

February 25, 2024
Second Sunday in Lent



Welcome to NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*I will establish my covenant between me
and you, and your offspring after you
throughout their generations,
for an everlasting covenant,
to be God to you and to
your offspring after you.
Genesis 17:7*

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!

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, March 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. Our speaker will be Gregg Gochnour, presenting: *"Jesus' Great Invitation: Come and See."* Please email grow@nationalpres.org for more information or to RSVP.

Prepare for Marriage Workshop

Saturday, March 16, 8:45 am to 3:00 pm

Learn the skills you'll need to thrive in your marriage during this one-day course. This annual program is open to anyone; it is required for those who plan to be married at NPC. Please contact Wray Muoio to register or for more information at wmuoio@nationalpres.org or 202-537-7540.

Week at a Glance

Sunday, February 25

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

Saturday, March 2

- 8:00 am: Men's Breakfast
- 10:00 am: Festival Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 3

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 5:00 pm: Club 45

TODAY AT NPC

New Member Recognition at 11:00 am Service with Reception Following

Today is New Member Connections Sunday! In addition to welcoming our newest members into the church family, we invite everyone to wear your name tags, and come meet them and enjoy a lovely reception after the 11:00 am service down in Stone Fellowship Hall.

John Cox, Washington, DC
Sally Cox, Washington, DC
Wyatt Dugan, Washington, DC*
Barbara Lang, Gaithersburg, MD
Luna Levinson, Chevy Chase, MD

*Baptism

Dorothy Meachum, Washington, DC
James Mitchell, Potomac, MD
Edward Newburn, Washington, DC
Megan Rappolt, Bethesda, MD
Kathleen Tevnan, Silver Spring, MD

If you are interested in membership here at National or just learning more about the Christian faith, please attend the next one-day in-person Pathway of Christian Discipleship classes on April 13. For more information, please contact Kemet Rakiatu at KRakiatu@NationalPres.org or 202.537.7578.

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 10,000 Reasons Matt Redman

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
it's time to sing your song again.

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship his holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship your holy name.

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger.

Your name is great and your heart is kind.

For all your goodness, I will keep on singing;
ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. *Chorus*

And on that day, when my strength is failing,
the end draws near, and my time has come;

Still, my soul will sing your praise unending;
ten thousand years, and then forevermore! *Chorus*

Oh I'll worship your holy name. Lord I'll worship your holy name.

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

You made heaven and earth, and rule supreme over all.

You are the true, the only God: there is no god above you.

In your infinite mercy, hear our humble confession.

Through the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive and cleanse us of our sin.

from Irenaeus of Lyons

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Fox

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Adele Muoio

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations.

⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. . .

¹⁵God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

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

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.*

SERMON

Experiencing God's Persistent Love
Promises Kept

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. Kerry Stoltzfus

You may bring your gift forward during the offering song.

▲ OFFERING SONG

Good, Good Father

Anthony Brown

I've heard a thousand stories of what they think you're like.
But I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night.
You tell me that you're pleased and that I'm never alone.

You're a good, good Father. It's who you are. (3x)

And I'm loved by you it's who I am. (3x)

I've seen many searching for answers, far and wide.

But I know we're all searching for answers only you provide.

Because you know just what we need before we say a word. **Chorus**

You are perfect in all of your ways. You are perfect in all of your ways.

You are perfect in all of your ways to us! (2x)

Love so undeniable I can hardly speak.

Peace so unexplainable I can hardly think.

As you call me deeper still (3x) into love, love, love! **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 THE LORD'S PRAYER

Dr. Stoltzfus

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 Magnificent, Marvelous, Matchless Love

Matt Papa

Magnificent, marvelous, matchless love, too vast and astounding to tell,
forever existing in worlds above, now offered and given to all.

Oh, fountain of beauty eternal, the Father, the Spirit, the Son,

sufficient and endlessly generous, magnificent, marvelous, matchless love.

Creation is brimming with thankfulness, the mountains, exultant they stand,

the seasons rejoice in your faithfulness, all life is sustained by your hand.

You crown every meadow with color; you paint every shade in the sky.

Each day the dawn wakes as an encore of magnificent, marvelous, matchless love.

How great, how sure, his love endures forevermore.

Magnificent, marvelous, matchless love.

What grace that you entered our brokenness; you came in the fullness of time.

How far we had fallen from righteousness but not from the mercies of Christ.

Your cross is our door to redemption; your death is our fullness of life.

That day how, forgiveness flowed as a flood, magnificent, marvelous, matchless love.

Chorus

United in your resurrection, you lift us to infinite heights.

Could anything sever or take us from magnificent, marvelous, matchless love.

Chorus (2x)

▲ 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

Pavane, Op. 50

Gabriel Fauré
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Quinn Fox

▲ HYMN

The God of Abraham Praise

Leoni

The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above,
Ancient of Everlasting Days, and God of love.
You are the great I AM, by heav'n and earth confessed;
We bow before your holy name, forever blest.

God by himself has sworn, we on that oath depend;
We shall, on eagles' wings upborne, to heav'n ascend.
We shall behold Christ's face, we shall Christ's pow'r adore,
And sing the wonders of God's grace forevermore.

God has eternal life implanted in the soul;
His love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.
We praise you, living God! We praise your holy name;
The first and last, beyond all thought, and still the same.

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leoni

The whole triumphant host gives thanks to God on high:
"Hail Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!" they ever cry.
Hail Abraham's God and ours, we join the heav'nly lays;
God's might and majesty and pow'r we ever praise!

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
You made heaven and earth, and rule supreme over all.
You are the true, the only God: there is no god above you.
In your infinite mercy, hear our humble confession.

Through the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive and cleanse us of our sin.

from Irenaeus of Lyons

SILENT CONFESSION AND KYRIE *sung first by the choir, then the congregation*

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

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. 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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Lisa Stucky
Please see page 4

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

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.*

SERMON *Experiencing God's Persistent Love* Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.
Promises Kept

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the sanctuary.

CHORAL RESPONSE *Old 113th*
How happy they whose hopes rely on Abraham's God, who made the sky
And earth and seas with all their train;
Whose truth forever stands secure, who saves th' oppressed and feeds the poor
And none shall find God's promise vain.

Isaac Watts, adapted by John Wesley

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus

OFFERTORY Hymn of Promise Natalie Sleeth
In the bulb there is a flower, in the seed an apple tree,
In the cold and snow of winter, there's a spring that waits to be,
In our death a resurrection; at the last a victory
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.
In God's word there is a promise of a future yet to be,
In the promise a fulfillment of our hope with certainty,
In the certainty assurance of new life eternally,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS

Dr. Hylton

Affirmation of Commitment

Baptism

Wyatt Dugan

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.**

▲ DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

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 AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Dr. Stoltzfus

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

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;

He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;

'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,

We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

▲ BENEDICTION

Dr. Hylton

▲ CHORAL AMEN

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Stoltzfus

▲ POSTLUDE

Fugue in C minor, BWV 546

J. S. Bach

Todd Fickley, organ

▲ Congregation standing, as able

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

All 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

Spring 2024 Adult Sunday School

The spring Adult Sunday School classes have begun. For class descriptions and more information please visit our [Adult Classes webpage](#). It's not too late to join!

- **Alpha Marriage Course:**
Couple Facilitators, Garden Room A
- **The Border and Beyond: Migration and Immigration in the Mission of God:** Nancy Fox, Jonathan Edwards, and Lewrene Glaser, Room 209
- **Paul's Epistle to the Romans:**
R.V. Seep, Chapel and online
- **God's Plan of Redemption Through History:** Dr. Quinn Fox, Parlor
- **Exploring Luke's Gospel:** Margaret Gardner, Donna Duss and others, Garden Room C
- **Parent Gathering:** Kristin Franke and others, Jones Hall

Childcare

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

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).



**Called
to Care**

The **Deacons' Assistance Fund** offers financial assistance to members of our church experiencing hardship. This fund is solely supported by the generosity of our congregation contact Rev. Larsen.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Are you interested in going on a short-term mission trip in 2024?

NPC will participate in an Intergenerational Mission trip to Romania on August 9-18. Our team will work with Smiles Foundation, a Christian nonprofit dedicated to caring for vulnerable communities in Romania. For more information, contact Serve Director Jonathan Edwards at jedwards@nationalpres.org.

Club 45 (4th & 5th graders) Friday, March 3 at 5 pm

Calling all 4th & 5th graders! Come grow in faith and friendship through fun and games and exploring God's word. For more information contact jmeek@nationalpres.org.

Call for Singers

Mozart Requiem

The National Presbyterian Church
Festival Choir & Orchestra
A Church / Community Chorus

Performance: 5 pm March 24

Palm Sunday

Remaining Rehearsals on Saturdays

10 am – 1 pm:

March 2, 9, 16

Final Rehearsals on:

Friday, March 22, 7 pm – 10 pm

Saturday, March 23, 10 am – 2 pm

Bärenreiter scores

available for nominal fee

LENTEN SEASON EVENTS

For more information about all of our Lenten and Easter events, please visit our [Easter page](#), accessible on the home page of our website.

Lenten Small Groups

Interested in deepening your walk with God? Join a short-term small group discussion of our Lenten sermon series on God's Persistent Love. In-person and online groups will explore Old Testament revelations of God's faithfulness and how our response can transform us. Please visit our [Small Groups](#) webpage to register today.

Easter is Coming!

Hop on board our fantastic Welcome Team to be a loving presence to the many guests who will come for Easter services on March 31. We have many roles for you to choose from to be of service! Contact Leslie Saum at lsaum@nationalpres.org or 202-537-7494.

Holy Week & Easter

- Palm Sunday: March 24, 8:45 & 11:00 am
- Palm Sunday Prayer Gathering: 9:55 am in the Chapel
- Maundy Thursday: March 28, 7:00 pm
- Good Friday: March 29, 7:00 pm
- Easter Worship: March 31, 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 am
- Easter egg hunt: March 31 after the 8:30 and 10:00 am worship services.
- A photographer will take complimentary photos after each service, downstairs at the Easter Garden in Stone Hall.

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 pray for:

God to deepen our mercy and compassion for others.

We pray for:

Keith Patman as he ministers in Chad and Cameroon through his work with Wycliffe Bible Translators.

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 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! 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:



If you haven't made your 2024 commitment, cards are available in the narthex or you can scan the QR code below to make your commitment online.



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 by Joanna Lam in loving memory of her grandmother Wee Siew Kim and her mother Judy Lam, remembering their birthdays in February and March.



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