

NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Staying Connected in Christ
11 AM Online Worship, Sunday, January 17, 2021

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Andantino
(from Symphony No. 2 in D)

Charles-Marie Widor
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. David Renwick

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN *please sing!*

O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer

Stuttgart

1. O my soul, bless your Redeemer: All within me bless God's name;
Bless the Savior, and forget not all God's mercies to proclaim.
2. God forgives all our transgressions, all diseases kindly heals;
God redeems us from destruction, and with us so kindly deals.
3. As it was without beginning, so it lasts without an end;
To our children's children ever shall God's righteousness extend.
4. Unto such as keep God's covenant and are steadfast in God's way;
Unto those who still remember the commandments and obey.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Dr. Quinn Fox

Eternal God, we acknowledge that by your absolute power and infinite intelligence
the whole universe has come into being,
Yet as we look within ourselves, we also acknowledge the appalling fact
that our lives reflect an eternal revolt against your glory and will.
Indeed, we confess that we have not loved you with all our heart, and soul and mind;
and have not loved our neighbors as Christ loved us.
We have lived all too often by our own selfish impulses
rather than by the life of sacrificial love revealed by Christ;
We go the first mile but dare not travel the second.
Have mercy upon us, O Lord.
Forgive us for what we could have been, but failed to be.
Give us the intelligence to *know* your will; the courage to *do* your will;
and the devotion to *love* your will.
In the name and spirit of Jesus we pray.

Martin Luther King, Jr. (adapted)

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

Dr. Renwick

SCRIPTURE

Romans 2:17-3:1-2

Elder Peggy

Lewis

²¹⁷ But if you call yourself a Member of God's Ancient people -- and rely on the Bible and boast of your relation to God, ¹⁸and know his will, and determine what is best because you are instructed in the Bible, ¹⁹and if you are sure that you are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, ²⁰ a corrector of the foolish, a teacher of children, having in the Bible the embodiment of knowledge and truth, ²¹you, then, that teach others, will you not teach yourself?

While you preach against stealing, do you steal? ²²You that forbid adultery, do you commit adultery? You that abhor idols, do you rob temples? ²³You that boast in the Bible, do you dishonor God by breaking what it says in the Bible? ²⁴For, as it is written in the Bible, "*The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.*"

²⁵The religious ritual of circumcision indeed is of value if you obey the rest of the Bible; but if you break the teachings in the rest of the Bible your circumcision has become uncircumcision. ²⁶So, if those who are uncircumcised keep the other requirements of the Bible, will not their uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision? ²⁷Then those who are physically uncircumcised but keep the other teachings in the Bible will condemn you that have the written code and circumcision but break the other teachings.

²⁸For a person is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is true circumcision something external and physical. ²⁹Rather, a person is a Jew who is one inwardly, and real circumcision is a matter of the heart—it is spiritual and not literal. Such a person receives praise not from others but from God.

³¹Then what advantage has the Jew? Or what is the value of circumcision? ²Much, in every way. For in the first place the Jews were entrusted with the oracles of God.

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

SERMON

Privilege and Accountability

Dr. Renwick

Romans 3:9-19; 22a-23

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

CHORAL RESPONSE

Aus tiefer Not

What though I wait the live-long night, and till the dawn appeareth,
My heart still trusteth in God's might; it doubteth not nor feareth:
So let the Israelites in heart, born of the Spirit, do their part,
And wait till God appeareth.

Martin Luther

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Romans 3:9, 23-27; 4:24-25

Rev. Donna Marsh

We believe that there is no distinction between people of any race or background,
religious or secular.
No one has the right to boast of any privileges or achievements before God.
Indeed, all of us have the same need of God's redemption in Christ Jesus –
for all of us have sinned and lack the intimate presence of God.
We believe the Good News
that God the Redeemer gave Jesus, his Son, to all people as a gift.
We believe that in Jesus' sacrificial death,
God proved that he himself does what is right:
fully bearing all judgment for sin and providing us with abundant mercy.
We believe that this gift of mercy becomes effective only by faith
—by relinquishing all our human boasting
—and fully entrusting our lives into the loving arms of Jesus our Lord,
whom God handed over to death for us, and raised to life for us
so that we could be rightly-related to God forever. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Marsh

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

His Voice as the Sound

Rev. Katie Francis

His voice, as the sound of the dulcimer sweet, is heard through the shadows of death;
The cedars of Lebanon bow at his feet, the air is perfumed with his breath.
His lips as the fountain of righteousness flow, that waters the garden of grace,
From which their salvation the Gentiles shall know, and bask in the smiles of his face.
The Roses of Sharon, the lilies that grow in the vales, on the banks of the streams,
On his cheeks in the beauty of excellence glow, and his eyes are as quivers of beams.
His voice, as the sound of the dulcimer sweet, is heard through the shadows of death;
The cedars of Lebanon bow at his feet, the air is perfumed with his breath.

Robert Fairfax Birch
Southern Folk Hymn

Suzanne Karpov Seigart, soprano with Joanna Zorack-Greene, piano

DOXOLOGY*Old Hundredth*

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Francis

HYMN *please sing!*

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift Every Voice

1. Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
 Ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies,
 Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
 Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
 Let us march on, till victory is won.
2. Stony the road we trod, bitter the chast'ning rod,
 Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
 Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
 We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
 We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out of the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
 Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
3. God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
 Thou who hast brought us thus far on our way;
Thou who hast by thy might led us into the light;
 Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
 Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
 Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
Shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,
 True to our God, true to our native land.

James Weldon Johnson

BENEDICTION

Dr. Renwick

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**POSTLUDE**

Prelude on the Epiphany Introit

Maurice Duruflé
Mr. Fickley

Let's Stay Connected! Announcements for You

Floral Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God in recognition of the January 15th birthday and the legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and in gratitude for his significant contributions in making our nation a more perfect union for all.

Learn & Grow

Wednesday Faith Connection

Join us on our [Worship Live page](#) at 7:00 pm on Wednesdays in January. Associate Pastor Dr. Quinn Fox begins the series, *Why Presbyterian? Who We Are, What We Believe, and How We Work*, an exploration into the history, doctrine and polity (how we make decisions) of the Presbyterian tradition.

Adults

Sundays in January at 9:30 am, we're offering a fantastic series of speakers on topics relevant to today. [Please click here for more info or to join the class.](#)

- This week: Ross Douthat, *A Conversation on The Decadent Society: How We Became the Victims of Our Own Success*
- Next week: The newly appointed Chaplain of the U.S. House of Representatives, Margaret Kibben, *There Is a Chaplain in the House!*

Children & Youth

You are invited to join us! You can check out our options for each group here:

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

Prayers

We pray for:

Janice Jackson, Hal Northcott and Frank Timmerman and family

We grieve the deaths of:

Richard Crawford on January 9, 2021.

Don Perkins on January 11, 2021.

Please email lmartin@nationalpres.org to be informed about memorial services.

We pray for our mission partners, including: Foundation for Peace, as they connect the US and the poorest areas of the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Kenya.

Please submit prayer requests to:

Liz Martin, lmartin@nationalpres.org,
202.537.7540

Super SANDWICH Sunday, Feb 7

Before the kickoff to the big game, play your part in the winning drive! Our goal, with your help from home, is to provide 800 sandwich and 100 trail mix bags to Martha's Table. On Feb 7, drive by NPC between 2:00-3:00 pm to drop off your donations, and then head home to catch the first pass! Please [click here](#) for more info.

COVID times are just plain hard!

Feeling isolated or anxious? Grieving in these difficult days? Needing to have a hard conversation with someone? 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. Find these resources on the [Care webpage](#) or contact [Liz Martin](#) or [Leslie Saum](#).

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.

Dr. Renwick’s Teaching Series are now on YouTube

Want to grow in faith? [Click here](#) to watch

- *Colossians*
- *Galatians*
- *Matters of Race*

... and to see other classes on our YouTube channel.

Now Hiring!

- NPC’s Youth and Children’s Ministries are hiring summer interns! Spend your summer working to share Christ’s love with the children and youth of NPC through trips, VBS, and weekly programs. To apply, visit nationalpres.org/jobs.
- Are you organized with great written communication skills? The Communications Department is seeking a part-time Communications Contractor. Visit nationalpres.org/jobs for more information and the job description.

My NPC (NPC Online): New in 2021!

NPC Online will be changing its name - all the same features but called “My NPC!”

What does My NPC (NPC Online) do?

This is our church database, and more. Here you can:

- Access the password-protected church directory
- Update your profile to keep NPC in the loop about address changes etc.
- View your private giving information
- And more!

Don’t have an account?

[Click here](#) and “Request Account.”

How can my church family find me?

Have you checked out your privacy settings? Once you’ve logged in, click on your name in the upper right corner, then *Actions*, then *Privacy* to make any adjustments.

Your Giving and Commitments Make a Difference: Thank you!

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? For easy and safe online giving, please visit nationalpres.org/giving. To give by phone, just text “NPC” to 77977.

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.

SENIOR PASTOR BOOK RECOMMENDATION

Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom, 2018. Written by David W. Blight, professor of history at Yale University, and winner of the 2019 Pulitzer Prize for history. In 1866, Frederick Douglass was invited to speak at National (at that time, known as First Presbyterian Church, Washington, DC) by the long-term pastor, Byron Sunderland.