

October 8, 2023



Welcome to
**NATIONAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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

The sons of Hassenaah built the Fish Gate; they laid its beams and set up its doors, its bolts, and its bars. Next to them Meremoth son of Uriah son of Hakkoz made repairs. Next to them Meshullam son of Berechiah son of Meshezabel made repairs. Next to them Zadok son of Baana made repairs.

Next to them the Tekoites made repairs; but their nobles would not put their shoulders to the work of their Lord.

Nehemiah 3:3-5

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!

Sunday of Serving

Today, 9:55 am

Children, youth, and parents are invited to serve together! We'll meet in Stone Fellowship Hall at 9:55 am. 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, all of which will resume next week, on Sunday, October 15.

2nd Sunday Sandwich Making

Today after 11:00 am Worship

Everyone is invited to 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!

Dinner, Drama, Discussion

Wednesday, October 11

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.

- 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

Please visit our [Events webpage](#) to sign up for meals and small groups. We offer both online or in-person small groups. It's not too late to join one!

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.

8:45 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING Improvisations Joanna Zorack-Greene, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP Dr. Quinn Fox

▲ OPENING SONG Speak O Lord Keith and Kristyn Getty

Speak, O Lord as we come to you to receive the food of your holy word.

Take your truth, plant it deep in us;

shape and fashion us in your likeness, that the light of Christ might be seen today
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.

Speak, O Lord and fulfill in us all your purposes, for your glory.

Teach us Lord full obedience, holy reverence, true humility.

Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of your purity.

Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see, your majestic love and authority.

Words of power that can never fail; let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.

Truths unchanged from the dawn of time, that will echo down through eternity.

And by grace we'll stand on your promises;

and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.

Speak, O Lord till your church is built and the earth is filled with your glory.

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Bring us, O Lord, at our last awakening, into the gate and house of heaven.

Unto that glorious day, forgive our sins and cleanse us.

May we at last enter that gate and dwell in that house, where there shall be

No darkness nor dazzling, but one equal light;

No noise nor silence, but one equal music;

No fears nor hopes, but one equal inheritance;

No ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity;

Forever in the presence of your glory and rule,

Forever in the embrace of your love.

John Donne

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 Apostles' Creed Dr. 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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES Jill Meek
Director of Children's Ministry

*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 Dr. Fox

SCRIPTURE Nehemiah 3:1-5 Elder John Neely

¹Then the high priest Eliashib set to work with his fellow-priests and rebuilt the Sheep Gate. They consecrated it and set up its doors; they consecrated it as far as the Tower of the Hundred and as far as the Tower of Hananel. ²And the men of Jericho built next to him. And next to them Zaccur son of Imri built.

³The sons of Hassenaah built the Fish Gate; they laid its beams and set up its doors, its bolts, and its bars. ⁴Next to them Meremoth son of Uriah son of Hakkoz made repairs. Next to them Meshullam son of Berechiah son of Meshezabel made repairs. Next to them Zadok son of Baana made repairs. ⁵Next to them the Tekoites made repairs; but their nobles would not put their shoulders to the work of their Lord.

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

SERMON Lessons from Nehemiah Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.
The Power of Teamwork

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the sanctuary.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS Rev. Lisa Larsen

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

▲ OFFERING SONG What a Beautiful Name Ben Fielding
and Brooke Ligertwood

You were the Word at the beginning; One with God the Lord Most High.
Your hidden glory in creation, now revealed in you our Christ.

*What a beautiful Name it is, what a beautiful Name it is,
the Name of Jesus Christ, my King.*

What a beautiful Name it is, nothing compares to this.

What a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

You didn't want heaven without us, so Jesus, you brought heaven down.

My sin was great, your love was greater; What could separate us now?

*What a wonderful Name it is, what a wonderful Name it is,
the Name of Jesus Christ, my King.*

What a wonderful Name it is, nothing compares to this.

What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

*What a powerful Name it is, what a powerful Name it is,
the Name of Jesus Christ, my King.*

What a powerful Name it is, nothing can stand against.

What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

▲ 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!

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Larsen

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

Who You Say I Am

Ben Fielding and Reuben Morgan

Who am I that the highest King would welcome me?

I was lost but he brought me in, O his love for me. O his love for me!

Who the Son sets free, O is free indeed. I'm a child of God, yes I am!

Free at last, he has ransomed me, his grace runs deep.

While I was a slave to sin, Jesus died for me. Yes, he died for me!

In my Father's house there's a place for me. I'm a child of God, yes I am!

I am chosen, not forsaken. I am who you say I am!

You are for me, not against me. I am who you say I am!

▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Hylton

▲ SENDING

NPC Band

▲ Congregation standing, as able

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Dr. Fox

CONFIRMATION OF BAPTISM AND COMMISSIONING

Claudia Burgess	Daniel Piho
Lillian Cadou	Henry Stewart
Lilly Fromer	James Velasco
Ivaylo Guenov	Bo White
Adele Muoio	

Congregational Prayer *in unison*

**God of love, we rejoice to receive these newest
brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ.**

**May they discover your grace in Jesus Christ,
through membership in this church family.**

May your love hold them, your truth guide them, your joy delight them.

Gracious God, touch us all again this day with your grace of belonging.

**Give us new lives for old, new spirits, new faith, and new commitment
in place of all that has grown tired or stale in our lives.**

We have heard your call and are made new by your Spirit.

**So may we rise and go from here to discover whatever awaits us,
in joy and in trust, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

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

Nehemiah 3:1-5

Lucas Velasco

¹Then the high priest Eliashib set to work with his fellow-priests and rebuilt the Sheep Gate. They consecrated it and set up its doors; they consecrated it as far as the Tower of the Hundred and as far as the Tower of Hananel. ²And the men of Jericho built next to him. And next to them Zaccur son of Imri built.

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

SERMON

Lessons from Nehemiah
The Power of Teamwork

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

CHORAL RESPONSE

Ptomey

Rebuild your people with your love, renew us every day;
With hearts restored, in all our work our lives shall sing your praise.

Fred R. Anderson, alt.

Children return to join their parents in the sanctuary.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Rev. Lisa Larsen

OFFERTORY

Great Day

Moses Hogan

Great Day the righteous marchin', God's gonna build up Zion's wall.

Chariot moved on the mountain top, brother,

My God spoke an' de chariot stopped, sister.

This is the year of jubilee, brother,

God set his people free, sister.

Great Day the righteous marchin', God's gonna build up Zion's wall.

Spiritual

with Sheri Jackson, soprano

▲ 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!

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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

We All Are One in Mission

Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein

We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,

Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

A single, great commission compels us from above

To plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.

We all are called for service to witness in Christ's name;

Our ministries are different, our purpose is the same.

We labor for Christ's kingdom by God's sustaining grace

So everyone and nation may know God's warm embrace.

Now let us be united and let our song be heard.

Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming Word.

We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,

Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

Rusty Edwards, alt.

▲ BENEDICTION

Dr. Hylton

▲ CHORAL AMEN

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Rev. Larsen

▲ POSTLUDE Allegro Moderato (from Harp Concerto in B-flat)

G.F. Handel

Mr. Fickley, organ

▲ Congregation standing, as able

MORE EVENTS

Messiah Rehearsals Beginning Soon
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.

Serve Our City: Little Lights
Saturday, October 21, 9:30 am

You can make a real impact in the lives of the youth in our city! On October 21, we'll help provide a safe, fun, and encouraging space for Little Lights students to spend their unstructured weekend hours. To join us, reach out to our Serve Director, Jonathan Edwards, at jedwards@national-pres.org.

Congregational Meeting
October 22 Following 11:00 am Service
In-person in the Sanctuary

The Session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, October 22, following the 11:00 am worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to hear a report from the Congregational Nominating Committee (CNC) and to vote on nominees for the office of elder, deacon and the board of the NPC Fund for Charitable Giving.

Week at a Glance

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

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

Monday, October 9

- NPC offices closed for the holiday

Wednesday, October 11

- 6:30 pm: Dinner, Drama, Discussion

Saturday, October 14

- 11:00 am: Women's brunch

Sunday, October 15

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Author Talk in place of Adult Sunday School classes
- 9:55 am: Children's & Youth Sunday School
- 9:55 am: Parent Gathering
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Author Talk & Lunch
- 12:15 pm: Moldova prayer meeting in Room #109
- 5:00 pm: Club 45 (4th & 5th graders)
- 6:30 pm: Youth group

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.



The Deacons' Assistance Fund offers short term, confidential financial assistance to members of our church experiencing hardship. This fund is solely supported by the generosity of our congregation. If you would like to make a donation, or know of someone in our church who needs support, contact Rev. Larsen. careoffice@nationalpres.org / 202.537.7540

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Hebrews 13:16

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 mourn:

the passing of Ann Drexel.

We pray for:

Young Lives , as they present the gospel to teenagers and help them grow in their faith.

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 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 by Ruth and Bob Van Voorhees in loving memory of Leslie Baker.



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