

November 19, 2023

Welcome to NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*In their case, the god of this world has blinded the
minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing
the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is
the image of God.*

2 Corinthians 4:4



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!

First Grade Milestone: The Lord's Prayer

Today during 11:00 am worship our first graders lead us in the Lord's Prayer. As a part of Sunday School, each grade, Kindergarten through 5th, learns a "Milestone in Worship," an element of our worship liturgy. Milestones help children to participate in worship and develop a language of faith.

NPC Heritage Tour Today, November 19 After 11:00 Worship

The History & Archives Ministry invites all who are interested to meet in the front of the Sanctuary following the 11:00 am worship service for a 45-minute tour of our stained glass windows and other historical aspects of our Sanctuary and Chapel. Light refreshments will be served at the conclusion.

Youth Family Service Night Tonight, November 19, 5:00 pm

All youth and their families are invited to serve together, as we cook for the hungry. Please bring your own knife and cutting board! Join for a potluck dinner afterwards. Please visit our [Events page](#) to RSVP.

Adult Fellowship Service Project Wednesday, November 29, 10:30 am

You're invited to come for warm fellowship, service, and a tasty lunch in Stone Fellowship Hall. Our project includes preparing treat bags and wrapping Christmas gifts for the 40 men at Friendship Place's La Casa, a permanent supportive home in Columbia Heights. Please invite a friend and come! You can visit our [Events page](#) to reserve your place at the lunch table.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP & FOOD COLLECTION

Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov 23, 10:00 am, In Person and Online

You are warmly invited to join us for a peaceful worship service full of thanksgiving! To express gratitude for the abundance we enjoy, we bring donations of nonperishable food and offer it during the service. After Thanksgiving, we take them to a local mission partner helping to feed the hungry in our city.

Want to help?

Our Thanksgiving Day collection is another opportunity for families to serve together. All ages are welcome to help receive and box donations on Thanksgiving Day or to help deliver the food later.

Please visit our [Events page](#) online to see the suggested donations and to sign up to volunteer.

8:45 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING

Improvisations

Joanna Zorack-Greene, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus

▲ OPENING SONG

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Coronation

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall.

Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.

Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race ye ransomed from the fall,

Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.

Hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown him Lord of all!

Let ev'ry kindred ev'ry tribe on this terrestrial ball,

To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.

To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!

We'll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all.

We'll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all!

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Our Father in heaven,

we thank you for leading us into the light.

We bless you for sending your Son our Savior

to call us from death to life.

We acknowledge that we were dead in sin before his call,

but have been made alive in him.

Yet we confess that old habits are hard to throw off,

and that sin and sinful patterns remain in our lives.

Forgive us, O Lord.

Guard us against this enemy within.

By the power of the Holy Spirit,

help us live daily the new life to which Christ calls us.

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. Stoltzfus

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Lisa Larsen

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Lydia Adcock

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the
god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the
light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not
proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for
Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone
in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of
Jesus Christ.

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Kristin Franke

Director of Youth & Family 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.*

SERMON

The Glory of Christ in a Blind World

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

Rev. Larsen

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

Brooke Ligertwood

Savior, I come, I quiet my soul, remember
redemption's hill where your blood was spilled, for my ransom.

Pre-Chorus

And everything I once held dear, I count it all as loss.

Chorus

Lead me to the cross where your love poured out.

Bring me to my knees, Lord, I lay me down.

Rid me of myself, I belong to you.

Oh, lead me....lead me to the cross.

You were as I, tempted and tried, human.

The word became flesh, bore my sin and death, now you're risen. *Pre-Chorus, Chorus*

Lead me to your heart. (3x) **Chorus**

▲ 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

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

Freedom

Brett Younker and Kristian Stanfill

Step out of the shadows, step out of the grave.

Break into the wild and don't be afraid.

Pre-Chorus

Run into wide open spaces; grace is waiting for you.

Dance like the weight has been lifted; grace is waiting.

Chorus

Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom, there is freedom.

Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom, there is freedom.

Come out of the dark, just as you are, into the fullness of his love.

For the Spirit is here; let there be freedom. Let there be freedom!

Bring all of your burdens; bring all of your scars.

Come back to communion, come back to the start. *Pre-Chorus, Chorus*

Chains will fall, prisons shake at the sound of Jesus' name.

Lives made whole, hearts awake at the sound of Jesus' name. **Chorus**

▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Hylton

▲ SENDING

NPC Band

- ▲ Congregation standing, as able

11:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE Adagio from Symphony No. 3 Camille Saint-Saëns
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus

▲ HYMN 474 verses 1-3 O Splendor of God's Glory Bright *Puer nobis nascitur*

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Hymn 474, verse 4
O Lord, with each returning morn thine image to our hearts is born;
O may we ever clearly see our Savior and our God in thee!

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Our Father in heaven,
we thank you for leading us into the light.
We bless you for sending your Son our Savior
to call us from death to life.
We acknowledge that we were dead in sin before his call,
but have been made alive in him.
Yet we confess that old habits are hard to throw off,
and that sin and sinful patterns remain in our lives.
Forgive us, O Lord.
Guard us against this enemy within.
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
help us live daily the new life to which Christ calls us.

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 Apostles' Creed Dr. Stoltzfus
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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Lisa Larsen

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Elder Laurie Denham

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Kristin Franke

Director of Youth & Family 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.*

SERMON

The Glory of Christ in a Blind World

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the sanctuary.

RESPONSE

Dix

Choir

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ the true, the only light,
Sun of righteousness arise, triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high appear; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Congregation

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ the true, the only light,
Sun of righteousness arise, triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high appear; Daystar, in my heart appear.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Rev. Larsen

OFFERTORY

Fairest Lord Jesus

Derek Hakes

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of God to earth come down,
Thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling starry host;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations! Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise and adoration forevermore be thine! Amen.

- ▲ DOXOLOGY *Old Hundreth*
 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:
 Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Larsen

THE LORD'S PRAYER: *First Grade Milestone*

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 *Mit Freuden zart*
 O Living Christ, Our Eyes Behold
 O living Christ, our eyes behold amid your church appearing,
 All girt about your breast with gold, and bright apparel wearing;
 Your countenance is burning bright, a sun resplendent in its might:
 Lord Christ, we see your glory.
 Your glorious feet have sought and found your own in every nation;
 With everlasting voice you sound the call of our salvation;
 You search us still with eyes of flame, you know and call us all by name:
 Lord Christ, we see your glory.
 O risen Christ, today alive, amid your church abiding,
 Who still your blood and body give, one life and strength providing;
 We join the heav'nly company to sing your praise triumphantly,
 For we have seen your glory.

Edmund R. Morgan, alt.

- ▲ BENEDICTION Dr. Hylton

▲ CHORAL AMEN

- ▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST Rev. Larsen

- ▲ POSTLUDE Camille Saint-Saëns
Todd Fickley, organ
 Maestoso from Symphony No. 3

- ▲ Congregation standing, as able

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

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*:** Room #109
- ***Walking with God in Mission for Our Changing World*:** Room #209
- ***The Story Behind "The Story:" God's Plan of Redemption Through History*:** no class today, resumes November 26
- ***The Gospel of Luke*:** Garden Room C
- ***Romans*:** Chapel and online
- **Parent Gathering:** Jones Hall in the Education Building
- **Young Professionals Gathering:** 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.

NOTES

MORE EVENTS

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, December 2, 8:00 am

All men are invited to join us in-person on the first Saturday of every month for our men's breakfast. Please email Kristi Teems at kteems@nationalpres.org for more information or to RSVP.

Romania Mission Trip Info Meeting

Sunday, December 3, 12:30 pm

Are you interested in going on a short-term mission trip in 2024? Join us in the Garden Rooms to hear about the Intergenerational Mission Trip to Romania. Our team will work with The Smiles Foundation, a Christian non-profit dedicated to caring for vulnerable communities in Romania. Lunch will be provided.

Advent Family Night

Sunday, December 3, 5:00 pm

Start the advent season on a fun, family-friendly, and faith-centered note! Join us in Stone Fellowship Hall for this much-loved annual event. We'll begin with a short time of worship, then make crafts you can enjoy all season, and have dinner together. To give us a general headcount in for ordering supplies and food, please RSVP on our [Events page](#).

Reset Small Group Schedule Change

The Reset gathering will be taking a hiatus for the month of November and will be re-gathering on Thursday, December 7 at 2:00 pm.

Week at a Glance

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

Sunday, November 19

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: NPC Heritage Tour (Meet in front of Sanctuary)
- 12:15 pm: Moldova prayer meeting
- 5:00 pm: Youth Family Service Night

Thursday, November 23

- 10:00 am: Thanksgiving Worship & Food Collection
- NPC offices closed for holiday

Friday, November 24

- NPC offices closed for holiday

Sunday, November 26

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Adult Sunday School
- No Children's or Youth Sunday School, no Parent Gathering, no Young Professionals (resumes December 3)
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship



**Called
to Care**

Overwhelmed and not sure where to turn?

Rev. Lisa Larsen is available to meet with you to think through difficult situations or relationships. She makes referrals to carefully screened resources. careoffice@nationalpres.org / 202.537.7540

Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We love babies in worship!

- You are always welcome to keep your baby with you in the sanctuary.
- Childcare in the crib nursery and toddler room (2nd floor, main church) is available all morning every Sunday.
- The nursing room for nursing mothers is also available in Room #206 (2nd floor, main church building).

To learn more about opportunities for fellowship with other young families, please email Melanie Lenhard at mlenhard@nationalpres.org.

Christmas Elves at NPC!

You can help make our church most welcoming for everyone this holiday season! Contact Leslie Saum at lsaum@nationalpres.org to sign up and join the fabulous Welcome Team to help greet, usher or hand out Christmas Ornaments on these dates:

- Messiah Concert: Sunday, December 10, 5:00 pm
- Christmas Eve: Sunday, December 24, choice of 4 services

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.

National Presbyterian School

Application Deadline Tomorrow

NPC applications for Pre-K3 and Pre-K4 are due tomorrow, November 20. Kindergarten and older are due Friday, January 12. NPS gives special consideration to applications from NPC families for all grades. For more information visit www.nps-dc.org or contact Director of Enrollment Robin Baker at rbaker@nps-dc.org or 202.537.7569.

Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor

The National Presbyterian Church is searching for an Executive Assistant to provide administrative support to the church's Senior Pastor. The successful candidate will have excellent organizational skills, be a strong communicator and self-starter. Day-to-day responsibilities include managing the Pastor's schedule and correspondence, coordinating Church meetings, partnering with church committees and providing administrative support. The position will serve as the primary interface and receptionist for the Senior Pastor to the congregation, staff, and public. The position is full-time and includes comprehensive benefits. Occasional weekend work may be needed to support church functions. Qualified applicants should send a resume to lskrine@nationalpres.org.

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 other easy ways to connect with us:

- Sign the guestbook in the pews or online on our [Watch webpage](#).
- Sign up for our e-newsletter on our website or info@nationalpres.org.

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 Raja Nassar.

We pray for:

Central Union Mission, as they serve the homeless and vulnerable in DC.

How may we pray for you?

Please submit prayer requests to the Care Office,
careoffice@nationalpres.org
202.537.7540.

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.

Your Giving and Commitments Make a Difference! Thank you!

October 2023 Giving Report

| | Faith Giving |
|------------------|--------------|
| Annual Budget | \$ 3,075,000 |
| Received YTD | \$ 2,131,000 |
| Remaining Needed | \$ 944,000 |

Would you like to make a gift?

- Mail or place it in the offering plate
- Go to nationalpres.org/giving
- Text "NPC" to 833.414.9444
- Donate stock
- Disburse your Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA
- Scan the QR code below:



Monthly financial reports are available in the Narthex.

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.

Today's Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of the life of Gwendolyn Faye Sisco by Dr. Robert Betz.



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