

# NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## *“Staying Connected in Christ”*

11 A. M. Online Worship, Sunday, October 11, 2020

### WE ENTER GOD’S PRESENCE

#### PRELUDE

Andante Tranquillo

Percy W. Whitlock  
Todd Fickley, organ

#### CHIMES

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. David Renwick

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

1 John 4:9-11

In this the love of God was made manifest among us,  
that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

In this is love, not that we loved God,  
but that God loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Beloved, if God so loved us, then we also ought to love one another.

*Let us lift up our hearts and voices and together worship the Lord our God!*

#### HYMN *please sing!*

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*Hyfrydol*

1. Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav’n to earth come down,  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown!  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure unbounded love thou art;  
Visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.
2. Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee with thy hosts above;  
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
3. Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;  
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav’n we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

Dr. Quinn Fox

O Lord, take away from me my sins,  
and mercifully kindle in me the fire of your Holy Spirit.  
Take away from me the heart of stone, and give me a heart of flesh:  
a heart to love and adore you, a heart to delight in you,  
a heart to follow and enjoy you, for Christ’s sake.

Ambrose (339-397), Bishop of Milan

## 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 *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

#### THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Dr. Fox

Baptismal Questions

Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows

**Through baptism we enter the covenant God has established. Within this covenant God gives us new life, guards us from evil, and nurtures us in love. In embracing that covenant, God claims us as his own, as we choose to serve God, by turning from evil and turning to Jesus Christ.**

Baptism

Beau Francis Bailey

*Son of Heather Bryant Bailey and Bradley Rolison Bailey*

Isabel Ann Màiri Montgomery

*Daughter of Sarah Ann Montgomery and David William Montgomery*

Prayer of Response

## SCRIPTURE

### Acts 26:1-19

Rev. Donna Marsh

Agrippa said to Paul, "You have permission to speak for yourself." Then Paul stretched out his hand and began to defend himself: <sup>2</sup>"I consider myself fortunate that it is before you, King Agrippa, I am to make my defense today against all the accusations of the Jews, <sup>3</sup>because you are especially familiar with all the customs and controversies of the Jews; therefore I beg of you to listen to me patiently. <sup>4</sup>"All the Jews know my way of life from my youth, a life spent from the beginning among my own people and in Jerusalem. <sup>5</sup>They have known for a long time, if they are willing to testify, that I have belonged to the strictest sect of our religion and lived as a Pharisee. <sup>6</sup>And now I stand here on trial on account of my hope in the promise made by God to our ancestors, <sup>7</sup>a promise that our twelve tribes hope to attain, as they earnestly worship day and night. It is for this hope, your Excellency, that I am accused by Jews! <sup>8</sup>Why is it thought incredible by any of you that God raises the dead? <sup>9</sup>"Indeed, I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things against the name of Jesus of Nazareth. <sup>10</sup>And that is what I did in Jerusalem; with authority received from the chief priests, I not only locked up many of the saints in prison, but I also cast my vote against them when they were being condemned to death. <sup>11</sup>By punishing them often in all the synagogues I tried to force them to blaspheme; and since I was so furiously enraged at them, I pursued them even to foreign cities.

<sup>12</sup>”With this in mind, I was traveling to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests, <sup>13</sup>when at midday along the road, your Excellency, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my companions. <sup>14</sup>When we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.’ <sup>15</sup>I asked, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ The Lord answered, ‘I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. <sup>16</sup>But get up and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you. <sup>17</sup>I will rescue you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you <sup>18</sup>to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.’ <sup>19</sup>“After that, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision...

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

**SERMON**

Transformed and Transforming  
Acts 9:1-22; 22:1-21

Dr. Renwick

## WE RESPOND TO GOD’S GRACE AND CALL

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

*Dunlap’s Creek*

Lord, when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light  
May we behold you as you are with full and endless sight.

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Apostles’ Creed

Rev. Katie Francis

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**

**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**

Rev. Marsh  
Gilbert Martin

**Open My Eyes**

Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me;  
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp, and set me free.  
*Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see;*  
*Open my eyes, illumine me, Savior divine!*

Open my ears, and let me hear voices of truth thou sendest clear;  
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.  
*Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see;*  
*Open my ears, illumine me, Savior divine!*

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;  
Open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.  
*Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see;*  
*Open my heart, illumine me, Savior divine!*

**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!*

Here I Am, Lord

*Here I Am*

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

**Refrain**

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*

2. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life for them. Whom shall I send? **Refrain**

**BENEDICTION**

Dr. Renwick

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**POSTLUDE**

Trio in E-flat Major

Julius Reubke  
Mr. Fickley

# Let's Stay Connected! Announcements for You

## Nominate Organizations to Receive Mission Gifts! Deadline Tuesday

Please fill out [this form](#) by Tues, Oct 13, to nominate a ministry to be listed in our Mission Gifts catalog as a recipient of Mission Gifts funds this year. Through NPC Mission Gifts, we bless a variety of organizations and missionaries around the world. Even with no Stone Hall party this year, we are planning on a strong virtual Mission Gifts program. Please [click here](#) for more 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.

## Service of Remembrance

A Service of Remembrance will be held Sunday, Nov 1, at 1:00 pm after our online worship. All who have lost loved ones in the recent past are welcome to attend virtually, remember, and celebrate eternal life in Christ Jesus. If you'd like to make an appointment to visit the columbarium or have questions, please contact [lmartin@nationalpres.org](mailto:lmartin@nationalpres.org).

## Care Packages for Troops

The Military Ministry is partnering with the West Point Parents Group to send care packages to deployed troops in Iraq & Afghanistan.

- **Shop now:** [please click here to see the shopping list](#).
- **Drop off:** Sunday, Nov 7, 9-11 am, you can drive to NPC, pop your trunk, and a team will be ready to collect your items.
- **Help with packing:** Want to help pack? Please email [lmartin@nationalpres.org](mailto:lmartin@nationalpres.org) to register to pack at 11:00-1:00 the same day. This activity is open to all!

## 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.

## Floral Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God in memory of Mr. Kang Ming Szeto by his daughter.

## Prayers

We grieve the death of Lois Bean on September 2, 2020.

We grieve the death of Dixie Falvey on September 11, 2020.

We grieve the death of Bill Burke, husband of Susan Burke, on October 1, 2020.

Please email [lmartin@nationalpres.org](mailto:lmartin@nationalpres.org) to be informed about memorial services.

Please pray that God would meet the spiritual and physical needs of hurting people in need of homes, food, friends, jobs, strength, and faith through the work done through our mission partner, [Central Union Mission](#).

## COVID is 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 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](http://nationalpres.org/giving) or text "NPC" to 77977.

## 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

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](#)