The National Presbyterian Church

A MINISTRY OF GRACE, PASSIONATE ABOUT CHRIST'S MISSION IN THE WORLD

Happy are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Matthew 5:4

ORDER OF WORSHIP

9:15 & 11 а.м.

Kindly turn off your cell phone and other electronic devices.

Entering God's Presence

Prelude Aria Flor Peeters

William Neil, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP Dr. David Renwick

One Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort,

All Who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.

One Let us lift up our hearts and voices, and together worship God!

▲ HYMN 487 When Morning Gilds the Skies Laudes Domini

▲ Prayer of Adoration

BELL INTROIT O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing arr. Kevin McChesney

Christ speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive;

The mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the poor in heart believe.

Grace Chimes

Carolann Haley, Director

CONFESSION OF SIN in unison

Almighty and gracious God,

Grant to your faithful people forgiveness of sin

that we may be at peace with you, and serve you with a quiet mind.

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your fatherly care that casting on you all our grief, we may know the consolation of your love.

Help us die to sin and rise to newness of life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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) for Sunday School in the school building.

11 a.m. (Grades K–2) for Children's Church in Church Room 106. Children return after the sermon.

Welcome and Announcements

Dr. David Renwick

PATHWAY OF DISCIPLESHIP

Encouraging one another to love and good deeds.

Hebrews 10

SCRIPTURE

John 11:17-28, 32-44

9:15 a.m. Elder Jonathan Dickey 11 a.m. Elder Margaret Gardner

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Beatitudes: Good Grief!

Dr. David Renwick

Amos 7:4-7, Isaiah 61:1-3a; Matthew 7:1-5

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Response

Blest Are They

David Haas and Michael Joncas

Choir

Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God.

Blest are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled.

Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you; holy are you!

Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you; holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

Congregation

Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God.

Blest are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled.

Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you; holy are you! Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

▲ Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

9:15 a.m. Rev. Donna Marsh 11 a.m. Dr. Quinn Fox

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.

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.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Cry No More

Dan Forrest

In the shadow where we linger, in this darkness we call home,

Where the sighs are deep and doubtful and our aspirations groan,

All is not in vain, beloved, our travail is not unknown.

Christ within us, Christ among us, Christ the first and Christ the last;

Love incarnate, hold your children till the storm of life is past.

Though we have not faith to seek him, Christ himself will draw us near,

Deep abiding rays of mercy cast their light on lonely fear.

Cry no more, you poor and weary, our redeeming Lord is here.

Christ within us, Christ among us, Christ the first and Christ the last;

Love incarnate, hold your children till the storm of life is past.

Sure defender, never failing, radiant Savior, holy Friend,

Gift of glory, hope of heaven, call us now to faith again!

Alleluia! Blest compassion, grace is shining without end!

Christ within us, Christ among us, Christ the first and Christ the last;

Love incarnate, hold your children till the storm of life is past. Cry no more.

▲ Doxology Lasst uns erfreuen

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; *Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

- ▲ Prayer of Dedication
- ▲ HYMN 411 Arise, Your Light Is Come! Festal Song
- ▲ Benediction
- ▲ CHORAL AMEN
- ▲ Passing the Peace of Christ
- ▲ Postlude and Fugue in G Major J.S. Bach
 - ▲ Congregation standing, as able

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God, in loving memory of the September birthday of Dr. Mildred K. Ellis, accomplished musician, and dedicated member of NPC.

Take flowers to brighten someone's day. Are you planning to visit someone who is ill or home-bound? Take along flowers to bring some cheer! Bud vases with fresh flowers may be found on the table outside of Elson Parlor.

Chapel prayers after worship: If you have a joy or concern on your heart, come to the chapel down the hall to the right as you exit the sanctuary. A pastor, elder or deacon, and Stephen Minister will be there to pray with you privately about your concerns and celebrations.

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.
- Enjoy coffee and cookies downstairs in Stone Fellowship Hall after worship.
- Members of our Connections Team, wearing purple badges, are here to welcome you and answer questions.
- **Tours of the church** on Sundays or weekdays are available upon request. Please call for scheduling and information: 202.537.7529.

TODAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS, YOUTH, AND CHILDREN 9:30 – 10:30 a.m., see p. 8 for locations

LAST WEEK TO JOIN: FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY Sundays, 9:30 a.m., Church Room 105

Dave Ramsey will challenge and motivate you, through DVD lectures and discussion, to eliminate debt, save for the future, and give like never before! Purchase class materials in the bookstore or online: www.daveramsey. com. Contact: Holly Novak, HNovak@ NationalPres.org.

YOUTH GROUP

5-7:30 p.m., Youth House

Gather for food, fun, and fellowship!

- Middle School (6th–8th grade): 5–6 p.m., Youth House
- NPC Youth dinner (parents welcome!): 5:45–6:45 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room
- High School (9th–12th grade): 6:30–7:30 p.m., Youth House

THE CIRCLE FAMILY GROUP 4:30–6:30 p.m., School Playground

Families with young children are invited for a playgroup and potluck meal followed by a discussion on "Tools for Transitions: Getting Ready for the Next Phase" led by experienced preschool teacher Dianne Torresen.

YOUNG ADULTS 12:15 p.m., Church Room 110/111

"Across the Aisle" group for young adults (ages 22-35) gathers for lunch and conversation. *Contact: Under35@ NationalPres.org.*

University Luncheon 12:15 p.m., Parlor

All college students are invited for a homecooked lunch after the 11 a.m. service. Come drop by! (There is a new twice monthly gathering for college students – see more on pg. 6!)

PHOTO BOOTH Stone Hall

All are invited to come by before or after worship to have your picture taken and enjoy donuts and lemonade. *Please stop by if you haven't yet had your photo taken!*

U.S. NAVY SEA CHANTERS CONCERT 2–3 p.m., Sanctuary

Enjoy well-known tunes, sacred medleys, patriotic music and favorites at this free, family-friendly and fun performance. *More concerts: nationalpres.org/concert-series.*

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2014 FOLLOW UP 12:15 p.m., Church Room 5

Do you have questions or comments about the Session letter mailed to the congregation on the week of Sept. 10? A follow up discussion will be led by Dr. Renwick after 11 a.m. worship.

SIGN UP TODAY

Visit tables in Stone Hall this morning to sign up for:

- LAST DAY TO REGISTER: "Journeys" Women's Brunch, Sept. 27, see pg. 6 for details
- Adult Fellowship Luncheon, Sept. 29, see pg. 6 for details
- "The Quest for Character" Fall Conference, Oct. 18, see pg. 7 for details register online: nationalpres.org/conferences
- Princeton Seminary and University Outing, Nov. 1, see pg. 7 for details

THIS WEEK AND UPCOMING

NPC...and You!

Saturday, Sept. 27, 8:30 a.m.—3 p.m. Find out more about membership at NPC at the Pathway of Christian Discipleship class. You'll have time with the pastors and church leaders, and learn more about the Christian faith. Please register today! Contact Kemet Rakiatu: 202.537.7578, or KRakiatu@ NationalPres.org.

BOOK STUDY: G.K. CHESTERTON'S "ORTHODOXY: THE ROMANCE OF FAITH" Thursdays in Sept. & Oct. 7:15 p.m., Elson Parlor

Dr. Quinn Fox will lead a study on this classic of Christian apologetics (written at age 34!) which was a major milestone in 20th century Christian thought. *Orthodoxy* has influenced and shaped the faith of countless believers, including C.S. Lewis. *Please read Chapter 4 for the Sept. 25 discussion*.

"JOURNEYS" WOMEN'S BRUNCH Saturday, Sept. 27, Stone Hall 10 a.m.—12 p.m.

Sign up today (last day to register!) and invite a friend to a wonderful morning of conversation and inspiration. Melinda Moore, Sandy Sharpe, and Charley Stone will share and celebrate stories of God's faithfulness in their lives. Register (\$15) in Stone Hall today! Free childcare for children under 5 available with RSVP to childcare@nationalpres.org.

GRIEFSHARE

Sundays beginning Sept. 28, 12:30 p.m. Administration Building Room 108
Those experiencing loss and grief will find

Those experiencing loss and grief will find encouragement and support during weekly classes led by Rev. Evangeline Taylor.

PRAYER MINISTRY

Please pray for: Loris Witherspoon

To make a confidential prayer request, visit: www.NationalPres.org/prayer

THE GLOBAL CHURCH IN SOUTH AMERICA

Sept. 28, 12:15–2 p.m., Elson Parlor Dr. Elizabeth Sendek, President of the Biblical Seminary of Colombia, is a leading voice in Christian higher education in Latin America. As a woman leader in her field, she is much in demand as an international consultant, lecturer, and speaker. She presented most recently in Brazil on the topic Global Theological Education, at a conference sponsored by the Lausanne Movement.

ADULT FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

Monday, Sept. 29, Noon, Stone Hall Helen Holt will share about her time as "The Real 'Mrs. Smith' Who Went to Washington." Register (\$10) today in Stone Hall or call 202.537.0800. Join us for this wonderful occasion in which both caterer (Mabel Sawhill) and speaker (Helen Holt) are centenarians!

SHARE CHRIST'S LOVE AS A STEPHEN MINISTER

Training classes: Sept.30–Apr. 14
Stephen Ministers work alongside our pastors in providing emotional and spiritual support to people going through difficult times. If you have an empathetic heart and the gift of listening, please consider joining our Stephen Ministry team at NPC. To find out more, stop by Stone Hall today after all services. Contact: Lucille Smiley at 202.832.1596 or Dottie McKnight at 301.320.5168.

University Fellowship

Wednesday, Oct. 1, 8 p.m., Yellow House All university students are welcome for conversation and food on the 1st and and 3rd Wednesday of every month for conversation, scripture study, and food.. Contact: McLane Stone, MStone@NationalPres.org.

GUEST PREACHER FROM ISRAEL: ARCHBISHOP ELIAS CHACOUR

Sunday, Oct. 5, 9:15 & 11 a.m.

We are delighted that Archbishop Chacour from Ibillin, Israel will be our guest preacher on World Communion Sunday.

Father Chacour has been a bold and winsome witness for Jesus Christ in Israel for over 30 years, pastoring a church, and forming a network of schools servicing 2,500 students in Ibillin, a small Arab village in the Galilee region, near Nazareth, where Christians and Muslims have lived together peacefully for hundreds of years.

Fr. Chacour's story is told in his book, *Blood Brothers*, available at our bookstore.

A Q&A with light refreshments will follow the 11 a.m. service.

"THE QUEST FOR CHARACTER" FALL CONFERENCE

Saturday, Oct. 18, 8:45 a.m.—Noon What does it mean to live a life of character? How can we live lives that are filled with meaning, rather than merely accomplishments? Come explore what a deep life of character looks like, and invite a friend!

David Brooks, *New York Times* columnist and author of a forthcoming book on the subject, and **Andy Crouch**, executive editor of *Christianity Today*, will challenge us to consider how to live a life of depth—one shaped by lasting virtues that truly matter.

Register (\$15) today in Stone Hall or online at national pres. org/conferences

ADULT FELLOWSHIP PRINCETON OUTING Nov. 1, Princeton, NJ 6:45 a.m.—8:30 p.m.

Sign up today for an outing to Princeton University's art museum and chapel, and Princeton Theological Seminary's library and chapel. The visit will include talks and tours, special music, and lunch with Seminary President (and former NPC Senior Pastor) Dr. Craig Barnes. *Register today* (\$98) in Stone Hall or call 202.537.7529.

SEPTEMBER'S FOOD DONATION: CANS OF TUNA

Please bring donations of canned tuna for mission partner Martha's Table to the baskets outside of Stone Hall, or upstairs at the information table.

Help gather food donations or pack and deliver food to Martha's Table! Contact: Nancy Chapman Colb, nancy@nchapman.com.

SEEKING CHILDREN'S MUSIC LEADER

Pass along the joy of music to NPC's kids (grades K-2)! We are seeking a Children's Music Leader with demonstrated ability to engage with, teach, and excite children in the areas of music and worship. This 2-3 hour/week paid position will provide weekly music leadership to our young children's choir, often to Sunday School classes, and occasionally during events. Contact: Jill Meek, JMeek@NationalPres.org, 202.537.7535.

FLOWER MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY Thursdays, Noon

Volunteers are needed for an hour once a month on Thursday afternoon to help receive and condition flowers for Sunday mornings. No prior experience is required; training is provided. *Contact: Nora Szeto, noraszeto@hotmail.com.*

VOLUNTEER AT INGLESIDE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Build friendships and enable Ingleside residents to participate in worship services! Once a month, help wheel Ingleside residents from their rooms to a Sunday morning (10:30 a.m.) hymn sing or Sunday afternoon (4 p.m.) chapel service held at Ingleside. *Contact: Rebekah Liu at Paulreb3@msn.com*

NPC ONLINE DIRECTORY www.nationalpres.org

Log on to NPC Online (link on the bottom of the NPC website) to:

- View current congregational directory.
- Set up recurring or one-time giving.
- View your contribution history.
- View and update your contact info. Questions? Communications@NationalPres.org

CLASSES AND GROUPS

ADULTS

LECTIONARY READINGS

Year 2

September 21 - 28

Sunday

Psalms 67; 93 Esther 3:1-4:3 James 1:19-27

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Monday

Psalms 57; 47 Esther 4:4-17 Acts 18:1-11

Luke 1:1-4, 3:1-14

Tuesday

Psalms 54' 99 Esther 5:1-14 Acts 18:12-28 Luke 3:15-22

Wednesday

Psalms 65; 91 Esther 6:1-14 Acts 19:1-10 Luke 4:1-13

Thursday

Psalms 143; 116 Esther 7:1-10 Acts 19:11-20 Luke 4:14-30

Friday

Psalms 88; 20 Esther 8:1-8, 15-17 Acts 19:21-41 Luke 4:31-37

Saturday

Psalms 122; 63 Esther 9:1-32 Acts 20:1-16 Luke 4:38-44

Sunday

Psalms 108; 23 Hosea 1:1-2:1 James 3:1-13 Matthew 13:44-52

Sunday Classes, 9:30 a.m.

Church Room 105 Financial Peace University Men's Sunday School Class NEW Agencies 101 • Exploring John's Gospel: A Bible Study Agencies 105 • A Living Faith for Hostile Times: Guidance from the Apostle Paul Church Room 5 • The Church in the 20th Century Church Room 110/111 Agencies Lower Level • Wrestlers: Engaging Contemporary Issies • Ephesians: Growing Up in Christ, Learning to be the Church Elson Parlor

Groups

• Across the Aisle (ages 22–35) Sundays, 12:15 p.m. Church Room 110/111 • Adult Fellowship Luncheon 3rd Monday of the month, Noon Stone Hall

 Cub Scout Troop 1946, Every other Tuesday, 6–7 p.m. MP Bldg. & Agencies Lower Level
 "Real Moms" Cofeehouse Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. Church Room 107 • Wednesday Women 2nd Wednesday of the month, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Church Room 110/111

• Boy Scout Troop 1946, Wednesdays, 7–8:30 p.m. Agencies Lower Level • Afternoon T.E.A. Bible Study 2nd Wednesday of the month, 1:30-3 p.m Elson Parlor • WomenConnect 3rd Wednesday of the month, 7-8:45 p.m. Elson Parlor

• Community Bible Study Thursdays, 7-9 p.m.

• Life in Progress: Seeking God Amidst Life's Complexities

• Men's Breakfast 1st Saturday of the month, 8 – 9:30 a.m. Stone Hall • Saturday Morning Bible Study Saturdays, 8:30 – 10 a.m. Satellite Library

• Women in the Word Bible Study Saturdays, 9:30–11 a.m. Church Room 105 • GriefShare Resumes September 28, 12:30 p.m. Admin. Building Room 108 Business & Professional Women's Guild Luncheon Resumes Oct.4 Stone Hall

YOUTH

Sunday School, 9:15 - 10:30 a.m.

• Middle School (6th & 7th grade) MP Building; Multipurpose Room 101 Middle School (8th grade) Agencies 102 • High School (9th – 12th grade) Youth House

Youth Group, Sundays, 5–7:30 p.m.

• Middle School (6th–8th grade): **5–6 p.m.** Youth House • NPC Youth dinner (parents welcome!): 5:45-6:45 p.m. Multi Purpose Room • High School (9th-12th grade): **6:30-7:30 p.m.** Youth House

CHILDREN

Preschool Sunday School, 9:15 – 10:30 a.m.

Parents drop off children between 9:10-9:15 and pick up children in their classrooms at 10:30 a.m. • 4-year olds: School Room 106 2-year olds: Church Room 8

• 3-year olds: School Room 104

Elementary Sunday School, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Children meet teachers in the school gym at 9:30 a.m., whether coming directly to Sunday School, or from worship after the Time for Children. Parents, pick up children in their classrooms at 10:30.

• Kindergarten: School Room 108 • 1st Grade: School Room 132 2nd Grade:School Room 200

 3rd Grade: School Room 208 4th Grade: School Room 206 5th Grade: School Room 242

Children's Church, 11 a.m.

Church Room 106

School Room 236

Agencies 105

Children grades K-2 begin in worship, attend the children's church program, and return after the sermon.

CHILDCARE 8 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

 Crib Room: Babies 6 weeks – Crawling Church Room 16 • Walker Room: Toddlers and walkers up to 4 yrs. Church Room 7

MUSIC

• Chancel Choir Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. Choir Room • Contemporary Music Team Wednesdays 6:30 – 8 p.m. Chapel • Grace Chimes Handbells Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. Church Room 110

• Children's Choir (K-5th grade) Sundays, 10:30-10:55 a.m. School Building • Youth Choir (6th grade +) Sundays, 10:25-10:55 a.m. Mulipurpose Room

BOOKSTORE & LIBRARY Sundays 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

• Culbertson Library (also: M-TH 8 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.) Admin. Bldg., Second Floor • Satellite Library & Moehrle Bookstore Adjacent to Stone Hall

THE NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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