

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Dr. Renwick

SCRIPTURE

Acts 1:1-8; 21-26

Diane Stewart
NPC Facilities Director

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

⁴While staying with them, Jesus ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'" ⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' ⁷He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth'..."

²¹ One of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.' ²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.' ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

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

SERMON

Joining the Construction Team
Matthew 5:13-16; 28:16-20

Dr. David Renwick

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

RESPONSE *please sing!*

Stuart Townend & Keith Getty

1. Holy Spirit, living Breath of God, breathe new life into my willing soul;
bring the presence of the Risen Lord to renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause your Word to come alive in me; give me faith for what I cannot see;
give me passion for your purity; Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.
2. Holy Spirit, from creation's birth, giving life to all that God has made,
show your power once again on earth, cause your church to hunger for your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise; lead us on the road of sacrifice,
That in unity the face of Christ will be clear for all the world to see.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Dr. Joyce Emery

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

Rev. Donna Marsh

Cornerstone

Hillsong

Joanna Zorack-Greene, soloist and pianist

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly trust in Jesus' Name.
*Christ alone, Cornerstone! Weak made strong in the Savior's love.
Through the storm he is Lord, Lord of all!*
When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.
When He shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found!
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless stand before the throne!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN *please sing!*

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy

Darwall's 148th

1. Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church in song!
For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!
2. Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,
Empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!
3. Let courage be our friend, let wisdom be our guide,
As we in mission magnify the Crucified!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!
4. Come sing, O church in joy! Come join, O church in song!
For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

BENEDICTION

PLEASE STAY ONLINE FOR OUR GROUNDBREAKING CELEBRATION

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

Fugue on the Theme of the Soissons Carillon, Op. 12

Maurice Duruflé
Mr. Fickley

Let's Stay Connected: Announcements for You

Celebrate our Groundbreaking with us online!

A day we have all been waiting for has finally arrived! Join us [online after the worship service](#) (around noon), as we celebrate the beginning of construction for our Capital Building Project, *Building Together for the Next 50 Years*, with a special online groundbreaking ceremony.

Your Commitment to our Capital Project

Thank you for the enormous generosity that has led us to today's Ground-Breaking ceremony at noon. This is a great moment to make or renew your financial commitment to our capital project.

- Want to give now? [Please click here.](#)
- Or [commit to give in the future here.](#)

Please contact Director of Business Affairs, Leah Skrine at lskrine@nationalpres.org for questions or assistance.

Connect LIVE on Zoom

Following the groundbreaking, about 12:15-12:45 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 12-2 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.

Communion next Sunday, Sept 13

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

Congregational Meeting Online, Sun Sept 20, 12:00 Noon

A congregational meeting is called on Sunday, September 20, online immediately following the 11:00 am worship service, for the joyful purpose of hearing the recommendation of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. Additional business will be a review of Associate Pastor Marsh's terms of call (compensation). You may remember that Dr. Joyce Emery has been serving among us as an Interim. In the weeks ahead, we will thank her and celebrate her profound impact on the life of NPC, even as a new Associate Pastor candidate is presented to the congregation.

Floral Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given with grateful hearts to the glory of God by Donald and Marcia F. Bini in loving memory of their Mothers, Hilda E. Bini and Ione S. Freeman, remembering their September birthdays.

Prayers

Please pray for the Synod of Syria and Lebanon, a capital campaign missions partner – for Lebanon as it recovers from the explosion in Beirut, and for the families of Syrian refugee students in their schools.

Learn & Grow

Wednesday Faith Connection – new series starts this week!

Wednesdays, 7-7:45pm ET

You are invited to join us Wednesday, Sept. 9 on our [Worship Live page](#) as Dr. Renwick begins a new teaching series exploring Paul's Letter to the Galatians.

Adult, Children & Youth Sunday School

We are on a break until Sept 13, when we kick off our fall semester! 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.

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.

Fall Events at NPC

Sunday, Sept 6: **Celebrate our Groundbreaking with us online!**

A day we have all been waiting for has finally arrived! We will be celebrating the kick-off of our Capital Building Project, *Building Together for the Next 50 Years*, with a special online groundbreaking ceremony. Join us around noon [online after the worship service](#). We'll see you there!

Sunday, Sept 6: **(Labor Day Weekend) Special Events** [more info](#)

9:00 am in-person drive up worship at in our parking lot, space will be limited and pre-registration is required. [Please click here to RSVP](#).

11:00 am online worship service

12:00 noon celebrate the beginning of our Building Together construction project with an online groundbreaking!

Sunday, Sept 6: **Kick-off of Sunday teaching series** – Acts [more info](#)

Following Jesus: The Faith Life of the First Christians, teaching series journeying through Acts by Dr. David Renwick

Wednesday, Sept 9: **Kick-off of Wednesday night Faith Connection** – Galatians by Dr. David Renwick [more info](#)

Sunday, Sept 13: Join us online for **Communion** at home! [Click here for the Communion Guidelines](#).

Sunday Sept 13: **Sunday School Fall Kick-Off** [more info](#)

Adult Sunday School [more info](#)

This fall four classes will meet online via the Zoom platform, beginning at 9:30 am. Visit <https://nationalpres.org/adults>.

Children's Sunday School [more info](#)

This fall our Sunday school program will be completely virtual. We are planning to host 4 classes each Sunday online.

Youth Programs [more info](#)

- Virtual Sunday School: Sundays, 9:30 am, beginning September 13
- In-person Youth Group: Sundays, 5:00-6:00 pm, beginning September 13
- Virtual Book Club: Tuesdays, 7:00 pm, beginning September 15

Sunday, Sept 13: **Military Ministry** [more info](#)

All are welcome to join us at 1:00 pm for online fellowship with a guest speaker, Col. James D. Tims, USAF, Chaplain at the National Security Agency.

Saturday, Sept 19 **Drive-Thru Food Drive** [more info](#)

A chance to help! 4:00–6:00 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](#).

Monday, Sept 21: **Adult Fellowship Luncheon** [more info](#)

Join us on Monday, Sept 21 at 1:00 pm online. Our speaker will be Lyman M. Smith, CAPT, CHC, USN, Retired, Director of the Presbyterian Federal Chaplaincies and he will be speaking about "*The How, Where, When of My Life in Ministry*."

Sept 26, Oct 3: **Pathway of Christian Discipleship Class** [more info](#)

What are the next steps along the pathway of learning more about Christianity and National Presbyterian? Find out here!