











February 26, 2023 First Sunday in Lent

Welcome to NATIONAL Presbyterian Church

Leading people to become faithful followers of Jesus Christ together in God's world

Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge. 1 Peter 2:12

Transitional Senior Pastor

Associate Pastors

Parish Associates

Music

Rev. Allan Poole Rev. Donna Marsh

Dr. Quinn Fox

Rev. Lisa Larsen Dr. Nancy Fox

Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus

Dr. Michael Denham (Director) Todd Fickley (Organist) Joanna Zorack-Greene

(Contemporary Music Leader) Ministry Directors

Jonathan Edwards (Serve) Kristin Franke (Youth & Families)

Jill Meek (Children)

Leslie Saum (Connections)

TODAY AT NPC

For more information about all our events, please visit the Events page on our website at nationalpres.org. You may also stay up to date on weekly events by subscribing to our e-newsletters at the bottom of our website's home page.

Questions? Email us at info@nationalpres.org!

New Member Recognition at 11:00 am Service with Reception Following

Today is New Member Connections Sunday! In addition to welcoming our newest members into the church family, we invite everyone to wear your name tags, and come meet them and enjoy a lovely reception after the 11:00 am service down in Stone Fellowship Hall.

Molly Beste, College Park, MD Andy Filardo, Arlington, VA Joseph Harvey, Washington, DC Susan Harvey, Washington, DC Borislava Marcheva, Washington, DC Beth Profit, Arlington, VA Mark Shelhamer, Reisterstown, MD

Christy Sandora, Washington, DC Stephen Sandora, Washington, DC Steve Stavropoulos, College Park, MD Cindi Strong, Redding, CA David Strong, Redding, CA Nicholas Strychacz, Washington, DC Jennifer Wiseman, Reisterstown, MD

If you are interested in membership here at National or just learning more, please attend the next one-day in-person Pathway of Christian Discipleship classes on April 23. For more information, please click here or contact Kemet Rakiatu at KRakiatu@NationalPres.org or 202.537.7578.

LENTEN SEASON EVENTS

For more information about all of our Lenten and Easter events, please visit our <u>Easter page</u>, accessible on the home page of our website.

Dinner, Drama, Discussion Wednesday Nights in March, 6:00 pm Stone Fellowship Hall & online

You won't want to miss this exciting and creative experience! On March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, deepen your faith and connection with others while exploring C.S. Lewis' classic *The Great Divorce*.

- 6:00 pm: Dinner to pre-register, please <u>click here</u> or visit our Events webpage.
- 6:30 pm: Readers theatre, in which our readers will bring the text to life!
 This will be followed by large group conversation, sharing insights, and reflecting on the themes of the book and its relevance to our lives today.

Can't join us in person? Please <u>click here</u> or visit our Events webpage for the Zoom link.

6-Week Lenten Small Groups It's not too late to join!

Please join us for the six-week small group discussion of C.S. Lewis' *The Great Divorce*, an imaginative journey of discipleship. Please <u>click here</u> or visit our Events webpage to register now so you can be placed in a group.

Holy Week & Easter

- Palm Sunday: April 2, 8:45 & 11:00 am
- Palm Sunday Prayer Gathering: April
 2, 12:15-1:00 pm
- Maundy Thursday: April 6, 7:00 pm
- Good Friday: April 7, 7:00 pm
- Easter Worship: April 9, 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 am
- Easter egg hunt: April 9 after the 10:00 am worship service

8:45 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

Welcome! Masks are optional at our services, with the exception of the balcony and the lectern-side transept (at the front on your right), where masks are required.

Our ushers are happy to guide you to your preferred seating area.

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING Improvisations Joanna Zorack-Greene, keyboard

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Donna Marsh

▲ OPENING SONG

Speak, O Lord

Keith and Kristyn Getty

Speak, O Lord as we come to you to receive the food of your holy word.

Take your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in your likeness, that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love

and our deeds of faith.

Speak, O Lord and fulfill in us all your purposes, for your glory.

Teach us Lord full obedience, holy reverence, true humility.

Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of your purity.

Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see, your majestic love and authority Words of power that can never fail; let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of your plans for us. Truths unchanged from the dawn of time, that will echo down through eternity.

And by grace we'll stand on your promises;

and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.

Speak, O Lord till your church is built and the earth is filled with your glory.

▲ Prayer of Adoration

CONFESSION OF SIN in unison

Lord Jesus,

As you were despised by the world, grant us grace to imitate you.

With your image always before us,

Help us see that only servants of the Cross find your way of blessedness and peace.

Hear us, O Lord, as we confess our sins. Forgive us, we pray. Save us.

Thomas à Kempis

SILENT CONFESSION AND KYRIE sung first by band, then congregation

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Believe the good news of the Gospel.

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

▲ Congregational Response

Nettleton

Glory be to God the Father, glory also to the Son, glory to the Holy Spirit, Ever Three and ever One;

As it was in the beginning, now and evermore shall be; Alleluia and thanksgiving, now and through eternity.

▲ Affirmation of Faith 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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Jill Meek,

Director of Children's Ministry

Children ages 5 to 5th grade will then be dismissed for Children's Chapel. Parents may take children age 4 and under to the nursery.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 2:11-17

Jason Hafemeister

¹¹Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. ¹²Conduct yourselves honorably among the gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge. ¹³For the Lord's sake accept the authority of every human institution, whether of the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴or of governors, as sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. ¹⁵For it is God's will that by doing right you should silence the ignorance of the foolish. ¹⁶As servants of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for evil. ¹⁷Honor everyone. Love the family of believers. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON Rev. Allan Poole

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Dr. Quinn Fox

Offering plates are at the back of the sanctuary to receive your tithes and gifts as you exit.

OFFERING SONG Take My Life Chris Tomlin

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.

Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King.

Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold.

Take my intellect and use ev'ry power as you choose.

Chorus: Here am I, all of me. Take my life it's all for thee.

Here am I, all of me. Take my life it's all for thee.

Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour at your feet its treasure store, take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee. *Chorus*

Children return to join their parents in the sanctuary.

▲ 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

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.

▲ CLOSING SONG Lead Me to the Cross Brooke Ligertwood

Savior, I come, I quiet my soul, remember

redemption's hill where your blood was spilled, for my ransom,

And everything I once held dear, I count it all as loss.

Chorus: Lead me to the cross where your love poured out.

Bring me to my knees, Lord, I lay me down.

Rid me of myself, I belong to you.

O, lead me...lead me to the cross.

You were as I, tempted and tried, human.

The word became flesh, bore my sin and death, now you're risen, And everything I once held dear, I count it all as loss. *Chorus*

Lead me to your heart. (3x) Chorus

▲ Benediction and Passing the Peace of Christ

Rev. Poole

▲ SENDING NPC Band

▲ Congregation standing, as able

11:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

Welcome! Masks are optional at our services, with the exception of the balcony and the lectern-side transept (at the front on your right), where masks are required.

Our ushers are happy to guide you to your preferred seating area.

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude My Jesus Calls to Me, Op. 122, No. 1

Johannes Brahms Todd Fickley, Organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Donna Marsh

▲ HYMN 151 Crown Him with Many Crowns Diademata

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE Seek the Lord John Yarrington

Seek the Lord while he may be found. Call upon him while he is near.

CONFESSION OF SIN in unison

Lord Jesus,

As you were despised by the world, grant us grace to imitate you.

With your image always before us,

Help us see that only servants of the Cross find your way of blessedness and peace.

Hear us, O Lord, as we confess our sins. Forgive us, we pray. Save us.

Thomas à Kempis

SILENT CONFESSION AND KYRIE *sung first by choir, then congregation*Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news of the Gospel.

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

▲ RESPONSE OF PRAISE

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.

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Rev. Marsh

RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS

Exchange of Vows

Prayer in unison

God of love, we rejoice to receive these newest brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ.

May they discover your grace in Jesus Christ, through membership in this church family.

May your love hold them, your truth guide them, your joy delight them. Gracious God, touch us all again this day with your grace of belonging. Give us new lives for old, new spirits, new faith, and new commitment in place of all that has grown tired or stale in our lives.

We have heard your call and are made new by your Spirit. So may we rise and go from here to discover whatever awaits us, in joy and in trust. To the glory of your Name. Amen.

Children ages 5 to 5th grade will then be dismissed for Children's Chapel. Parents may take children age 4 and under to the nursery.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE 1 Peter 2:11-17 Elder Barbara Mitchell

¹¹Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. ¹²Conduct yourselves honorably among the gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge. ¹³For the Lord's sake accept the authority of every human institution, whether of the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴or of governors, as sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. ¹⁵For it is God's will that by doing right you should silence the ignorance of the foolish. ¹⁶As servants of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for evil. ¹⁷Honor everyone. Love the family of believers. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

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

SERMON Rev. Allan Poole

RESPONSE Pierce My Ear, O Lord Steve Croft

Pierce my ear, O Lord, my God; take me to your door this day.

I will serve no other god; Lord, with you I'll stay.

You have paid the price for me; with your blood you ransomed me;

I will serve you gratefully; your servant I will be.

Based on Exodus 21:1-6

Children return to join their parents in the sanctuary.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Dr. Quinn Fox

There are offering plates at the back of the sanctuary to receive your tithes and gifts as you exit.

OFFERTORY If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee

Wer nur den lieben Gott

If thou but suffer God to guide thee, with hopeful heart through all thy ways,

God will give strength, whate'er betide thee, to bear thee through the evil days.

Who trusts in God's unchanging love builds on the rock that nought can move.

Only be still, and wait Gods leisure in cheerful hope, with heart content

To take whate'er thy Keeper's pleasure and all-discerning love hath sent.

No doubt our inmost wants are clear to One who holds us always dear.

Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways, but do thine own part faithfully;

Trust the rich promises of grace; so shall they be fulfilled in thee.

God never yet forsook at need the soul secured by trust indeed. Georg Neumark, 1657 Translated by Catherine Winkworth, 1855

▲ 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

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 May the Mind of Christ Our Savior

St. Leonard

May the mind of Christ our Savior live in us from day to day,

By his love and power controlling all we do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly in our hearts from hour to hour, So that we my truly triumph only through God's pow'r.

May the Spirit fill and guide us with God's wisdom from above;

True disciples known to others only by our love.

May the strength of Christ now gird us, confident each day to be Faithful servants fully clothed in his humility.

May the light of Christ shine through us, never hidden, never dim, To the glory of the Father, visible in him.

▲ BENEDICTION Rev. Poole

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

Who trusts in God's unchanging love builds on the rock that nought can move.

▲ Passing the Peace of Christ

Dr. Fox

▲ POSTLUDE My Faithful Heart Rejoices, Op. 122, No. 4

Johannes Brahms Mr. Fickley, Organ

▲ Congregation standing, as able

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sundays at National

Our worship services are in the Sanctuary and online on our <u>Watch</u> page.

• 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship

• 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages

• 11:00 am: Traditional Worship

Adult Sunday School

Spring semester is **February 5-May 21**, with the exception of April 9, Easter. For more detailed class descriptions, please <u>click here</u> or visit our adult Classes webpage.

Class	Teacher(s)	Location
Confessing and Believing: The Apostles' Creed as Challenge and Gift	Dr. Quinn Fox	Chapel and online Zoom: <u>click here</u> or visit our Classes webpage
Matthew: The Promised Messiah Has Come	Donna Duss, Margaret Gardner, Holly Novak	Garden Room C
Racial Reconciliation: Looking Back to Move Forward	Peggy Lewis, Lewrene Glaser, Nancy Fox	Room #209
Into the Sunrise of Eternity: Reflections on the Journey Home	R.V. Seep	Garden Rooms A & B
Parent Gathering	Kristin Franke and others	Jones Hall, Education Building

Youth Sunday School

Please <u>click here</u> or visit our <u>Youth webpage</u> online for more information about Sunday School and other youth events. Youth grades 6-12, please come to the Multipurpose Building for Sunday School. We'll meet there briefly then split to smaller groups by age.

Children's Sunday School

Please <u>click here</u> or visit our <u>Children's webpage</u> to read about our Children's Ministry.

- The Nursery rooms are available for all infants to walkers, up to age 4, 8:30 am-noon, including during the Sunday School hour.
- Children ages 2-3 years have their Sunday school program in the Toddler Room in the main church building.
- Classes for age 4 through 5th grade are held in the Education Building (National Presbyterian School).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Turkey-Syria Earthquake Relief

Join us in our efforts to support earthquake victims by donating as we partner with local organizations to bring hope and aid to those in need. All proceeds will be given to World Renew. We will also be sending \$10,000 from our NPC Disaster Relief budget to The Outreach Foundation. Please click here to give or scan the QR code below. You may visit our webpage, accessible through our home page, for more information. Thank you for making a difference!

Men's Breakfast Saturday, March 4, 8:00 am

All men are invited to join us in-person on the first Saturday of every month for our men's breakfast. Mitch Gore will be our speaker in March. Please email Kristi Teems at kteems@nationalpres.org for more information.

2nd Sunday Sandwich Making March 12 after 11:00 am Worship

Join us in Stone Fellowship Hall to make 400 sandwiches for Martha's Table. McKenna's Wagon delivers food to the hungry on the streets of DC every day of the year. This is a great event for the whole family!

Adult Fellowship Luncheon March 13 at 12:00 pm Stone Fellowship Hall

This month, our focus is on you, our valued older adults, and your input on how we can continue to grow and strengthen our ministry. To make a reservation, please contact Wray Muoio at wmuoio@nationalpres.org or 202.537.7540.

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS

Invite a friend to join you for one or more of our Lent & Easter events!

- You might be surprised to learn that one-third of people are likely to attend a worship service when personally invited by someone they know. It's the perfect way to draw others into the church and closer to Christ.
- In addition to personal contact, there are many electronic and digital tools that can also serve as excellent conversation starters. Follow this link to discover some of these useful tools and try them out for yourself. We would love to hear about your experience and which ones work best for you.



Called to Care

May we pray for you?

Please contact the Care Office if you would like to receive prayer or if you would like your name included on our Care & Joy list. All prayer requests are kept confidential and are prayed for by our Prayer Team. Please <u>click here</u> or contact us at <u>careoffice@nationalpres.org</u> or call 202.537.7540.

Carry each other's burdens. Galatians 6:2

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Coming Week at a Glance

For information about all of these events, please see the <u>Events page</u> on our website.

Sunday, February 26

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: New Members Reception
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group

Wednesday, March 1

• 6:00 pm: Dinner, Drama, Discussion

Saturday, March 4

• 8:00 am: Men's breakfast

Sunday, March 5

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group

Sign up now to join a mission trip in July!

Are you interested in going on a short-term mission trip? We will serve alongside our partner, Foundation for Peace in the Dominican Republic, July 8-14. Email Jonathan at jedwards@nationalpres.org or call 202.537.7505 for more information or questions. Please register by March 8.

Join Our Easter Welcome Team

Easter is just around the corner and we are looking for friendly volunteers to serve as a warm and welcoming presence on this joyful day! As our church community gathers to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, we want to ensure that everyone feels welcomed and valued. Whether you are greeting attendees at the door, directing them to seating, or assisting with other needs, your service is crucial to making our Easter celebration a success. To join our Easter Welcome Team, please visit our Serve at Church page or click here. You can also contact Leslie Saum directly at LSaum@nationalpres.org or 202.537.7494 for more information.

Vacation Bible School Sign up today!

Join us June 26-30 for *Stellar VBS: Shining Jesus' Light*. We'll have fun with friends and explore God's Word through games, crafts, music, and more! VBS is open to kids aged 4 years–rising 5th graders. We also need adult volunteers to lead crews of campers or activity stations. Campers and volunteers can <u>sign up online</u> or contact Jill Meek at <u>imeek@nationalpres.org</u>.

Summer of Serving Returns!

Get ready to make a positive impact in your community this summer! Summer of Serving 2023 is coming and we're ready to bring together a team of dedicated individuals to support our mission partners in the DMV area. Last summer's pilot program was a huge success and we can't wait to build on the momentum this year. Join the lead team and be a part of a meaningful and hands-on outreach initiative. To get involved, reach out to LSaum@nationalpres.org or call 202.537.7494. Make this summer count by serving those in need and creating lasting change.

THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE!

New to National? Welcome!

Welcome and thank you for being with us today! Please stop by the Welcome Center just outside the sanctuary. We would love to meet you and we have a gift for you! Here are some easy online ways to connect with us:

- <u>Click here</u> or the button on our Watch page to sign our online guestbook.
- <u>Click here</u> or visit our home page at nationalpres.org to sign up for our e-newsletter.
- Follow us on social media!
 <u>Facebook</u> | <u>Instagram</u> | <u>YouTube</u>

Children and Youth E-newsletters

If you have little ones or youth in your household and would like to receive our updates, please:

- <u>Click here</u> or visit our Children's page for kids up to 5th grade.
- <u>Click here</u> or visit our Youth page for kids in middle and high school.

Prayers

We pray for:

those who are lonely.

We pray for:

International Justice Mission as they fight for protection and restitution for victims of human rights crimes and for transformation of broken justice systems throughout the world.

How may we pray for you?

Please submit prayer requests to Wray Muoio in the Care Office, wmuoio@nationalpres.org
202.537.7540.

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.

You can support the general ministry of National:

- Go to <u>national pres.org/giving</u>
- Text "NPC" to 833.414.9444
- Scan the QR code below:



Want to support the Capital Building Campaign? Please click <u>here</u> or visit our Giving webpage.

For help or questions about giving, please contact our Finance Office at 202.537.7495 or email our Director of Finance and Administration, Leah Skrine at lskrine@nationalpres.org.

Today's Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Joanna Lam in loving memory of her grandmother Wee Siew Kim and her mother Judy Lam, in remembrance of their birthdays in February and March.



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