrest

Praise to the Lord of the small, broken things, who sees the poor sparrow that cannot take wing,
Who loves the lame child, and the wretch in the street,
who comforts their sorrows and washes their feet.
Praise to the Lord of the faint and afraid, who girds them with courage and lends them his aid;
He pours out his Spirit on vessels so weak that the timid can serve and the silent can speak.
Praise to the Lord of the frail and the ill, who heals their afflictions, or carries them till
They leave this tired frame and to Paradise fly, to never be sick, and never to die.
Praise him, O praise him, all you who yet live, who've been given so much and can so little give;
Our frail, lisping praise God will never despise:
He sees his dear children through mercy-filled eyes.
Ethan Lee Greene, bass-baritone with Joanna Zorack-Greene, piano

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 for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Azmon

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear 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. My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire, BWV 631

J.S. Bach
Mr. Fickley

**Thank you to the
confirmation mentors:**

Fred Byus
Jonelle Detlor
Grant Franke
Mitch Gore
Jason Hafemeister
Scott Herndon
Kim Jensen
Brian Julius
Paul Kisslinger
Joanne Leshner
Melinda Moore
Rachel Rajaseelan
Susan Theis

**The Session is Excited to Call
A Congregational Meeting
Next Sunday, September 20
ONLINE following 11a.m. worship.**

1. To vote on a recommendation by our Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) to call and approve “terms of call” for a new Associate Pastor for Care.
2. To vote on a recommendation from the Session to change “terms of call” for Associate Pastor, Donna Marsh, whose responsibilities now also include administration as our Executive Pastor.

NOTES

- Advance Q&A at 7:00 pm this Thursday, September 17 (since no Q&A is possible online at the meeting on Sunday)
- An introduction to the APNC nominee and specific terms of call will be sent to members this week via e-mail. A paper mailing will be sent to those without email.
- Participants: APNC Chair Glenn Schmitt, APNC members, and Personnel Council Chair, Barbara Mitchell

[Click here for access to the Zoom Q & A.](#)

Let's Stay Connected: Announcements for You

Communion Today, Sept 13

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

Military Ministry [more info](#)

All are welcome to join us **today** at 1:00 pm for online fellowship with a guest speaker, Col. James D. Tims, USAF, Chaplain at the National Security Agency. Please contact lmartin@nationalpres.org for the Zoom link.

Connect LIVE on Zoom

Following worship, about 12-12:30 pm 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 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.

Drive-Thru Food Drive [more info](#)

A chance to help! **Saturday, Sept 19, 4-6 pm**, bring non-perishable food and personal supplies to the church parking lot to benefit [Central Union Mission](#) and [The University of the District of Columbia \(UDC\) food pantry](#).

Thank you!

Please join us in expressing our sincere and deep gratitude to **Amy Thompson** for her years of service in Christ's name to the people of National Presbyterian Church. For the past six years, she has served as NPC's Associate for Family Ministry and Small Group Coordinator, bringing new ministries to life, and bringing fresh vision to existing ministries. Even as Amy moves on to a new chapter in her life and vocation, we are glad the Thompson family will still be part of the NPC family. Our warmest thanks and prayers go with you Amy! You have touched countless lives and blessed us immeasurably.

Floral Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God in memory of Wee Siew Kim by her granddaughter, Ms. Joanna Lam.

Prayers

We grieve the deaths of Ruth Barham on June 12, 2020 and Charles McNett on Sept. 5, 2020.

We pray for [Friendship Place](#), providing care for people experiencing homelessness across the District.

Learn & Grow

Wednesday Faith Connection Wednesdays, 7-7:45pm ET

You are invited to join us on our [Worship Live page](#) as Dr. Renwick explores Paul's Letter to the Galatians.

Adult, Children & Youth Sunday School

Our fall semester started this morning! Please join us next Sunday. You can check out our options for each group here:

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

Pathway of Christian Discipleship Class

Interested in becoming a church member or learning more about Christian faith? You're invited to attend the two half-day virtual new member classes, 9:30-12:30, on Sat, Sept 26 and Oct 3. For more information please contact Kemet Rakiatu at krakiatu@nationalpres.org or (202) 537-7578. Please [RSVP](#) by Sept 16.

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.

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.