

March 12, 2023  
Third Sunday in Lent



Welcome to  
**NATIONAL  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

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

*Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God,  
serve one another with whatever gift  
each of you has received.*

1 Peter 4:10

Transitional Senior Pastor  
Associate Pastors

Rev. Allan Poole  
Rev. Donna Marsh  
Dr. Quinn Fox  
Rev. Lisa Larsen

Parish Associates

Dr. Nancy Fox  
Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus

Music

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)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

For more information about all our events, please visit the Events page on our website at [nationalpres.org](http://nationalpres.org). Questions? Email us at [info@nationalpres.org](mailto:info@nationalpres.org)!

## **2nd Sunday Sandwich Making Today 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 Tomorrow, 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 for this in-person event, please contact Wray Muoio at [wmuoio@nationalpres.org](mailto:wmuoio@nationalpres.org) or 202.537.7540.

# LENTEN SEASON EVENTS

For more information about all of our Lenten and Easter events, please visit our [Easter page](#), accessible on the home page of our website.

## **Dinner, Drama, Discussion**

### **Wednesday Nights in March, 6:00 pm Stone Fellowship Hall & online**

It's not too late to join in this exciting and creative experience! On March 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 [click here](#) or visit our Events webpage.
- 6:30 pm: Readers' theater, 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 [click here](#) or visit our Events webpage for the Zoom link. If you missed a session, you can visit our [Resources webpage](#) to see videos from previous weeks.

## **Holy Week & Easter**

- Palm Sunday Worship: April 2, 8:45 & 11:00 am
- Palm Sunday Prayer Gathering: April 2, 12:15-1:00 pm, Chapel
- 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

## **6-Week Lenten Small Groups**

### **It's not too late to join!**

Have you enjoyed the Wednesday night *Dinner, Drama, Discussion* program and want to go deeper? You can still join one of the six-week small groups exploring C.S. Lewis' *The Great Divorce*, an imaginative journey of discipleship. Please [click here](#) or visit our Small Groups webpage to register now so you can be placed in a group.

# 8:45 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

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*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. Lisa Larsen

▲ OPENING SONG Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing *Nettleton*

Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.  
By your grace may I remember, hither by thy help I've come.  
And I hope by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.  
Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Oh let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to thee:  
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, Lord take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Maker of all things, Judge of all,  
We acknowledge our manifold sins,  
Which we have committed—by thought, word, and deed—  
Against your divine majesty.  
You are just in your judgment.  
We earnestly repent of our misdoings;  
Remembrance of them is grievous to us;  
Their burden is intolerable.  
Have mercy on us, most merciful Father.  
For the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive what is past.  
Grant hereafter that we may serve you in newness of life,  
To the honor and glory of your name.

*Book of Common Prayer*

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

Rev. Larsen

*Children ages 5 to 5<sup>th</sup> 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 4:1-11

Elder William Bennett, Jr.

Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same intention (for whoever has suffered in the flesh has finished with sin), <sup>2</sup>so as to live for the rest of your earthly life no longer by human desires but by the will of God. <sup>3</sup>You have already spent enough time in doing what the Gentiles like to do, living in licentiousness, passions, drunkenness, revels, carousing, and lawless idolatry. <sup>4</sup>They are surprised that you no longer join them in the same excesses of dissipation, and so they blaspheme. <sup>5</sup>But they will have to give an account to him who stands ready to judge the living and the dead. <sup>6</sup>For this is the reason the gospel was proclaimed even to the dead, so that, though they had been judged in the flesh as everyone is judged, they might live in the spirit as God does.

<sup>7</sup>The end of all things is near; therefore be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. <sup>8</sup>Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. <sup>9</sup>Be hospitable to one another without complaining. <sup>10</sup>Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. <sup>11</sup>Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

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

SERMON

Dr. Quinn Fox

*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. Nancy Fox

#### OFFERING SONG

Reckless Love

Cory Asbury

Before I spoke a word, you were singing over me. You have been so, so good to me.

Before I took a breath, you breathed your life in me.

You have been so, so kind to me.

**Chorus:** *O the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God.*

*O it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine.*

*I couldn't earn it. I don't deserve it. Still, you give yourself away.*

*O the overwhelming, never-ending reckless, love of God.*

When I was your foe, still your love fought for me. You have been so, so good to me.

When I felt no worth, you paid it all for me.

You have been so, so kind to me. **Chorus**

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

#### ▲ 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

This Is Amazing Grace

Phil Wickham

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness,

whose love is mighty and so much stronger?

The King of glory, the King above all kings.

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder

and leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?

The King of glory, the King above all kings.

**Chorus:** *This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love, that you would take my place,*

*that you would bear my cross. You would lay down your life,*

*that I would be set free. Jesus, I sing for...all that you've done for me.*

Who brings our chaos back into order, who makes the orphan a son and daughter?

The King of glory, the King of glory.

Who rules the nations with truth and justice,

shines like the sun in all of its brilliance?

The King of glory, the King above all kings. **Chorus**

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain! Worthy is the King who conquered the grave (3x)

Worthy, worthy, worthy! **Chorus**

#### ▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Quinn Fox

#### ▲ SENDING

NPC Band

▲ Congregation standing, as able



▲ 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. Larsen

*Children ages 5 to 5<sup>th</sup> 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 4:1-11

Christina Vanderbloemen

Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same intention (for whoever has suffered in the flesh has finished with sin), <sup>2</sup>so as to live for the rest of your earthly life no longer by human desires but by the will of God. <sup>3</sup>You have already spent enough time in doing what the Gentiles like to do, living in licentiousness, passions, drunkenness, revels, carousing, and lawless idolatry. <sup>4</sup>They are surprised that you no longer join them in the same excesses of dissipation, and so they blaspheme. <sup>5</sup>But they will have to give an account to him who stands ready to judge the living and the dead. <sup>6</sup>For this is the reason the gospel was proclaimed even to the dead, so that, though they had been judged in the flesh as everyone is judged, they might live in the spirit as God does.

<sup>7</sup>The end of all things is near; therefore be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. <sup>8</sup>Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. <sup>9</sup>Be hospitable to one another without complaining. <sup>10</sup>Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. <sup>11</sup>Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

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

SERMON

Dr. Quinn Fox

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

HYMN 366

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

St. Catherine

*Children return to join their parents in the sanctuary.*

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus

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

OFFERTORY                      The Meditations of My Heart

Elaine Hagenberg

May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart  
be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord,

O Lord, my Rock, O Lord, my strength, O Lord, my God and my Redeemer.

Based on Psalm 19:14

▲ 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 252

O Lord, You Are My God and King

*Jerusalem*

▲ BENEDICTION

Dr. Fox

▲ CHORAL AMEN

Elaine Hagenberg

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Stoltzfus

▲ POSTLUDE

O God Beyond All Praising

Gustav Holst  
Mr. Fickley, Organ

▲ Congregation standing, as able



# SUNDAY SCHEDULE

## Sundays at National

Our worship services are in the Sanctuary and online on our [Watch](#) 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 [click here](#) or visit our adult Classes webpage.

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

## Youth Sunday School

Please [click here](#) or visit our [Youth webpage](#) 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 [click here](#) or visit our [Children's webpage](#) 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).

## Alpha Marriage 7-week Course

### Beginning Sunday, April 16 at 9:55 am in Stone Fellowship Hall

Do you want to learn practical tools and techniques to strengthen your connection with your partner? If so, then this course is for you! Over the course of 7 weeks, you and your partner will engage with video teachings that provide valuable insights and practical tips for building a healthy and happy marriage in all ages and stages of life. Please [click here](#) or visit our Events webpage to register.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 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 [sign up online](#) or contact Jill Meek at [jmeek@nationalpres.org](mailto:jmeek@nationalpres.org).

### Visit Our Library!

If you're looking for more C.S. Lewis books or Lent resources, please visit our library on the 2nd level. If you have questions, one of our friendly librarians would be happy to help!

### Easter Dedication Flowers

Would you like to honor or remember a loved one by supporting NPC's Easter flower displays? You will find Flower Ministry envelopes on the tables outside the sanctuary. You may make your donation to NPC by check or online, noting "Easter Flowers" on the memo line.

### 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!



### This Coming Week at a Glance

For information about all of these events, please see the [Events page](#) on our website.

#### Sunday, March 12

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:00 pm: 2nd Sunday Sandwich Making
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group

#### Wednesday, March 15

- 6:00 pm: Dinner, Drama, Discussion

#### Saturday, March 18

- 10:00 am: Serve Our City - Unique Learning Center

#### Sunday, March 19

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Moldova prayer meeting in Room #109
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group

### Hearing Assistance

NPC has a great system for hearing assistance in any location in the sanctuary. Small hearing assistance packs are available in the racks just outside of the Sanctuary, along with instructions for use.

If you're watching online, our Facebook broadcast has closed captioning. Please [click here](#) or search for National Presbyterian Church on Facebook to watch. You do not need a Facebook account to watch.

# SERVE WITH NATIONAL

## **Serve Our City: Unique Learning Center Saturday, March 18, 10:00 am**

Do you have a passion for investing in a child's education? Join us Saturday, March 18, 10:00 am -12:30 pm as we partner with Unique Learning Center to provide students with one-on-one help to improve their reading skills. Unique Learning Center will provide all lessons and materials. If you would like to help, please contact Serve Director Jonathan Edwards at [jedwards@nationalpres.org](mailto:jedwards@nationalpres.org).

## **Adult Fellowship Service Project Wednesday, March 29**

Join us for an Adult Fellowship Service Project 10:30 am -1:30 pm in Stone Fellowship Hall. Help us prepare 1,000 gift bags for Easter Sunday containing mints and NPC info cards. You'll enjoy fellowship and lunch as we work together to welcome worshipers on Easter! Please [click here](#) or visit our Events webpage to reserve your spot.

## **Youth Group Dinners**

Interested in supporting NPC's youth as they grow spiritually by feeding them physically? [Sign up here](#) or email [kputnam@nationalpres.org](mailto:kputnam@nationalpres.org) to provide a simple dinner for a youth group night, and get a chance to meet the youth in a casual setting!

## **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](mailto:LSaum@nationalpres.org) or call 202.537.7494.

## **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](mailto:LSaum@nationalpres.org) or 202.537.7494 for more information.



### **Called to Care**

## **Stephen Ministry**

Our Stephen Ministers provide one-to-one care for those who are experiencing challenging times, such as the death of a loved one, hospitalization, divorce, loneliness, chronic illness, unemployment, spiritual crisis, a new job, and more. Typically, a Stephen Minister will meet with you confidentially one hour per week by phone or Zoom. Your identity and your conversations are held in confidence. Contact the Care Office at [careoffice@nationalpres.org](mailto:careoffice@nationalpres.org) or call 202.537.7540 for more information.

*Learn to do good; seek justice; rescue the oppressed; defend the orphan;  
plead for the widow. Isaiah 1:17*

# THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE!

## New to National? Welcome!

Welcome and thank you for being here 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:

- [Click here](#) or the button on our Watch page to sign our online guestbook.
- [Click here](#) or visit our home page at [nationalpres.org](http://nationalpres.org) to sign up for our e-newsletter.
- Follow us on social media!  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)

## Children and Youth E-newsletters

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

- [Click here](#) or visit our Children's page for kids up to 5th grade.
- [Click here](#) or visit our Youth page for kids in middle and high school.

## Prayers

### We celebrate with:

Grant and Brandy Treaster  
in the birth of their daughter.

### We pray for:

Martha's Table as they engage the DC community in developing sustainable solutions to poverty.

### How may we pray for you?

Please submit prayer requests  
to the Care Office,

[careoffice@nationalpres.org](mailto:careoffice@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 [nationalpres.org/giving](http://nationalpres.org/giving)
- Text "NPC" to 833.414.9444
- Scan the QR code below:



Want to support the Capital Building Campaign? Please click [here](#) 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](mailto:lskrine@nationalpres.org).

## Today's Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Alfred S. Perry, remembering his March 8th birthday.



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