

January 3, 2016

Welcome to the NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Leading People to Become
Faithful Followers of Jesus Christ
Together in God's World*

*Are you not of more value
than the birds of the air?*

Matthew 6:26

Dr. David Renwick, *Senior Pastor* · Dr. Quinn Fox, *Associate Pastor*
Rev. Donna Marsh, *Associate Pastor* · Rev. Evangeline Taylor, *Associate Pastor*
Parish Associates: Dr. Nancy Fox and Dr. Donald Wilson

Dr. Michael Denham, *Director of Music Ministries*
William Neil, *Organist* · Hilda Gore, *Contemporary Music Leader*
Ministry Directors: J. Theodore Anderson (Library & Older Adults), Jill Meek (Children)
Leslie Saum (Connections), McLane Stone (Youth), John Turpin (Serve)



TODAY AT NATIONAL

January Term Opening Plenary: "Looking for God in Downton Abbey"

9:30 a.m., Stone Hall

Dr. Quinn Fox will reflect on themes of Christian faith and the Church that are present, implicit, and conspicuously absent, in episodes from the first five seasons of the drama of the aristocratic Crawleys and their servants in post-Edwardian England.

This presentation begins "January Term" in Adult Sunday School – a variety of three-week classes will follow with a closing plenary session on January 31 with Peter Wehner. *See p. 7 for classes beginning next Sunday.*

Learn more: www.nationalpres.org/adults, or pick up a brochure on the information table. No registration is required; all are welcome.

Firmly RootED: Talks for Christian Parents

*Sundays in January, beginning today
9:30–10:30 a.m., Jones Hall (School Gym)*

Join us for 5 weeks of talks specifically for parents, covering topics such as digital media, stress, anxiety, friendships, achievement, and keeping the faith. Find insight into staying Biblically rooted as a parent as your children experience youth and adolescence.

- Jan. 3: Biblically Rooted in the Teen Years
- Jan. 10: Biblically Rooted in the Digital World
- Jan. 17: Biblically Rooted in Christ
- Jan. 24: Biblically Rooted in Church
- Jan. 31: Biblically Rooted in the Home

WEEKLY ON SUNDAYS

Sunday School

9:30–10:30 a.m.

Adults

A variety of learning and discipleship opportunities for adults. *See p. 7 for details.*

Youth

- 6th & 7th grade: Multipurpose Bldg. Rm 101
- 8th grade: Agencies Bldg. Room 102
- 9th–12th grade: Youth House

Children

Drop off and pick up children age 2–5th grade in the school building.

January Food Donations: Canned Tuna

Please bring cans of tuna for mission partner Martha's Table to the baskets outside of Stone Hall or upstairs at the information table. *You can also help by delivering these monthly donations to Martha's Table; contact Nancy Chapman Colb, nancy@nchapman.com.*

GriefShare (resumes next Sunday)

There will be no meeting today; GriefShare resumes next Sunday for those experiencing loss and grief. *To register, please contact: Barb Dear, BDear@NationalPres.org, or 202.537.7540.*

9:15 & 11 A.M. WORSHIP

Sanctuary

Kindly turn off all electronic devices.

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

William Neil, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Evangeline Taylor

One: What is our only comfort in life and in death?

***All:* That we belong body and soul in life and in death,
not to ourselves, but to our faithful savior, Jesus Christ,
who has fully paid for all our sins.**

One: What is our chief end in life?

***All:* To glorify God, and enjoy God forever!**

One: Praise the Lord!

Heidelberg & Shorter Catechisms, adapted

▲ HYMN 210 *verses 1-4*

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

St. Anne

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hymn 210, verse 5

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

O God,

your blessed Son Jesus Christ came to destroy the works of evil,
and to make us children of God and heirs of eternal life.

Grant that having this hope within us,

we may be forgiven our sins, and purified even as he is pure.

When he appears again with power and great glory,

may we be made like him and find our home in his glorious kingdom,

where with you and with the Holy Spirit,

he lives and reigns, ever one God, world without end.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news of the Gospel.

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

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

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.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Children may meet their Sunday School leaders in the Court of Flags:

9:15 a.m. (grades K-5) to join their peers in Sunday School in the school building.

11 a.m. (grades K-2) to go to the children's church program in Church Room 106, returning after the sermon.

SCRIPTURE Psalm 8:3-5, Matthew 6:25-26, 1 Peter 2:9-10

The Word of the Lord. *pew Bible pp. 427, 787-788, 984* 9:15 a.m. Rev. Evangeline Taylor

Thanks be to God.

11 a.m. Dr. Quinn Fox

SERMON

Probing Questions: Is My Life Significant?

Dr. David Renwick

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

RESPONSE

Love Unknown

Choir

Now to your table spread we come, each one in faith

that you alone provide the words of life and death:

In wine and bread, in promised food we find your loving heart, O God.

Congregation

Our empty hands stretch out your mystery to touch

in longing to believe a truth beyond our reach,

to sing in joy, to cry in grief, to know your meaning for our life.

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

Rev. Donna Marsh

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally
begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God
from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he
came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the
Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third
day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into
heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come
again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom
will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from
the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped
and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one
holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for
the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and
the life of the world to come. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

To Know Thee

Hank Beebe

To know thee is the goal my heart has set, to know thee is its greatest prize;

To know thee though I feel that we have me on dark roads where sadness lies;

To know thee when the storms of life increase and I see no sheltered landings;

To know thee in a time a quiet peace that passes my understanding.

To know thee is to come to know the truth, the truth that will set me free.

I know not where my growing faith will lead,

or how I may react in word or deed;

I do know I have a crying need to know thee.

To know thee is to know what I should pray; to know thee is a prayer complete.

To know thee is to finally find my way, with thy bright lamp unto my feet.

To know thee is at first to know thy name, and speak it as one confessing,
And finding that the mention of thy name re-echoes as a blessing.
To know thee is to know my deepest self; to know thee uncovers me.
I know of fame and fortune far and wide,
I know of the rewards that they provide;
I know that I would cast them all aside to know thee.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation This Do in Remembrance of Me

Judy Hunnicutt

This do in remembrance of me; keep this feast and together we'll be.

This do in remembrance of me till you come to my Kingdom.

This is my body broken for you, take and eat in remembrance of me;
broken that you might rise up from death into a life everlasting.

This is my blood, I shed it for you. Take and drink in remembrance of me;
shed that you might rise up from death into a life everlasting.

Prayer of Response 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.

▲ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

▲ HYMN 509 For the Bread Which You Have Broken

Cross of Jesus

▲ BENEDICTION

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

Sandon

God of our life, through all the circling years, we trust in thee;
in all the past, through all our hopes and fears, thy hand we see.

With each new day, when morning lifts the veil,
we own thy mercies, Lord, which never fail.

Hugh Thomson Kerr

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

▲ POSTLUDE

▲ Congregation standing, as able

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Miriam "Mim" Pierce remembering her love of family and friends, and music.

Take flowers to brighten someone's day. If you are planning to visit someone who is ill or home-bound, pick up a vase with fresh flowers on the table outside of Elson Parlor to bring some cheer!

Chapel prayers after worship. A pastor, elder or deacon, and Stephen Minister will be available in the chapel to pray with you privately about your concerns and celebrations.

Need assistance hearing during the service? Assisted listening receivers are available at the information table, to the right as you exit the sanctuary. These can be used in any location in the sanctuary. *Please remember to return the receivers after the service.*

PRAYERS

Please pray for:

The members and friends of National Presbyterian Church.

Prayer requests: nationalpres.org/prayer

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP

Chapel

- PRELUDE Dottie Seep, piano
- WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
- ▲ HYMN 210 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past St. Anne
- PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*
- SCRIPTURE Psalm 8:3-5, Matthew 6:25-26, 1 Peter 2:9-10, Ecclesiastes 1:1-11
- SERMON *Probing Questions: Is My Life Significant?* Dr. David Renwick
- ▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
- COMMUNION
- PRAYER OF RESPONSE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
- ▲ DOXOLOGY Old Hundredth
- ▲ CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION
- ▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

An offering will be received at the center aisle.

CONFESSION OF SIN

O God, your blessed Son Jesus Christ came to destroy the works of evil, and to make us children of God and heirs of eternal life. Grant that having this hope within us, we may be forgiven our sins, and purified even as he is pure. When he appears again with power and great glory, may we be made like him and find our home in his glorious kingdom, where with you and with the Holy Spirit, he lives and reigns, ever one God, world without end.

APOSTLES' CREED

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.

10:50 A.M. WORSHIP

Jones Hall (School Gym)

- ▲ WELCOME SONG A Baby Will Come Bill Wolf
- WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Dr. Don Wilson
- CALL TO WORSHIP Hilda Gore
- ▲ SONG OF RESPONSE Cornerstone Reuben Morgan
- PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*
- SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON
- ▲ RESPONSE OF PRAISE All the Poor and Powerless David Leonard
- SCRIPTURE Psalm 8:3-5, Matthew 6:25-26, 1 Peter 2:9-10
- SERMON *Probing Questions: Is My Life Significant?* Dr. David Renwick
Ecclesiastes 1:1-11
- ▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Dr. Don Wilson
- COMMUNION How Can It Be? Jason Ingram
- PRAYER OF RESPONSE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
- CLOSING SONG *offering received* I Am David Crowder
- ▲ CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION
- ▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Songs used by permission: CCLI # 100655 and #17315

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

January Term 3-Week Classes

Sundays, January 10, 17, and 24

Next week a variety of three-week courses begin in Adult Sunday School:

- The Refugee Crisis & Our Faith (Church Room 105)
- Practical Christian Ethics for Challenging Times (Church Rm. 110/111)
- How God Did It: The Scientific Story of Creation (Church Room 5)
- The Gospel According to *Downton Abbey* (Chapel)

Class descriptions at: nationalpres.org/adults, or pick up a brochure on the information table.

Book Discussion: "Augustine's Confessions"

*Thursdays, January 7–February 4
7:15 p.m., Elson Parlor*

Dr. Quinn Fox will lead a discussion on the final four chapters of this classic book. If you were not able to join us in the fall, you will not be behind – the material is entirely new. We will read Book 10 for discussion this week. Copies of the book are available for sale in the church bookstore. *More info: grow@nationalpres.org or call 202.537.7527.*

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, Jan. 9, 8–9:30 a.m., Stone Hall

Dr. Michael Denham, NPC's Director of Music Ministries, will speak to us on the topic "Don't Pull the Plug: God's Power in Our Lives." Enjoy a hearty breakfast and fellowship. *Reserve your place: Men@NationalPres.org or call 202.537.7527.*

Business & Professional Women's Guild Luncheon

*Saturday, Jan. 9, 11:45 a.m.–2 p.m.
Stone Hall*

As we begin the new year, Hilda Gore will help us take a close look at how to be good stewards of the bodies God has given us, sharing practical information from her recent trip to Kenya with the Weston A. Price Foundation. *Contact Jo Schoolfeld to reserve lunch (\$15): 301.598.6284.*

Second Sunday Sandwich Making

Sunday, Jan. 10, Stone Hall

10:30 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.

All ages can help feed the hungry in our city by making sandwiches for the homeless to be distributed through NPC mission partner Martha's Table. Together we can make 800 sandwiches!

Wednesday Women Bible Study & Prayer Group

Wednesday, Jan. 13, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Church Rooms 110/111 & 105

Women are invited for prayer, followed by a study of Abraham and his journey to Mt. Moriah, followed by writing cards for those in need of encouragement.

Contact: Mildred Wheat 703.931.1490.

NPC's Membership Class: Pathway of Christian Discipleship

Saturday, Jan. 23, 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Learn more about the Christian faith and membership at NPC, and spend time with pastors and church leaders at the Pathway of Christian Discipleship Class. *Contact Kemet Rakiatu to register: KRakiatu@NationalPres.org or 202.537.7578.*

Be Healthy in 2016!

Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.

Agencies Building Lower Level

Come to Body & Soul boot camp to be challenged physically through a variety of exercises, and encouraged spiritually through the music and prayer. A modest fee covers the 8-week session. *Questions? Contact Hilda Gore, HGore@NationalPres.org.*

Earthquake 2011

Since the August 2011 earthquake, National has been pursuing an insurance claim concerning some damage to our facilities. The Session can now report that there was a satisfactory settlement in December. Our insurers require the terms of the settlement to be confidential.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Year 2

January 3–10

Sunday

Psalms 111; 15
1 Kings 3:5-14
Colossians 3:12-17
John 6:41-47

Monday

Psalms 20; 97
Joshua 3:14-4:7
Ephesians 5:1-20
John 9:1-12, 35-38

Tuesday

Psalms 99; 110
Jonah 2:2-9
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 11:17-27, 38-44

Wednesday

Psalms 72; 67
Isaiah 49:1-7
Revelation 21:22-27
Matthew 12:14-21

Thursday

Psalms 46; 114
Deuteronomy 8:1-3
Colossians 1:1-14
John 6:30-33, 48-51

Friday

Psalms 47; 93
Exodus 17:1-7
Colossians 1:15-23
John 7:37-52

Saturday

Psalms 47; 114
Isaiah 45:14-19
Colossians 1:24-2:7
John 8:12-19

Sunday

Psalms 104; 29
Genesis 1:1-2:3
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:29-34

BIBLE READING FOR 2016

Several Bible reading guides are available as we begin the new year:

- **Read the Bible's "Top 100"** essential passages in 20 weeks – get to know the main themes of the Old and New Testaments by the summer. There are a variety of resources available to help you follow this plan: you can pick up a guide at the information table, you can listen to the daily readings our website, nationalpres.org, and you can purchase an additional concise study resource at the church bookstore.
- **Read through the New Testament** in a year. Pick up a guide at the information table, or download a PDF from our website, nationalpres.org.
- **Read through the entire Bible** in a year. Pick up a guide at the information table, or download a PDF from our website, nationalpres.org.

WELCOME, GUESTS!

We are so glad you are here today.

- **Welcome packets** and information on the church are available at the information table to the right as you exit the sanctuary and at the entrances to the church building.
- **Childcare** is available from 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m. for infants through age four. Nursery rooms are located in the main church building ground floor, rooms 16 and 7.
- Enjoy **coffee and cookies** downstairs in Stone Hall after worship.
- Our **Connections Team**, wearing blue badges, are here to welcome you and answer questions.
- **Tours of the church** on Sundays or weekdays are available upon request. *Please call: 202.537.7529.*

In order to share God's word with the world, our services are video recorded and broadcast online. If you do not wish to appear on camera, seating is available in the balcony and back six pews of the sanctuary.



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