

# NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## *“Staying Connected in Christ”*

11:00 am Online Worship, April 18, 2021

EASTERTIDE

### WE ENTER GOD’S PRESENCE

**PRELUDE**

Prelude on a Theme of Gustav Holst

Charles Callahan  
Todd Fickley, organ

**CHIMES**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Donna Marsh

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**HYMN** *please sing!*

O God Beyond All Praising

*Thaxted*

1. O God beyond all praising we worship you today,  
And sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;  
For we can only wonder at every gift you send,  
At blessings without number and mercies without end;  
We lift our hearts before you and wait upon your Word.  
We honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.
2. Now hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,  
That we who know your favor may serve you as our King;  
And whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,  
We’ll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:  
To marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,  
And make our joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

**CONFESSION OF SIN** *Led by 5<sup>th</sup> Graders as a Milestone in Worship Education*

Rev. Marsh

Almighty and most merciful Father,  
we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.  
We have followed too much the desires of our own hearts.  
We have broken your holy laws.  
We have left undone the things we ought to have done,  
and have done the things we ought not to have done.

But you, Lord, are rich in mercy.

According to your promises declared to us in Jesus Christ our Lord,  
spare us when we confess our faults,  
and restore us when we are penitent.

And grant, most merciful Father, for his sake,

that we would always live a godly, righteous, and faithful life;  
to the glory of your holy name.

## 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

Rev. Katie Francis

### SCRIPTURE

Romans 13:8-14

Janet Weber

<sup>8</sup> Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' <sup>10</sup> Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

<sup>11</sup> Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup> the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup> let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

### SERMON

The Law of Love

Rev. Francis

Galatians 5:14-26

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

### HYMN *please sing!*

*Thaxted*

The depth of night is passing, the dawn is nearly come,  
And nearer our salvation than when we first began;  
So lay aside the works of deep darkness for the right,  
And let us then be girded with armor of the light;  
For Christ the man from heaven from death has set us free,  
And we through him are given the final victory.

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Rev. Marsh

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**

Day by Day

Rev. Marsh  
Craig Courtney  
*Blott en Dag* in the Style of Frédéric Chopin  
Mr. Fickley, piano

**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.

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus

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!*

Now Praise the Lord

*St. Anne*

1. Now praise the Lord, all living saints, sing praises that endure.  
Our children God does surely bless, our future is secure.
2. Instruction, guidance, holy law, some common names are these  
For God's own rule for living life. What other word can please?
3. Your life-filled Word brings order to the chaos of our days.  
In love you claim us as your own: What better cause for praise?
4. Then praise the Lord, all living saints, sing praises that endure  
Now and forever unto life eternally secure.

**BENEDICTION**

Rev. Francis

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**POSTLUDE**

Festival March on a Theme of Handel

A. D. Miller  
Mr. Fickley, organ

# Let's Stay Connected! Announcements for You

## New to National?

Welcome and thank you for being with us today! Here are some easy ways to connect with us:

- [Click here](#) to sign our online guestbook.
- [Click here](#) to sign up for our e-newsletter.
- Follow us on social media!  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)

**We welcome students from the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School class to our worship service today.** As part of our Milestones in Worship program, the students are helping to lead the congregation in the Confession of Sin. The Milestones in Worship program prepares children to be lifelong worshippers by teaching elements of the worship service in our reformed tradition.

## Mission Meet-up Today at 1:00 pm

Join us online today at 1:00 pm as Doug Gotcher, President of European Christian Mission, International, (ECMI-USA) presents the strategic work of ECM, an international, interdenominational network with the shared passion to see Europe changed by Jesus' love. For information on how to join, please [click here](#).

## Adult Fellowship Broadcast Tomorrow

Please join us online tomorrow, April 19 at 1:00 pm for our next Adult Fellowship Broadcast. Peter A. Byrd, Co-Chairman of our History and Archives Committee and a former tour guide at the US Capitol will be presenting *My 25 years at the US Capitol*. Please [click here](#) for information on how to join.

## Floral Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God in loving memory of the life of Vivian Christy Sansoni, celebrating her 20th birthday on April 16th, from her father, Brian Sansoni, and her family and friends, who love her and miss her dearly.

## Prayers

*We pray for:* recovery for Janice Jackson, Rick Polhamus and Alan Swendiman.

*We pray for our mission partners including:* Birzeit Senior Center as they provide nutritional, social, cultural, psychological, physical, and medical support services to senior citizens in Bethlehem.

*How can we pray for you?*

Please submit prayer requests to Liz Martin, [lmartin@nationalpres.org](mailto:lmartin@nationalpres.org), 202.537.7540

## Race Literacy Class 101 by Little Lights

Little Lights is offering its *Race Literacy 101* class starting April 22, 7:00-9:00 pm. This is an 11-week study and discussion group that meets weekly to learn and discuss, authentically and thoughtfully, the issue of race and racism in an honest yet grace-filled environment. For more information and to register, please [click here](#).

## Drive-Through Collection for Central Union Mission

You can provide a special gift for at-risk men, women, and families by collecting health and personal care items for Central Union Mission to distribute. Please place your donations in a gift box or gift bag and bring it to our collection station at the Stone Hall entrance on April 25, 2:00-3:30 pm. Our goal is 300 gift bags/gift boxes. For more information and suggested items for donation please [click here](#).

## Congregational Meeting

A congregational meeting will take place online after worship on Sunday, May 2, at approximately 12:30 pm. Members are invited to stay online and join us. More information will be coming soon.

## Prayer Gathering for Missions, Thursday, April 22, 12:00–12:30 pm

You're invited to join our Zoom call for 30 minutes of guided prayer for our international mission partners. Please [click here](#) for information on how to join.

## Connect LIVE (Virtual Coffee Hour)

Immediately following online worship, you are invited to a casual virtual gathering on Zoom where you can "pass the peace of Christ" with others and enjoy conversation. To join in, just [click here](#) or click the blue Connect LIVE button on your screen to join in!

## 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.

## Vacation Bible School

[Registration is now open here](#). NPC will be hosting Vacation Bible School June 28 - July 2, 2021. We are planning to be outdoors on the NPC Campus. Join us for this fun, faith-filled adventure! Please contact [mlenhard@nationalpres.org](mailto:mlenhard@nationalpres.org) for more information. Youth wishing to serve at VBS may [sign up here](#).

## Learn & Grow

### Wednesday Night Faith Connection

Faith Connection has resumed. Dr. Renwick will continue to teach through Paul's first letter to the Corinthians at 7:00 pm on Wednesdays. [Join us online!](#)

### 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](#)

### 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](http://nationalpres.org/giving). To give by phone, just text "NPC" to 77977.

**Struggling with Covid isolation? We are here for you.** These pandemic days are just plain hard, yet we are in this together! The Care/Connections staff have prepared resources that might help on topics like isolation, anxiety, and difficult conversations. Use them on your own or share with a friend. Find these resources on the [Care webpage](#) or reach out to [Liz Martin](#) in the Care Office if we can help.

### 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.

## **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.

### **NPC Job Openings**

#### **Bookkeeper**

We're seeking a Bookkeeper with superb attention to detail and strong organization and communication skills. We need a quick learner who will interact well with our congregation and staff. The position requires familiarity with QuickBooks and basic financial operations. It includes accounting and administrative tasks. A minimum of two days per week, working onsite in person is required. Experience in bookkeeping for a non-profit or church is preferred. Please [click here](#) for more info and the job description.

To preserve complete confidentiality, we would prefer that the bookkeeper come from outside our congregation, but we welcome your help in finding qualified applicants. Applications should be sent to [lskrine@nationalpres.org](mailto:lskrine@nationalpres.org).

#### **Communications Contractor**

Are you organized, own some great written communication skills and know what a hashtag is used for? The Communications Department is seeking a part-time Communications Contractor. This is a job with room to grow! Visit [nationalpres.org/jobs](http://nationalpres.org/jobs) for more information and the job description. Please email [cwilkerson@nationalpres.org](mailto:cwilkerson@nationalpres.org) with your cover letter and resume.