

March 10, 2024  
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Welcome to  
**NATIONAL  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

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

*The people spoke against God and against Moses,  
'Why have you brought us up out of  
Egypt to die in the wilderness?  
For there is no food and no water,  
and we detest this miserable food.'*  
Numbers 21:5



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](http://nationalpres.org). Questions? Email us at [info@nationalpres.org](mailto:info@nationalpres.org)!

## 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 by March 11 to register at [wmuoio@nationalpres.org](mailto:wmuoio@nationalpres.org) or 202-537-7540.

## 2nd Sunday Sandwich Making

Come to [Stone Fellowship Hall](#) today after the 11am worship service to make sandwiches for [Martha's Table](#). McKenna's Wagon, by Martha's Table, delivers food to the hungry on the streets of DC every day of the year. This is a great event for the whole family!

## Youth Group Dinners

On Sunday nights, our youth group meets for dinner and fellowship. We're always grateful for those who would be willing to provide a simple meal and spend time in fellowship eating with us! For more details, contact Kristin Franke ([kfranke@nationalpres.org](mailto:kfranke@nationalpres.org)).

## Week at a Glance

### Sunday, March 10

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Second Sunday Sandwich Making
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group Dinner Party

### Wednesday, March 13

- 10:30 am: Adult Fellowship Service Project

### Saturday, March 16

- 8:45 am: Prepare for Marriage Workshop
- 10:00 am: Festival Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday, March 17

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Third Grade Milestone: The Bible

Today during 11:00 am worship, our third graders will lead a responsive scripture reading and receive their Bibles as part of their Milestone in Worship. During 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. Please join us in praying for the hearts of the following young people as they receive the gift of God's Word.

# 8:45 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

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## WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING Improvisations Joanna Zorack-Greene, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP Dr. Quinn Fox

▲ OPENING SONG Oh the Deep, Deep Love Bob Kauflin and Samuel Trevor Francis

Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus, vast, unmeasured, boundless, free;  
Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me;  
Underneath me, all around me is the current of your love;  
Leading onward, leading homeward to your glorious rest above.

*Oh, the deep, deep love; all I need and trust is the deep, deep love of Jesus.*

Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus, spread his praise from shore to shore;  
How he came to pay our ransom through the saving cross he bore;  
How he watches o'er his loved ones, those he died to make his own;  
How for them he's interceding, pleading now before the throne. *Chorus (2x)*

Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus, far surpassing all the rest;  
It's an ocean full of blessing in the midst of ev'ry test;  
Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus, mighty Savior, precious friend;  
You will bring us home to glory, where your love will never end. *Chorus (2x)*

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

O Lord, in me there is darkness, but with you there is light. I am lonely, but you never leave me. I am feeble in heart, but with you there is strength. I am restless, but with you there is peace. In me there is bitterness, but with you there is patience. I am full of sin, but with you, O God, is full forgiveness. Your ways are past understanding, but you know the way for me.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

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

Numbers 21:4-9

Deacon Lisa Herndon

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor Israel set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' <sup>6</sup>Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the Lord said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Dr. Fox

*Children ages 5 to 5<sup>th</sup> 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  
The Perils of Impatience*

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. Lisa Larsen

*You may bring your gift forward during the offering song,  
or place it in an offering plate as you exit the Sanctuary.*

▲ OFFERING SONG

If We're Honest

Francesca Battiselli

Truth is harder than a lie. The dark seems safer than the light.  
And everyone has a heart that loves to hide.

I'm a mess and so are you. We've built walls nobody can get through.  
Yeah, it may be hard but the best thing we could ever do, ever do...

*Bring your brokenness and I'll bring mine. 'Cause love can heal what hurt divides.*

*And mercy's waiting on the other side, if we're honest (ooh ooh), if we're honest (ooh ooh)*

Don't pretend to be something that you're not, living life afraid of getting caught.  
There is freedom found when we lay our secrets down at the cross, at the cross.

*Chorus*

## Litany of Ministry

There are different gifts,

**But it is one and the same Spirit who gives them.**

There are different ways of serving God,

**But it is the same Lord who is served.**

God works through people in different ways,

**But it is the same God who achieves his purpose through them all.**

Each one is given a gift by the Spirit

**To use it for the common good.**

## Constitutional Questions

## Installation of Elder

## Prayer of the Congregation

**God of grace, who called us to a common ministry as ambassadors of Christ, trusting us with the message of reconciliation, give us courage and discipline to follow you where your servants rightly lead us, that together we may declare your wonderful deeds, and show your love to the world, through Jesus Christ, the Lord of all. Amen.**

## ▲ 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

This Is Amazing Grace

Phil Wickman

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness, whose love is mighty and so much stronger?

The King of glory, the King above all kings.

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder and leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?

The King of glory, the King above all kings.

*This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love, that you would take my place,  
that you would bear my cross. You would lay down your life, that I would be  
set free. Jesus, I sing for...all that you've done for me.*

Who brings our chaos back into order, who makes the orphan a son and daughter?

The King of glory, the King of glory.

Who rules the nations with truth and justice, shines like the sun in all of its brilliance?

The King of glory, the King above all kings. **Chorus**

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain! Worthy is the King who conquered the grave (3x)

Worthy, worthy, worthy! **Chorus**

## ▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Hylton

## ▲ SENDING

NPC Band

▲ Congregation standing, as able

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

# 11:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

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## WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Allein Gott in der Höh, BWV 662

J.S. Bach  
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Quinn Fox

▲ HYMN 133

All Glory Be to God on High

*Allein Gott in der Höh*

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

*Deo gracias*

O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how passing thought and fantasy,  
That God, the Son of God, should take our mortal form for mortal's sake!

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

O Lord, in me there is darkness, but with you there is light. I am lonely, but you never leave me. I am feeble in heart, but with you there is strength. I am restless, but with you there is peace. In me there is bitterness, but with you there is patience. I am full of sin, but with you, O God, is full forgiveness. Your ways are past understanding, but you know the way for me.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

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.

## THIRD GRADE MILESTONE RESPONSIVE READING Third Grade Sunday School

*Please respond with bold text.*

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

**Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow: it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.** (Hebrews 4:12)

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. (Psalm 119:105)

**I find my delight in your commandments, because I love them.** (Psalm 119:47)

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul. (Psalm 19:7a)

**The decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple.** (Psalm 19:7b)

More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold. (Psalm 19:10a)

**Sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.** (Psalm 19:10b)

The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. (Isaiah 40:8)

## Presentation of Bibles

*Children ages 5 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade will then be dismissed for Children's Chapel.*

*Parents may take children age 4 and under to the nursery.*

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

## SCRIPTURE

Numbers 21:4-9

Donna Duss

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor Israel set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' <sup>6</sup>Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the Lord said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

## SERMON

*Experiencing God's Persistent Love  
The Perils of Impatience*

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

*Children return to join their parents in the sanctuary.*

## CHORAL RESPONSE

Salvation

As when the Hebrews' leader raised the brazen serpent high,  
The wounded looked and straight were cured, the people ceased to die,  
So from the Savior on the cross a healing virtue flows:  
Who looks to him with sincere faith is saved from endless woes.

Isaac Watts

## CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Rev. Lisa Larsen

OFFERTORY                                      God So Loved the World                                      John Stainer  
God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son  
That whoso believeth in him  
Should not perish but have everlasting life.  
For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world,  
But that the world through him might be saved.                                      John 3:16-17

INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS                                      Dr. Hylton

Litany of Ministry  
There are different gifts,  
**But it is one and the same Spirit who gives them.**  
There are different ways of serving God,  
**But it is the same Lord who is served.**  
God works through people in different ways,  
**But it is the same God who achieves his purpose through them all.**  
Each one is given a gift by the Spirit  
**To use it for the common good.**

Constitutional Questions

Installation of Deacon

Prayer of the Congregation

**God of grace, who called us to a common ministry as ambassadors of Christ, trusting us with the message of reconciliation, give us courage and discipline to follow you where your servants rightly lead us, that together we may declare your wonderful deeds, and show your love to the world, through Jesus Christ, the Lord of all. 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                                      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.

▲ HYMN 371                                      Lift High the Cross                                      *Crucifer*

▲ BENEDICTION                                      Dr. Hylton

▲ CHORAL AMEN                                      John Stainer

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST                                      Rev. Larsen

▲ POSTLUDE                                      Toccata in B minor                                      Eugène Gigout  
John Samuel, 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](#).

- **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).

## Everyday Life can be Complicated!

We can all feel stressed out sometimes. Did you know that we have "Care Notes", simple articles addressing life's everyday challenges, available in our Welcome Center resource rack? The encouragement in these helpful booklets can give a boost to you or a friend, and are free for everyone. Stop by and take a look!



**Called  
to Care**

## Stephen Ministry

Our Stephen Ministers will listen and pray with you weekly.

[careoffice@nationalpres.org](mailto:careoffice@nationalpres.org) /202.537.7540

*Learn to do good; seek justice; rescue the oppressed; defend the orphan;  
plead for the widow. Isaiah 1:17.*

# MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Adult Fellowship Service Projects

You're invited to help with two service projects on Wednesday, March 13, beginning at 10:30 AM in Stone Fellowship Hall. We will prepare 1,000 booklets as Easter giveaways and make 100 bag lunches for men living at La Casa, a permanent supportive housing facility run by Friendship Place, a local NPC mission partner. Enjoy a delicious lunch and fellowship as you serve. Invite a friend and help serve our neighbors, members, and Easter guests. Visit the [Adult Fellowship Service Projects](#) webpage to reserve your place at the table.

## SESSION UPDATE

At its February meeting, the Session voted to hold the annual meeting of the congregation on Sunday, June 9, at 10:00 a.m.

## Vacation Bible School

### Sign up today!

Join us for "Scuba" VBS, June 24-28 from 9:30am-12:30pm. Children age 4 to rising 5th grade are invited to explore the depths of God's love through Bible stories, music, crafts, games, service, and more. We also need adult volunteers to lead crews of campers or activity stations. To sign up or learn more, contact Jill Meek at [jmeek@nationalpres.org](mailto:jmeek@nationalpres.org).

## Join Our Easter Welcome Team

Easter is just around the corner and we are looking for friendly volunteers to serve as a warm and welcoming presence. As our church community gathers to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Your service is crucial to making our Easter celebration a success. To join our Easter Welcome Team, please visit our [Serve at Church page](#). You can also contact Leslie Saum directly at [LSaum@nationalpres.org](mailto:LSaum@nationalpres.org) or 202.537.7494 for more information.

# 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.

**Mozart Requiem**  
National Presbyterian Church  
Festival Choir & Orchestra  
Palm Sunday Performance of This and  
Other Beautiful Works  
**Sunday, March 24 at 5 pm**  
No tickets required - Freewill offering  
*Bring Your Family and Friends!*

## Holy Week & Easter

- Palm Sunday: March 24, 8:45 & 11:00 am
- Palm Sunday Prayer Gathering: 9:55 am in the Chapel
- Palm Sunday Concert: March 24, 5:00 pm
- 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 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](mailto: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:

those who manage chronic pain.

### We pray for:

McGilvary College as they develop leaders for ministry in churches, schools, and hospitals in Thailand and Southeast Asia.

### How may we pray for you?

Please submit prayer requests to the Care Office,

[careoffice@nationalpres.org](mailto: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.

## Easter Dedication Flowers

Would you like to honor or remember a loved one by supporting NPC's Easter flower displays? You will find Flower Ministry envelopes on the tables outside the sanctuary. You may make your donation to NPC by check or online, noting "Easter Flowers" on the memo line.

## 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](http://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](mailto:lskrine@nationalpres.org).

## Today's Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are dedicated to the loving memory of Alfred S. Perry, remembering his March 8th birthday.



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