

Please note that fewer than ten people are in the sanctuary.

NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“Staying Connected in Christ”

(See Announcements page 4)

11 A. M. ET ONLINE WORSHIP, MAY 17, 2020

WE ENTER GOD’S PRESENCE

PRELUDE Toccata and Fugue in F Major, BuxWV 157 Dieterich Buxtehude

CHIMES Todd Fickley, organ

WELCOME AND PATHWAY OF DISCIPLESHIP Dr. David Renwick

CALL TO WORSHIP

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God.

Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love, does not know God, for God is love.

*God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his 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. We love because he first loved us.*

1 John 4:7-10, 19

Let us lift up our hearts and voices and worship the God who loves us!

HYMN *please sing!* Great God, Your Love Has Called Us Here *St. Catherine*

1. Great God, your love has called us here as we, by love, for love were made.

Your living likeness still we bear, though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.

We’ve come, with all our heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.

2. Great God, in Christ you call our name and then receive us as your own

Not through some merit, right, or claim but by your gracious love alone.

We strain to see your mercy seat and find you kneeling at our feet.

3. Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your joy to share.

Give us your Spirit’s liberty to turn from guilt and dull despair

And offer all that faith can do while love is making all things new.

Brian Wren

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison* Rev. Donna Marsh

Eternal God, we confess that we have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will.

We have broken your law.

We have rebelled against your love.

We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves.

We have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us these and all our sins. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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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

Cate McCrory

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:38-48

Rev. Donna Marsh

³⁸“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ ³⁹But I say to you, do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; ⁴⁰and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; ⁴¹and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. ⁴²Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you. ⁴³“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. ⁴⁶For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

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

SERMON

Love Your Enemies

Dr. David Renwick

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

CHORAL RESPONSE

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

In Babilone

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice which is more than liberty.
God's embrace still offers refuge, shelter where all lost may flee;
Mercy in exchange for failings, grace to love our enemy.

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.

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OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Lord, Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace

Howard Helvey

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace;

where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, let there be pardon;
where there is doubt, let there be faith; where there is anguish let there be hope;
where there is darkness, let there be light; where there is sadness, let there be joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love;

for it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

based on a prayer of Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226

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. Joyce Emery

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!*

Though I May Speak

O Waly, Waly

1. Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.
2. Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,
but not be giv'n by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.
3. Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control. Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide ev'ry deed; by this we worship and are freed.

Hal Hopson

BENEDICTION and PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

Fugue in C Major, BuxWV 174 157

Dieterich Buxtehude

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Let's Stay Connected

Announcements for You

Floral Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Edmund E. Pendleton, Jr. by his family.

Deacons Can Help!

National Presbyterian Church Deacons are called, trained and ordained to be of service in the name of Christ to members and friends of NPC. Each one is actively engaged in caring ministries in the name of Christ during this time of the COVID19 Pandemic. If you are in need of the care of a Deacon (a weekly check in, a person to pray with your regularly, a person who knows your needs) please contact the Care Office at 202-537-7540 or Liz Martin at lmartin@nationalpres.org to be connected to a Deacon. Our Deacons are organized by regions and certainly there is a Deacon close to you.

Maryland Deacons:

Regional Coordinators: Gregg & Lynne Gochnour

Kathy Arveson | Doug Biernacki | Sherrie Biernacki | Chris Chai | Kristy Chikes | David Dragics | Renee Dragics | Janet Gordon | George Kabwe | Amelia Kegan | Joanna Lam | Serge Nya-Wandja | David Orcutt | Lisa Orcutt | Craig Person | Jeanne Su | John Tingley |

Prayer LIVE – Today!

Would you like to pray with a live person today after worship? Please call 1-202 -800-9121 between 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. 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.

Small Groups at National.

- Visit <https://nationalpres.org/small-groups>
- Or contact Amy Thompson at athompson@nationalpres.org

Livestream Faith Connection Wednesdays, 7-7:45 pm ET

Join Dr. Renwick and our musicians as we explore God's word for us in the New Testament Letter to the Colossians – a letter written to one of the most vibrant churches of the first century.

THIS WEEK:

May 20 – Jesus or Religion? (Col. 1:21-29)

UPCOMING:

May 27 – Jesus' Life in Our Lives

June 3 – Jesus' Life in Our Relationships

June 10 – Jesus' Team at Work

Visit nationalpres.org to join in.

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 in this time of world-wide anxiety. Your giving empowers us to serve the vulnerable at this critical time in partnership with our local and international partners.

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- Instagram: @nationalpres