

October 1, 2023
World Communion Sunday

Welcome to NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*Then Peter began to speak to them:
"I truly understand that God shows no partiality,
but in every nation, anyone who fears him
and does what is right is acceptable to him."*

Acts 10:34-35



Senior Pastor
Associate Pastors

Parish Associates

Music

Ministry Directors

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.
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)
Jonathan Edwards (Serve)
Kristin Franke (Youth & Families)
Jill Meek (Children)
Leslie Saum (Connections)

EVENTS AT NATIONAL

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

World Communion Sunday

Today, October 1, you are invited to share in the celebration of Communion with us. If you are celebrating from home, please [click here](#) to read the guidelines for preparation.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, October 7, 8:00 am

All men are invited to join us on the first Saturday of every month for our men's breakfast. At this month's meeting, several men will be sharing their heartfelt testimonials of faith and the close-knit community of friendship they've found in Christ, all while navigating the unique challenges and joys of being young fathers. Please email Kristi Teems at kteems@nationalpres.org for more information or to RSVP.

Dinner, Drama, Discussion

Wednesday, October 4

You are invited to join us in Stone Fellowship Hall for Wednesdays this fall, through November 1, for a fun and imaginative dive into Nehemiah using movie clips as our springboard for discussion. Please visit our [Events webpage](#) to sign up for meals and small groups.

- 6:30 pm: Light supper and fellowship
- 7:00-8:00 pm: Film clips and interactive teaching on Nehemiah's lessons for Christian life, tied to our fall sermon series
- 8:00-8:30 pm: Small group table conversation to explore scripture themes more deeply

We offer both online or in-person small groups. Online groups will have the opportunity to view the Wednesday night program either live streamed or recorded for discussion in their small group study.

New Small Group Begins

Spiritual Formation Reading Group

Thursday, October 5, 7:00 pm

You are invited as together we journey through four soul-shaping, Christ-centered books this "academic year." This group, led by Nancy Fox, is open to anyone who wants to grow in their faith. We will meet at NPC in Room #109 on the first Thursday of each month, October 5–May 2, 7:00–8:15 pm.

Bridge Closures for

Next Sunday, October 8

Next Sunday, October 8, the Army 10-Miler will take place all morning. The Memorial and Key Bridges will be closed between Virginia and Washington, DC during this time so please plan your drive to church accordingly.

Sunday of Serving

October 8, 9:55 am

Families, children and youth are invited to serve together! We'll meet in Stone Fellowship Hall after the 8:45 am worship service. We'll be making sandwiches for Martha's Table to distribute to the hungry and homeless of the DC area. This is in place of children's and youth Sunday School and Parent Gathering, which will resume the following week, on Sunday, October 15.

2nd Sunday Sandwich Making

October 8 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!

8:45 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING

Improvisations

Joanna Zorack-Greene, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Lisa Larsen

▲ OPENING SONG

All Creatures of Our God and King

William Draper
arr. David Crowder

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing:

O praise him, alleluia!

Thou, burning sun with golden beam, thou, silver moon with softer gleam,

O praise him, O praise him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou, rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heaven along,

O praise him, alleluia!

Thou, rising moon in praise rejoice! Ye lights of evening, find a voice!

O praise him, O praise him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless! And worship him in humbleness.

O praise him, alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit—three in One!

O praise him, O praise him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O alleluia, alleluia! (3x) O alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

▲ INVITATION TO WORLD COMMUNION

Rev. Larsen

Storey Burton, *Spanish* Nova Tirajoh, *Bahasa Indonesia*

People will come from east and west, north and south and will eat in the kingdom of God.

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Eternal God, you call us to worship you in spirit and in truth.

We confess that, in our disobedience and sin,

we often worship only who we wish you to be.

We often ask you to bless what we do,

rather than seeking to do what you bless.

Forgive our self-centeredness and pride.

Set and keep us on paths of righteousness for your name's sake.

Shape us into what you want us to be.

Show us more of who you really are in the face of Jesus Christ,
your Son, our Savior.

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

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

Nicene Creed

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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Rev. Larsen

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

Acts 10:34-43

Elder Jim Bridgeman

³⁴Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

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

SERMON

God Shows No Partiality

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the sanctuary.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Dr. Quinn Fox

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

11:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Rhapsody in D-flat, Op. 17, No. 1

Herbert Howells
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Lisa Larsen

▲ HYMN 482

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Lobe den Herren

▲ INVITATION TO WORLD COMMUNION

Serge Duss, *Ukrainian* Josef Skoldeberg, *Swedish*

Keji Skoldeberg, *Chinese* Nora Szeto, *Cantonese*

People will come from east and west, north and south and will eat in the kingdom of God.

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Lobe den Herren

Praise ye the Lord, who hath called thee, adopted, and blessed thee,
Into one body united and holy hath placed thee.

Ponder anew what the Almighty can do if with his love he befriend thee!

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

St. Peter

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
But one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Eternal God, you call us to worship you in spirit and in truth.

We confess that, in our disobedience and sin,
we often worship only who we wish you to be.

We often ask you to bless what we do,
rather than seeking to do what you bless.

Forgive our self-centeredness and pride.

Set and keep us on paths of righteousness for your name's sake.

Shape us into what you want us to be.

Show us more of who you really are in the face of Jesus Christ,
your Son, our Savior.

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.

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Rev. Lisa Larsen

*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

Acts 10:34-43

Elder Lewrene Glaser

³⁴Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

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

SERMON

God Shows No Partiality

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

HYMN 503 *verses 1 & 4*

Come, Risen Lord

Sursum corda

Children return to join their parents in the sanctuary.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Dr. Quinn Fox

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

OFFERTORY

Let All the World

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Let all the world in every corner sing, "My God and King!"

From *Five Mystical Songs*

The heavens are not too high, his praise may thither fly;

The earth is not too low, his praises there may grow.

The Church with psalms must shout: No door can keep them out;

But above all, the heart must bear the longest part.

George Herbert

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Dr. Fox

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Choral Meditation

Love Bade Me Welcome

Ralph Vaughan Williams

From *Five Mystical Songs*

Love bade me welcome; yet my soul drew back,

Guilty of dust and sin.

But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack

From my first entrance in,

Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning

If I lack'd anything.

"A guest," I answered, "worthy to be here."

Love said, "You shall be he."

"I the unkind, ungrateful?"

Ah, my dear, I cannot look on thee."

Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,

"Who made the eyes but I?"

"Truth, Lord, but I have marr'd them: Let my shame

Go where it doth deserve.

"And know you not," says Love, "who bore the blame?"

"My dear, then I will serve."

"You must sit down," says Love, "and taste my meat."

So I did sit and eat.

George Herbert

Paul Grosvenor, baritone, and Chancel Choir

Prayer of Response 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 509

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

Cross of Jesus

▲ BENEDICTION

Dr. Hylton

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

Let all the world in every corner sing, "My God and King!"

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Fox

▲ POSTLUDE

Hyfrydol

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Mr. Fickley, organ

▲ Congregation standing, as able

MORE EVENTS

Women's Brunch

Saturday, October 14, 11:00 am

All women are invited for a delicious brunch, faith-building conversation and fellowship! Author and licensed clinical professional counselor (LCPC), Judith Hylton (who also happens to be married to our senior pastor, Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.) will share stories and insights from her Christian journey. Childcare is provided. Please register for brunch and childcare by October 11 by visiting our [Events webpage](#).

Living and Dying Well Author Talk

Sunday, October 15

- 9:55 am: *A Better Life: Christian Wisdom for Living and Dying Well*, Stone Fellowship Hall
- 12:30 pm: *Beyond Denial: Confronting the Fear of Dying*, Garden Rooms

Join us for an opportunity to hear from author, physician and medical ethicist, Lydia Dugdale, M.D. Her presentations will be based on her popular book, *The Lost Art of Dying: Reviving Forgotten Wisdom*. Following worship, the 12:30 pm session will include the opportunity to have a more in-depth and focused conversation than the earlier presentation and a light lunch will be served.

Week at a Glance

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

Today, October 1

World Communion Sunday

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

Wednesday, October 4

- 6:30 pm: Dinner, Drama, Discussion

Saturday, October 7

- 8:00 am: Men's breakfast

Sunday, October 8

(Bridge closures between VA & DC)

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Adult Sunday School
- 9:55 am: Sunday of Serving (in place of children's and youth Sunday School & Parent Gathering)
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: 2nd Sunday Sandwich Making

Messiah Rehearsals Begin - Reserve your place in the Festival Choir!

Rehearsals Start Saturday, November 4 at 10:00 am

Prepare Him Room: Our Coming Savior in Handel's *Messiah* will be presented by National Presbyterian Church Festival Choir & Orchestra on Sunday, December 10, at 5:00 pm.

- Saturday Rehearsals: 10:00 am–1:00 pm, November 4, 11, 18 and December 2
- Performance Weekend Rehearsals: Friday, December 8, 7:00-10:00 pm and Saturday, December 9, 10:00 am–2:00 pm

To sign up, please visit our [Events webpage](#) or call the NPC Music Office at 202.537.7553.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Video Team Volunteers

Do you have an interest in video mixing, video cameras or live streaming? If so, we would love to hear from you! Join our volunteer team to help bring the good news of the gospel into hundreds of homes each week. If you'd like to volunteer or have questions, please contact Bill McNett at bmcnett@nationalpres.org.

Flowers to Share!

Have you noticed the little flower arrangements at the center sanctuary entrance most Sunday mornings? The Flower Ministry invites you to take one home to bless another... perhaps a shut-in, or someone in need of cheer or a thank you.

Use Your Gifts to Bless Our Children

Help kids connect with Christ by joining our children's ministry team! Some of the ways to help include teaching Sunday School during the school year, assisting with games and devotionals at Club 45, helping plan an annual event, or leading music on a seasonal basis. If you're interested, please contact Jill Meek at jmeek@nationalpres.org.

NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Our worship services are in the Sanctuary and online on our [Watch](#) webpage.

- **8:45 am:** Contemporary Worship
- **9:55 am:** Sunday School for all ages
- **11:00 am:** Traditional Worship

Lessons from Nehemiah Sermon Series

Journey through Nehemiah with us Sundays through October 29! With its 13 chapters, the book of Nehemiah is one of the liveliest pieces of writing in the Hebrew Bible. Together with the book of Ezra, Nehemiah chronicles the arduous journey of God's people emerging from Babylonian exile to reclaim their spiritual heritage in Jerusalem-Palestine.

Adult Classes

For complete class descriptions as well as the Zoom link for R.V. Seep's class, please visit our [Adult Classes webpage](#).

- **Tim Keller's *Generous Justice*:** Peggy Lewis and Lewrene Glaser, Room #109
- ***Walking with God in Mission for Our Changing World*:** Nancy Fox, Room #209
- ***The Story Behind "The Story:" God's Plan of Redemption Through History*:** Dr. Quinn Fox, Garden Room A
- ***The Gospel of Luke*:** Margaret Gardner, Donna Duss, & others, Garden Room C
- ***Romans*:** R.V. Seep, Chapel and online
- **Parent Gathering:** Kristin Franke and Parent facilitators, Jones Hall in the Education Building
- **Young Professionals Gathering:** Young Adult and Staff facilitators, NPC Parlor

Youth Sunday School

Visit our [Youth webpage](#) for 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

Visit our [Children's webpage](#) to read about our Children's Ministry.

- Children ages 2-3 years have Sunday School in the Toddler Room in the main church building.
- Children age 4 through 5th grade meet for Sunday School in the Education Building (National Presbyterian School).

Childcare

The Nursery rooms are available 8:30 am-noon for infants to walkers, up to age 4.



**Called
to Care**

Feeling anxious or burdened? Need to slow down?

Care Notes are inspirational booklets on a variety of topics to help you focus on God in everyday life challenges. Pick one up in the Welcome Center.

He cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7b

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 the Guestbook button our [Watch webpage](#) to sign our online guestbook.
- Visit the [bottom of our home webpage](#) at 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:

- Visit our [Children's webpage](#) for kids up to 5th grade.
- Visit our [Youth webpage](#) for kids in middle and high school.

Prayers

We pray for:

Those who are caregivers.

We pray for:

Habitat DC/NOVA, as they work to reduce poverty and homelessness in our community by providing affordable homes for those in need.

How may we pray for you?

Please submit prayer requests to the Care Office,

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
- 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.

Community Health Note

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.

Today's Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God in memory of Mr. Kang Ming Szeto by his daughter.



4101 NEBRASKA AVE. NW
WASHINGTON DC 20016
202.537.0800
WWW.NATIONALPRES.ORG



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