

NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Staying Connected in Christ

11:00 am Online Worship, July 25, 2021

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE My Lord, What a Morning Raymond H. Haan
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Dr. David Renwick

HYMN *please sing!* Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah *Cwm Rhondda*

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.
2. Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield,
Be thou still my strength and shield.
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

William Williams, 1745

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison* Rev. Donna Marsh

Almighty and merciful God, fountain of all goodness,
who knows the thoughts of our hearts:

We confess that we have sinned against you,
and done evil in your sight.

Wash us, we pray, from the stains of our sins,
and give us grace to put away all hurtful things,
so that, being delivered from the bondage of sin,

we may bring forth fruits of repentance, and enter into your promised joy. Alcuin of York

SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

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

Melanie Lenhard

Interim Director of Children's Ministries

SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 8:1-20

Elder David Schauer

This entire commandment that I command you today you must diligently observe, so that you may live and increase, and go in and occupy the land that the LORD promised on oath to your ancestors.

²Remember the long way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, in order to humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commandments.

³He humbled you by letting you hunger, then by feeding you with manna, with which neither you nor your ancestors were acquainted, in order to make you understand that *one does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.*

⁴The clothes on your back did not wear out and your feet did not swell these forty years.

⁵Know then in your heart that as a parent disciplines a child so the LORD your God disciplines you.

⁶Therefore keep the commandments of the LORD your God, by walking in his ways and by fearing him.

⁷For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, ⁸a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, ⁹a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. ¹⁰You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you.

¹¹Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today.

¹²When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, ¹³and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, ¹⁴then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God,

who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, ¹⁵who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions.

He made water flow for you from flint rock, ¹⁶and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good.

¹⁷Do not say to yourself, "*My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth.*"

¹⁸But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

¹⁹If you do forget the LORD your God and follow other gods to serve and worship them, I solemnly warn you today that you shall surely perish. ²⁰Like the nations that the LORD is destroying before you, so shall you perish, because you would not obey the voice of the LORD your God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Road Less Traveled

Dr. Renwick

Hebrews 12:3-13

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

RESPONSE

Be Still, My Soul

Finlandia

Choir

Be still, my soul—the Lord is on thy side! Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;

Leave to thy God to order and provide. In ev'ry change he faithful will remain.

Be still, my soul—thy best, thy heav'nly Friend thru thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Congregation

Be still, my soul! thy God doth undertake to guide the future as he has the past.

Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.

Be still, my soul! The waves and winds still know his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Katarina von Schlegel, 1752

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 b 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.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS *There is a basket in the narthex to receive offerings.*

OFFERTORY

Don't Be Weary Traveler

H. T. Burleigh

Don't be weary, traveler, come along home to Jesus.

Spiritual

My feet were lost along the road (Come along home to Jesus),

Shoulders bore a heavy load (Come along home to Jesus).

The way was long, my eyes were dim (Come along home to Jesus),

My Lord said to lean on him (Come along home to Jesus).

Dr. Michael Denham

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

Dr. Quinn Fox

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.

HYMN *please sing!*

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Austrian Hymn

1. Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion*, city of our God;
God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for a blest abode.
On the rock of ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
2. See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river ever flows thy thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord the giver, never fails from age to age.
3. Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a covering, showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna which God gives them when they pray.

John Newton, 1779

**"Zion" is the mountain on which Jerusalem is built,
and is often used as a name for the Church*

BENEDICTION

Dr. Renwick

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

Sortie in F Major, Op 46, No. 2

Alexandre Guilmant
Mr. Fickley, organ

Let's Stay Connected! Announcements for You

School Supply & Snack Drive- Let's Pack the Pantry **TODAY!**

Today, we are holding a school supply and snack drive benefitting the University of District of Columbia Food Pantry. You may drop off in the Narthex before or after worship or drive through 1:00-3:00 pm. For more info and a shopping list, please visit nationalpres.org/event/school-supply-snack-drive/.

Communion

Next Sunday, August 1, you are invited to share in the celebration of communion. If you will be celebrating from your home please read the nationalpres.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Communion.pdf.

We are looking for contemporary band musicians! Do you love to sing? Play guitar, drums, bass or another instrument? We are now looking for more musicians to volunteer to play with the NPC band in the Contemporary service! Please email Joanna Zorack-Greene for more info at jzorackgreene@nationalpres.org.

Prayers

We grieve the deaths of Karen Wildermuth on July 14, 2021, June Dickinson on July 18, 2021 and Jim Milam on July 20, 2021.

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

We pray for our mission partners including:

Dustin & Sherri Ellington, missionaries at Justo Mwale University in Zambia as they teach New Testament and English.

How can we pray for you?

Please submit prayer requests to Liz Martin, lmartin@nationalpres.org, (202) 537-7540.

WELCOME!

Online and in-person worship:

We are so pleased to welcome you to online and in-person services every Sunday!

Choice of 2 worship services:

Through August 29,

- 11:00 am traditional worship service in the sanctuary and online
- 4:45 pm informal 45-minute worship service in the sanctuary and online.

We are no longer requiring pre-registration for in-person worship!

For now, we will still require masks and seating will be in every other pew. There will be no special check-in procedures.

For more information, please [click here](#) or visit nationalpres.org/return.

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](#) or visit our home page at nationalpres.org to sign up for our e-newsletter.
- Follow us on social media!
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)

Floral Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Eugene (Gene) Martin by his wife, Joyce and their children remembering his July 30th birthday, the underwater landscape theme recalling family scuba diving adventures.

Virtual Coffee Hour (Connect LIVE)

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. 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.

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 (833) 414-9444.

We are here for you during this difficult time. 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 at lmartin@nationalpres.org in the Care Office if we can help.

NPC Job Openings

Want to join a great team?

Visit <https://nationalpres.org/jobs> to read about our openings for the following:

- Director of Serve Ministries
- Communications Contractor (part time)

Learn & Grow

NPC Summer Reading Challenge

Join us in reading “*One Blood: Parting Words to the Church on Race and Love*” by John M. Perkins. For more information and to join, please visit nationalpres.org/event/one-blood-summer-reading-challenge.

Summer Adult Speaker Series:

Please join us online at **9:30 am on Sundays** for our Adult Speaker Series! Each Sunday this summer we’ll hear about an important topic that helps us to think faithfully about our current situation. Visit nationalpres.org/connect/adults/classes/ for the Zoom link and to read all about the speakers and their topics. **If you plan to attend the 11:00 am worship service in-person, you are invited to view the class in our Chapel.** Upcoming speakers are:

- Today: Dr. Lisa Sung, *Understanding Issues That Asian Americans Face in a Racialized Society*
- August 1: Rev. Dr. Brian Blount, *Blindly Following the Lamb with Seven Eyes: My Faith Journey*

Through August 29: Summer Evening Schedule – in-person for all ages

- 4:45: Informal in-person worship
- 5:30: Children and youth Sunday School, fellowship and discussion for adults
- Bring your own dinner for a picnic on the lawn if you'd like to stay for additional fellowship time!

For more information and to register please visit nationalpres.org/event/summer-sundays-at-national/2021-08-29/.



JULY 2021 BUILDING TOGETHER UPDATE

THE GREAT OUTDOORS!

Or even better . . . it's **GREAT** just outside **OUR DOORS!** Many improvements are occurring this summer!



Dr. Renwick at the Upper Plaza glass guardrail



Garden terrace and ramp construction

The new outdoor **UPPER PLAZA** in front of the church on the Sanctuary level is nearly complete! This large, new space is available because of the new Garden Rooms constructed below. On the edge of the upper plaza is a **GLASS GUARDRAIL**, which means that everyone on the upper plaza can easily see our beautiful fountain. The planters that frame both sides of the upper plaza with soon have Ginko trees.

Right below the upper plaza, just outside the Garden Rooms, the new **GARDEN TERRACE, STAIRS** and **RAMP** leading up to the fountain garden are in place and soon grass sod will be added. Sidewalks have also been poured on the fountain level to enable people to easily reach that area.

On the parking lot side of the church just outside the **NEW ENTRANCE**, wide sidewalks have been poured enabling easy access to our entrance closest to the two new elevators and central staircase. Soon landscaping will be added along the walk, helping to make this entrance even more inviting.

And just outside the Youth House, the youth-requested **GAGA PIT** is nearly complete! The gaga pit was designed and constructed by several Facilities Council members and, earlier this month, many of our youth eagerly assisted leaders in assembling it.



Sidewalks at new entrance



Gaga Pit construction crew!

MISSION COMMITMENT



The **International Association for Refugees (IAFR)** uses NPC's Capital Campaign grant to provide essential services to refugees residing in Kakuma and Kalobeye camps in Kenya who were forced to flee war or disaster in their native countries. Approximately 186,000 have been resettled in Kakuma and approximately 40,000 in Kalobeye, with another 3,000 internally displaced Kenyans in Turkana West.

Tom Albinson, Founder and Director of IAFR, directs NPC's grant toward the funding of four major projects in affiliation with two other humanitarian organizations: erecting basic shelters for housing, drilling wells for clean water, providing wood and metal sheets to build churches, and supporting scholarships for five girls to attend high school.



Aerial view of Kakuma Camp



Studying at school



Waiting for camp services

Students in Kenya are required to pay for their own education beyond primary grades, and what education there is in the refugee camps does not lead to a high school diploma. The five girls attend boarding school in different areas of the country with the potential of receiving additional support from Lutheran World Federation to pursue advanced degrees. In spite of the additional constraints associated with Covid, the girls have made academic progress.

Our partnership with IAFR directly impacts the lives of refugees residing in the Kenyan camps.

CAPITAL



CAMPAIGN

THANK YOU to all that have contributed thus far to the Capital Campaign and especially to the **288 families that have paid ahead of schedule or paid above their original commitment amount!**



As expected, the construction project will be completed before all commitments are received which required NPC to borrow money against a previously approved line of credit. However, thanks to every dollar received ahead of schedule and/or above the original commitment, we were able to borrow money much later in the construction process than originally expected. More importantly, **every dollar we receive early from now until the end of the capital campaign will save NPC interest expenses on the existing loan.** We also remain hopeful that prudent project management and additional contributions will allow us to retire all outstanding debt by the end of the capital campaign.

If you not yet joined those how have committed and given to the campaign, ***now is the time!*** Just email or call our Director of Finance and Administration Leah Skrine at lskrine@nationalpres.org or (202) 537-7484.

Email Us: BuildingTogether@nationalpres.org

Capital Project Steering Committee

John Neely (Chair); Mary Jo Pera (Vice Chair), John Lawlah, Susie Westrup, Diane Stewart (Facilities Director), David Renwick (Senior Pastor/ex officio)