



December 21, 2014

THE NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LEADING PEOPLE TO BECOME
FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST
TOGETHER IN GOD'S WORLD

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

*Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me.
For your name's sake, lead me and guide me.*

Psalm 30:10,13

Dr. David Renwick, *Senior Pastor* · Dr. Quinn Fox, *Associate Pastor*
Rev. Donna Marsh, *Associate Pastor* · Rev. Evangeline Taylor, *Associate Pastor*
Parish Associates: Rev. Nancy T. Fox and Dr. Donald R. Wilson
Rev. 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), and Sally Swanson (Serve)

ORDER OF WORSHIP

9:15 & 11 A.M.

Kindly turn off your cell phone and other electronic devices.

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Greensleeves

Richard Purvis
William Neil, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP

▲ HYMN 56 *verses 1-4*

The First Nowell

The First Nowell

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

9:15 a.m. Mary and Ronald Johannes, with Benjamin, Samuel, and Sigrid

11 a.m. Jessie and Alexander Chanthunya, with Chisomo and Siti

CHORAL RESPONSE

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Taylor Davis

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart,
dear desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne,
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Youth Choir

Directed by Dottie Seep with Joanna Jones, piano

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Rev. Evangeline Taylor

Merciful and loving God we adore you, for by your will and generous gift

Jesus Christ our Lord humbled himself in order to raise us up.

He became flesh to restore in us your image.

He was born of a Virgin that he might lift the lowly.

Forgive our sins, gracious God.

Grant us the inheritance of the meek,

And lead us at last to rejoice with all your saints in glory.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news of the Gospel.

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

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

In dulci jubilo

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now we need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls us one and calls us all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

HEARING GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE	Isaiah 9:6-7	9:15 a.m. Deacon Margaret Johnson
The Word of the Lord.	<i>pew Bible p. 555</i>	11 a.m. Elder Scottie Griffin
Thanks be to God.		

MEDITATION	A New Leader	Dr. David Renwick
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HYMN 53	What Child Is This	<i>Greensleeves</i>
<i>Please remain seated. Children come forward during singing of the hymn.</i>		

A TIME FOR YOUNG BELIEVERS		Hymn 24
Scene I	The Wise Men	Away in a Manger verse 1
Scene II	The Wise Men and Herod	Away in a Manger verse 2
Scene III	The Shepherds	Away in a Manger verse 3
Scene IV	The Stable	Away in a Manger verse 1

RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE AND CALL

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS		Rev. Donna Marsh
	For Unto Us a Child Is Born	G.F. Handel
		<i>Messiah</i>
For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; And the government shall be upon his shoulder, And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, The Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of peace.		Isaiah 9:6

▲ CHRISTMAS DOXOLOGY

Regent Square

Praise and honor to the Father, praise to God’s incarnate Son,
Praise and honor to the Spirit: God th’ Eternal Three in One;
One in grace and one in glory while unending ages run.

PASTORAL PRAYER	Dr. Quinn Fox
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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 29

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Go Tell It

▲ BENEDICTION

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Glo---ria in excelsis Deo! Glo---ria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

▲ POSTLUDE

Be Glad Now, All Ye Christians

J.S. Bach

▲ Congregation standing, as able

The flowers throughout the church this morning are given to the glory and praise of God by the members and friends of the National Presbyterian Church rejoicing in the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Consider honoring a loved one while beautifying our church during the Advent season.

Donations by check may be made payable to "NPC Flower Fund." Envelopes for donations and dedication wording are at the Information Desk.

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.

CHRISTMAS EVE – DECEMBER 24
5 p.m., 8 p.m., & 10 p.m. worship

Invite a friend!

NEXT SUNDAY – DECEMBER 28
11 a.m. worship ONLY

No Sunday School; childcare available for children age 4 and under.

A New Way Home
Dr. Quinn Fox

TODAY

WELCOME HOME COLLEGE LUNCHEON

12:15 p.m., Parlor

Welcome home, college students! Meet in Elson Parlor to catch up with old friends and new, and enjoy a special holiday lunch. We look forward to seeing you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS, YOUTH, AND CHILDREN

Resumes January 4

See pg. 6 for upcoming January Term classes for adults.

Children are encouraged to join their families in worship this morning for Dr. Renwick's telling of the Christmas story. *Childcare is available every Sunday for children under 4 – see back page for locations.*

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AT NATIONAL

Have you seen the beautiful nativity scene, hand carved in Spain, in the museum case by the chapel entrance to the church? (The nativity is a recent donation from the Norment and Boyer families.) Also be sure to check out the Chrismon tree right outside of the Sanctuary and pick up a brochure that explains the meaning behind the special ornaments.

PLEASE SIGN FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

To help us get to know one another, members and guests alike are encouraged to sign and pass along the Friendship Register during the welcome or the offering.

MISSION GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS *Stone Hall, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.*

Still have shopping to do? Mission Gifts for Christmas offers you an opportunity to give to 39 different charities in honor of a friend, family member, teacher, or coworker. *Cashiers are in Stone Hall today for final purchases, or you may purchase online until December 31 at www.nationalpres.org/mission-gifts*

We've already surpassed last year's total giving of \$45,500— let's see how much more we can give to missions by the end of the year!

PECAN SALES *Tables outside Stone Hall*

Mammoth pecan halves (1 lb, \$12), fruitcakes (1 lb., \$7), and wild rice (\$10) may be purchased today. All proceeds are donated to mission projects by the Business & Professional Women's Guild.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENTS

We are now at 330 commitments out of our goal of 500! If you have not yet done so, please prayerfully consider how you will support God's work in and through NPC in 2015.

Mail your commitment card to the church, submit it online (nationalpres.org/giving), or place it in the offering plate. Commitment cards can be found on the information table.

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.
- 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: 202.537.7529.*

THIS WEEK AND UPCOMING

COME CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS EVE! *Wednesday, December 24*

Family Nativity Service

5 P.M.

Children, youth, and adults participate in this 45 minute narrated reenactment of the nativity story with lots of music.

Candlelight Services

8 & 10 P.M.

“One of the Family”

Dr. David Renwick

Communion will be served.

Invite a friend!

NEXT SUNDAY – DECEMBER 28 ***11 a.m. worship ONLY***

No Sunday School; Children are encouraged to join their families in worship and childcare is available for children age 4 and under.

“A New Way Home”

Dr. Quinn Fox

DECEMBER’S FOOD DONATION: **CANNED 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. *You can help gather food donations or pack and deliver food to Martha’s Table! Contact: Nancy Chapman Colb, nancy@nchapman.com.*

PRAYER MINISTRY

Please pray for:

Larry Kegley

Robert “Bob” Rosette

Mabel Sawhill

Ruth Strachocki

Confidential prayer requests:
nationalpres.org/prayer

“JANUARY TERM” **CLASSES FOR ADULTS**

Sundays, January 4–25, 2015, 9:30 a.m.

Why not make it a New Year’s Resolution to become part of a class in January?

Classes offered on January 4, 11, & 18:

- The Gospel According to *Downton Abbey*
- Journey Towards Emotional Wholeness
- Battle Rhythm: The Essential Patterns of a Healthy Spiritual Life
- Listening for God’s Voice in Scripture
- Your Mind Matters

Learn more about these classes on nationalpres.org/adults, or pick up a brochure on the information table.

On January 25, all are welcome for a plenary class in Stone Hall with Dr. Curt Thompson, medical doctor and author of a highly acclaimed book on the relationship between brain science and spiritual practice.

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S GUILD LUNCHEON

*Saturday, Jan. 3, Stone Hall
12 p.m. (lunch), 1 p.m. (program)*

All women are invited for a fascinating presentation from guest speaker Christina Miller-Colton of American Leprosy Missions. She will share her experience as an international aide worker helping women in Nepal. *For lunch reservations (\$12), call Joan Anderson, 202.362.7475.*

MEN'S BREAKFAST

*Saturday, Jan. 10
Stone Hall, 8–9:30 a.m.*

Meet other men at NPC for a hearty breakfast and a presentation by Dr. David Renwick. *Reserve your place: Men@NationalPres.org or call 202.537.7527.*

JOB OPPORTUNITY AT NPC

Be part of a great team serving Christ and the church! NPC is currently seeking an Administrative Assistant for Serve Ministries. This is a paid, 35 hour per week position reporting to Rev. Marsh. *The job description and instructions on how to apply can be found at www.nationalpres.org/jobs*

TIME TO MAKE NPC YOUR CHURCH HOME?

Sunday, Jan. 25, 8:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

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

EXPERT ADVICE FOR OLDER ADULTS

Lisa Rindner, MSW LGSW, is a trusted resource to our congregation, providing expert advice on practical and emotional matters of aging. *Free appointments available at NPC. Contact Lisa at 202.895.9440 or LRindner@iona.org*

PREPARE FOR MARRIAGE SEMINAR

*Saturday, February 14, 2015
8:45 a.m. – 3 p.m. Elson Parlor*

Are you planning on getting married in 2015? Join other engaged couples for a day of preparation, information, and reflection. This class is offered once per year and is required for all couples whose weddings will be held at NPC. Cost: \$100 per couple. *Contact: Holly Novak, HNovak@NationalPres.org; 202.537.7527.*

YEAR END GIVING TO NPC

Please consider supporting the mission and ministry of NPC with your year-end giving as we end 2014 and look forward to what God has planned for us in 2015.

- Set up **recurring gifts** at NPC Online (link at the bottom of the NPC website, www.nationalpres.org)
- **Easy one-time gifts** to NPC can be made on www.nationalpres.org/giving. Your gift will be processed through PayPal, but you do not need to have a PayPal account.
- You can contribute to NPC by **shopping on Amazon!** Input "The National Presbyterian Church, Inc." as your designated charity using Amazon Smile (www.smile.amazon.com), and NPC receives a donation of .05% of the price of your eligible purchases.
- **Stock donations** may be made by providing the following information to your broker:
Deliver to: Morgan Stanley Smith Barney
DTC Clearing Number: 0015
Client Account number: 504-152559-468
Client Name: The National Presbyterian Church, Inc.
NPC TIN: 53-0196611
(Please be sure to identify yourself as the donor to ensure proper acknowledgement.)

Questions? Contact Finance Manager, Joe Abatemarco, JAbatemarco@NationalPres.org, 202.537.7484.

CLASSES AND GROUPS

ADULTS

LECTIONARY READINGS

Year 1

Dec. 21- 28

Sunday

Psalms 24; 110

Isaiah 29:9-24

Revelation 21:9-21

Luke 1:26-38

Monday

Psalms 122; 67

Isaiah 31:1-9

Revelation 21:22-22:5

Luke 1:39-56

Tuesday

Psalms 33; 94

Isaiah 33:17-22

Revelation 22:6-20

Luke 1:57-66

Wednesday

Psalms 50; 17

Isaiah 35:1-10

Revelation 22:12-17, 21

Luke 1:67-80

Thursday

Psalms 2; 96

Zechariah 2:10-13

1 John 4:7-16

John 3:31-36

Friday

Psalms 116; 27

2 Chronicles 24:17-22

Acts 6:1-7

Acts 7:59-8:8

Saturday

Psalms 34; 121

Proverbs 8:22-30

1 John 5:1-12

John 13:20-35

Sunday

Psalms 2; 111

Isaiah 62:6-7, 10-12

Hebrews 2:10-18

Matthew 1:18-25

January Term Sunday Classes, 9:30 a.m., beginning January 4

- Journey Towards Emotional Wholeness *Church Room 105*
- Battle Rhythm: The Essential Patterns of a Healthy Spiritual Life *Agencies 101*
- Listening for God's Voice in Scripture *Church Room 5*
- Your Mind Matters *Church Room 110/111*
- The Gospel According to *Downton Abbey* *Chapel*

Groups - Resume in January

- 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” Coffeehouse **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.** *Agencies 105*
- Men's Breakfast **1st Saturday of the month, 8 – 9:30 a.m.** *Stone Hall*
- B&P Women's Guild Luncheon **1st Saturday of the month, Noon** *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 **Sundays, 12:30 p.m.** *Culbertson Library*

YOUTH

Sunday School, 9:15 – 10:30 a.m., Resumes January 4

- 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. Resumes January 4

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

CHILDREN

Preschool Sunday School, 9:15 – 10:30 a.m., Resumes January 4

Parents drop off children between 9:10-9:15 and pick up children in their classrooms at 10:30 a.m.

- 2-year olds: Church Room 8
- 3-year olds: School Room 104
- 4-year olds: School Room 106

Elementary Sunday School, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m., Resumes January 4

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 240
- 5th Grade: School Room 242

Children's Church, 11 a.m.

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 during Advent, 8 p.m.** *Choir Room*
- Contemporary Music Team **Wednesdays during Advent, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.** *Sanctuary*
- 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.** *Multipurpose Room*

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

- Culbertson Library (also: M-TH 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.) *Admin. Bldg., Second Floor*
- Satellite Library & Moehle Bookstore *Adjacent to Stone Hall*

THE NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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