

# NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Staying Connected in Christ*

11 AM Online Worship, Sunday, November 22, 2020

## WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

### PRELUDE

Now Thank We All Our God, BWV 657

J.S. Bach  
Todd Fickley, organ

### CHIMES

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. David Renwick

### CALL TO WORSHIP

**Colossians 3:12-17** (*selected verses*)

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.  
Clothe yourselves with love, and let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,  
singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude to God.  
And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**Let us worship God together!**

### HYMN *please sing*

The Church's One Foundation

*Aurelia*

1. The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
She is his new creation by water and the Word;  
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
2. Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses with every grace endued.
3. We now on earth have union with God the Three in One,  
And mystic, sweet communion with those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,  
Like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

Samuel J. Stone (alt)

### CONFESSION OF SIN

Rev. Donna Marsh

Almighty and merciful God, maker of all things, judge of all people,  
we acknowledge and confess the grievous sins which we have so often committed  
by thought, word, and deed against your divine majesty.  
We earnestly repent and are deeply sorry for these wrongdoings.  
The memory of them weighs us down, the burden of them is too great to bear.  
Have mercy on us, most merciful Father.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive all that is past.  
Grant that from this time onwards we may serve and please you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your name.

## 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!*

*Aurelia*

O come, that glorious moment, when he who once was dead  
Shall lead his church victorious, her champion and her head.  
The Lord of all creation his heav'nly kingdom brings  
The final consummation, the glory of all things.

Timothy T'infang Lew (alt)

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Cate McCrory  
Director of Children's Ministries

### SCRIPTURE

#### Ephesians 2:4-10, 12-15, 19-23

Dr. Quinn Fox

<sup>4</sup>When it comes to mercy, God is rich! God had such great love for us that <sup>5</sup> he took us at the very point where we were dead through our offenses *against him*, and made us alive together with the *Messiah King*.

Yes, you are saved by sheer grace! <sup>6</sup>God raised us up with him and made us sit with him-in the heavenly places, in King Jesus! <sup>7</sup>This was so that in the ages to come he could show just how unbelievably rich his grace is, the kindness he has shown us in King Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>How has this all come about? You have been saved by grace, through faith! This doesn't happen on your own initiative; it's God's gift. <sup>9</sup>It isn't on the basis of works, so no one is able to boast.

<sup>10</sup>This is the explanation: God has made us what we are. God has created us in King Jesus for the good works that he prepared, ahead of time, as the road we must travel.

<sup>12</sup>*Don't forget – there was a time when you Gentiles* were separated from the Messiah King. You were detached from the community of Israel. You were foreigners to the covenants which contained the promise. There you were, in the world with no hope and no god!

<sup>13</sup>But now, in King Jesus, you have been brought near in the Messiah's blood-yes, you, who used to be a long way away! <sup>14</sup>He is our peace, you see. He has made the two – *both Jew and Gentile* – to be one. He has pulled down the barrier, the dividing wall, that turns us into enemies of each other. He has done this in his flesh, <sup>15</sup>by abolishing the law with its commands and instructions.

<sup>19</sup>This is the result. You are no longer foreigners or strangers. No: you are fellow citizens with God's holy people. You are members of God's household. <sup>20</sup>You are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with King Jesus himself as the cornerstone. <sup>21</sup>In him the whole building is fitted together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup> You too are being built together in him, into a place where God will live by the Spirit.  
*(Kingdom New Testament, adapted)*

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

### SERMON

Good News! A Cause for Great Thanksgiving

Dr. Renwick

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

### CHORAL RESPONSE

*Martyrdom*

What shall I render to the Lord, what shall my offering be  
For all the gracious benefits God has bestowed on me?  
Salvation's cup my soul shall take while to the Lord I pray,  
And with God's people I will meet our thankful vows to pay.

*The Psalter, 1912*

### 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

Celtic Laud

Craig Courtney

For fruit of the vine, for harvest of wheat, for bread and for wine, the gift of your feast,  
*The cup of thanksgiving we gratefully raise, O Lord of our living, our thanks and our praise.*  
For dove in the sky, for wind in the trees, for coal in the fire, your Spirit in me,  
*The cup of thanksgiving we gratefully raise, O Lord of our living, our thanks and our praise.*  
For Autumn's gold earth, for morning's first light, for every new birth, the stillness of night,  
*The cup of thanksgiving we gratefully raise, O Lord of our living, our thanks and our praise.*

with Jonathan Baumgarten, flute

### 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**

Rev. Francis

**HYMN** *please sing!*

Now Thank We All Our God

*Nun danket alle Gott*

1. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers' arms hath led us on our way,  
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.
2. O may this bounteous God through all our lives be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.
3. All praise and thanks to God, who reign in highest heaven,  
To Father and to Son and Spirit now be given;  
The one eternal God, whom heav'n and earth adore,  
The God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

Martin Rinkart

**BENEDICTION**

Dr. Renwick

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**POSTLUDE**

Marche Triomphale on "Nun Danket"

Sigfrid Karg-Elert  
Mr. Fickley

# Let's Stay Connected! Announcements for You

## Floral Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. Carl Joseph Gilbert Anderson by his son, Mr. J. Theodore Anderson.

## Thanksgiving Day

### 9:00-11:00 am: Food & Clothing Drive

Give grace before you say grace this year on Thanksgiving! NPC will be holding a drive-through contact-free food and warm clothing drive on Thursday, Nov 26, 9-11 am. Please [click here](#) for the shopping list and more info.

### 11:30 am: Thanksgiving Worship

Please [join us online](#) at 11:30 am on Thursday, Thanksgiving Day, as Pastor Katie Francis leads us in a special family-friendly worship service. What a wonderful way to give thanks!

## Volunteer now to bring the Nativity to life!

We are excited to announce that we will be having an outdoor living nativity this Dec 19. Please [click here](#) for more info, or [click here](#) if you'd like to volunteer!

## Family Advent Wreath Workshop

On Sunday, Nov 29 at 1:00 pm, start the Christmas season right! Join us to make your family's advent wreath to use in your spiritual preparation for Christmas. Pick up your supply kit or join us at in person. As space is limited, reservations are required. [Please click here to register.](#)

## Sneak Peek for Christmas

Are you a planner? You can [click here](#) to see what we have planned to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Mark your calendars!

## Prayers

We celebrate the birth of Annabelle Margaret Fager on November 5 to proud parents, Laura and Brad Fager.

We grieve the death of Nancy Thompson on Friday November 13, 2020. Please email [lmartin@nationalpres.org](mailto:lmartin@nationalpres.org) to be informed about memorial services

Bethlehem Bible College prepares Christian leaders to serve communities in the Middle East. Pray for students to model biblical wholeness in a divided region.

## 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.



## 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!

### **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.

### **Want to know more background for our sermon series?**

Dr. Renwick recommends:

- *Paul: A Biography*, by N.T. Wright, 2018
- *Paul: Apostle of the Heart Set Free*, by F.F. Bruce, 1977
- *The Acts of the Apostles*, by William Barclay
- *The Acts of the Apostles*, by E.M. Blaicklock (out of print, used copies available)

### **Colossians Series Now on YouTube**

Dr. Renwick’s journey through Paul’s letter to the Colossians is now on YouTube. Please [click here](#) to listen to this series and more!

### **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](#).

### **Learn & Grow**

#### **Wednesday Faith Connection**

We will be taking a break for the month of November. See you for Advent Vespers in December!

#### **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](#)

#### **National Presbyterian School:**

##### **Application Deadline Tomorrow**

NPC applications for 3-year-olds and Pre-Kindergarten are **due November 23**; Kindergarten and older are **due January 15**. NPS gives special consideration to applications from NPC families for Nursery (Age 3) through Sixth Grade. [Click here](#) for more information visit or contact Admissions Director Katy Harvey, [kharvey@nps-dc.org](mailto:kharvey@nps-dc.org) or (202) 537-7508.