

February 7, 2016



Welcome to the NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

COMMUNION

*Jesus said to them,
"Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,
so that you may be children of your Father in heaven."
"Woe to you, Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!"*

Matthew 5:44, 23:25

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

Adult Sunday School Classes

9:30 a.m., *beginning today*

Winter/Spring term classes begin today:

- **Life in Progress:** Seeking God Amidst Life's Complexities *School Room 236*
- **The Early Church:** From the Apostles to the Council of Chalcedon *Church Room 110/111*
- **Apocalypse Now:** The Challenge of Revelation for Contemporary Disciples *Elson Parlor*
- **Wrestlers:** Engaging Contemporary Issues *Agencies Lower Level*
- **Invitations from God** *Church Room 5*
- **Nehemiah:** Finding Courage to Face Life's Challenges *Agencies 105*
- **Men's Sunday School Class** *Culbertson Library*

4th Grade Milestone

Today we welcome our 4th graders as they receive communion alongside their church family. They have been learning about communion in Sunday School as their "Milestone in Worship Education." Milestones teach our K-5th graders about our worship liturgy, preparing them to become lifelong worshippers and affirming their important place in our worshipping community.

WEEKLY ON SUNDAYS

Sunday School

9:30–10:30 a.m.

Adults

Classes listed above; descriptions available in the brochures at the church entrances.

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.

Youth Superbowl Party

6:15–8:30 p.m., *Yellow House*

Come and bring a friend to watch the game!

The Circle Family Group

4:30–6:30 p.m., *Jones Hall (School Gym)*

Families are invited for our monthly gathering of a potluck meal, play time, and a separate discussion for parents with a corresponding activity for children.

REGISTER TODAY:

Small Groups *Through March 13*

Be part of a small group this winter for Christian community, prayer, and discussion. Find your group: nationalpres.org/small-groups

Women's Retreat *April 8–10*

Leigh McLeroy will lead with a reflection on being "Fully Alive!" from Ephesians, chapter 2. Register in Stone Hall or online: nationalpres.org/womens-retreat

Vacation Bible School *July 11–15*

Kids age 4 through rising 5th graders enjoy a week packed full of faith and fun. Register online: www.planetreg.com/NPCVBS16

Adult Fellowship Luncheon

Monday, February 8, Noon, Stone Hall
Register in Stone Hall; details on pg. 7.

February Food Donations: Canned Fruit

Please bring cans of fruit 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

12:30 p.m., *Admin. Bldg. Room 108*

Those experiencing loss and grief will find encouragement and support during weekly classes led by Rev. Evangeline Taylor. Each class is self-contained; attend whenever you are able. 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

Lobe den Herren
Bright Morning Star
This Little Light of Mine
Jauchzet dem Herren
Saint Teresa's Blessing

Hugo Distler
arr. Fred Squatrito
arr. Moses Hogan
Heinrich Schütz
Zebulon M. Highbe
Muskingum University Concert Choir
Dr. Zebulon M. Highben Director

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Quinn Fox

▲ HYMN 263

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

St. Denio

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

Come, Ye that Love the Lord

Alice Parker

Come, ye that love the Lord, and let your love be known;
Join in a song of sweet accord, and thus surround the throne.
The sorrows of the mind be banished from this place;
Religion never was designed to make our pleasures less.
Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God;
But favorites of the heav'nly King may speak their joys abroad.

Albion

Isaac Watts
NPC Chancel Choir

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Almighty God,

We have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone the things we ought to have done
and have done the things we ought not to have done;
And there is no health in us.

But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent;
According to your promises declared in Jesus Christ our Lord.

And grant, for His sake, that we may forever live to the glory of your holy name.

SILENT CONFESSION AND 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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. David Renwick

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 23:1-3, 13-15

9:15 a.m. Dottie McKnight

The Word of the Lord.

pew Bible pp. 804-805

11 a.m. Deacon Bob Cryer

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Probing Questions: Is Religion Inherently Dangerous? Dr. David Renwick

Deuteronomy 20:10-16; Isaiah 2:2-4

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

RESPONSE

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Spiritual

Choir

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart (in my heart): Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

In my heart (in my heart), in my heart (in my heart): Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Congregation

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart (in my heart);

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

In my heart (in my heart), in my heart (in my heart);

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

▲ Affirmation of Faith

Nicene Creed

9:15 a.m. Rev. Evangeline Taylor

11 a.m. 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.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal

Alice Parker

Hark, I hear the harps eternal ringing on the farther shore,

Invitation

As I near those swollen waters with their deep and solemn roar.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, praise the Lamb! Hallelujah, Hallelujah, glory to the great I AM!

And my soul, though stained with sorrow, fading as the light of day,

Passes swiftly o'er those waters to the city far away.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, praise the Lamb! Hallelujah, Hallelujah, glory to the great I AM!

Souls have crossed before me, saintly, to that land of perfect rest;
And I hear them singing faintly in the mansions of the blest.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, praise the Lamb! Hallelujah, Hallelujah, glory to the great I AM!

Muskingum University Concert Choir

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

11 a.m. *We welcome our 4th graders for their Milestone in Worship Education*

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation Alleluia from “Brazilian Psalm”

Jean Berger

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O Lord, cymbals and the sounding harp I do not have,

But I'll make a fair procession for you, O blessed Lord.

I will praise you with the waving of palms! I will dance and sing your praises!

Muskingum University Concert Choir

Prayer of Response and The Lord's Prayer

▲ HYMN 504

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Union Seminary

▲ BENEDICTION

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

Zebulon M. Highben

Let nothing disturb you. For all things are passing, God never falters. God alone suffices.

Theresa of Avila

Muskingum University Concert Choir

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

▲ POSTLUDE

Grand Choeur Dialogue

Eugene Gigout

William Neil, organ

▲ Congregation standing, as able

Today we welcome the Muskingum University Concert Choir and Chamber Singers, under the direction of Dr. Zebulon Highben. The Muskingum Concert Choir is the premier choral ensemble at Muskingum University, a liberal arts college of the Presbyterian Church-USA. In May 2016, the choir will tour Germany and the Czech Republic, performing in Berlin, Halle, Leipzig, Prague, and Heidelberg.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of General Reginald C. Harmon by Susan and Richard Meyer.

Consider a floral dedication to honor a loved one or celebrating a milestone with the NPC family. For scheduling, please contact Janice Sessing at 202.422.2300 or NPCFlowers@gmail.com

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 at the chapel (down the hall to the right as you exit the sanctuary) 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 NPC members and friends.

Prayer requests: nationalpres.org/prayer

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP

Chapel

- PRELUDE Dottie Seep, piano
- WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
- ▲ HYMN 263 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise St. Denio
- PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*
- SCRIPTURE Matthew 23:1-3, 13-15; Deuteronomy 20:10-16; Isaiah 2:2-4
- SERMON *Probing Questions: Is Religion Inherently Dangerous?* Dr. David Renwick
- ▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
- SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION Dr. Don Wilson
- 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

See p. 3

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.

10:50 A.M. WORSHIP

Jones Hall (School Gym)

- ▲ WELCOME SONG Standing on the Promises "PROMISES," arr. Sandra Eithun
Grace Chimes Handbells
- WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Evangeline Taylor
- CALL TO WORSHIP Hilda Gore
- ▲ SONG OF RESPONSE In Christ Alone Getty
- PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*
- SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON
- ▲ RESPONSE OF PRAISE Overwhelmed Michael Weaver
- SCRIPTURE Matthew 23:1-3, 13-15
- SERMON *Probing Questions: Is Religion Inherently Dangerous?* Dr. David Renwick
Deuteronomy 20:10-16; Isaiah 2:2-4
- ▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed Rev. Evangeline Taylor
- SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION No Greater Love Bergé, arr. John Behnke
Grace Chimes Handbells
- PRAYER OF RESPONSE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
- CLOSING SONG *offering received* Build Your Kingdom Here Rend Collective
- ▲ CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION
- ▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Songs used by permission: CCLI # 100655 and #17315

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ash Wednesday Worship

Feb. 10, 7–8 p.m., Sanctuary

Dr. David Renwick will preach on the message: “Keep Breaking My Heart.”

Wednesday Evenings in Lent

Beginning Feb. 17

Worship: 7–8 p.m., Chapel

Soup & Salad meal: 5:30–6:45 p.m.,
(\$8 suggested) Court of Flags

Meal, music, prayer, preaching on Micah, and communion, as a time of mid-week spiritual refreshment in our busy lives.

“Powerful Talk from Micah”

Feb. 17 “The Power of a Great God”

Feb. 24 “The Power of a Few Small Sins”

March 2 “The Power of a Great Vision”

March 9 “The Power of the Few
and the Small”

March 16 “The Power of a Great
Question”

Adult Fellowship Luncheon: “Presidential Papers”

Monday, Feb. 8, Noon, Stone Hall

Dr. Eleanor Elson Heginbotham will share some highlights and wisdom from correspondence between her father, former NPC Pastor Rev. Dr. Edward Elson, and eight U.S. Presidents. Enjoy lunch and time together at this special multimedia program. Sign up today in Stone Hall. (\$12 with advanced registration; \$15 if not registered in advance.)

Wednesday Women Bible Study & Prayer Group

Wednesday, Feb. 10, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Church Rooms 110/111 & 105

Women are invited for prayer, followed by a study of the events on Mt. Ebal and Mt. Gerizim, followed by writing cards for those in need of encouragement.

Contact: Mildred Wheat, 703.931.1490.

Afternoon TEA Women's Group

Wednesday, Feb. 10 1:30–2:45 p.m.

Elson Parlor

Women with school-aged children are invited to a monthly gathering for Biblical Teaching, Encouragement and Adoration of God using *Romans: The Gift of God*, a study by Timothy Keller. Contact: NPCafternoonTEA@gmail.com.

James Madison University Chamber Choir

Next Sunday, Feb. 14

Come 10 minutes early to 9:15 & 11 a.m.

worship for a special prelude concert presented by the Madison Singers Chamber Choir from James Madison University. Jonathan Alger, President of JMU and former NPC elder, will read Scripture at both services.

At 4 p.m. that afternoon, the JMU Music Department will present a free “President’s Day Concert” featuring multiple ensembles.

Sandwich Making

Next Sunday, Feb. 14, Stone Hall

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 up to 800 sandwiches!

Join the Palm Sunday Festival Choir

Rehearsals begin: Saturday, Feb. 20

10 a.m.–1 p.m., Chapel

All singers are invited to be part of this year’s Palm Sunday concert, Mozart’s *Requiem*, on March 20 at 5 p.m. Come and bring your friends to sing this masterpiece together. (Additional rehearsals on Feb. 27 and March 5, 12, 18, and 19.)

Youth Mother/Daughter Craft Day

Saturday, Feb. 20, 2–4 p.m., Yellow House

Middle and high school girls and their moms are invited for a fun afternoon of crafts and time together.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Year 2

Feb. 7–14

Sunday

Psalms 103; 139
Malachi 4:1-6
2 Corinthians 3:7-18
Luke 9:18-27

Monday

Psalms 5; 29
Proverbs 27:1-6, 10-12
Philippians 2:1-13
John 18:15-18, 25-27

Tuesday

Psalms 42; 133
Proverbs 30:1-4, 24-33
Philippians 3:1-11
John 18:28-38

Wednesday

Psalms 5; 51
Amos 5:6-15
Hebrews 12:1-14
Luke 18:9-14

Thursday

Psalms 27; 102
Habakuk 3:1-18
Philippians 3:12-21
John 17:1-8

Friday

Psalms 22; 130
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Philippians 4:1-9
John 17:9-19

Saturday

Psalms 43; 143
Ezekiel 39:21-29
Philippians 4:10-20
John 17:20-26

Sunday

Psalms 84; 32
Daniel 9:3-10
Hebrews 2:10-18
John 12:44-50

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Tutor a Child

Wednesdays, 7–8:30 p.m., Mount Sinai Baptist Church (1615 3rd St NW)
The Unique Learning Center, one of NPC's local mission partners, needs tutors! Help make learning exciting and make a difference in a child's life. *Contact: Sherry Woods (202.716.4106) or Margaret Gardner (202.621.7888).*

A/V Team

Bring the Gospel to others through video and audio production as part of our A/V Team. Our current volunteers span all ages, and training is provided! *Contact: Bill McNett, BMcNett@NationalPres.org or 202.537.7576.*

NPC Library and Archives

If you enjoy books and meeting people, consider helping in the Satellite Library (right outside of Stone Hall) periodically on Sundays, or serving with the Library and Archives Committee (which meets 6 times a year). *Contact Jim Anderson at 202.537.7529 or library@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** are available upon request; *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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Weather Closure Policy

To find out if NPC is closed during inclement weather, please check the nationalpres.org website, or call the main phone at 202.537.0800. **If there is no message posted, campus is open.** Your safety is our priority, so please use your personal judgment before travelling.