

March 3, 2024
Third Sunday in Lent
Communion

Welcome to
**NATIONAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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

From there Abraham journeyed towards the region of the Negeb, and settled between Kadesh and Shur. While residing in Gerar as an alien, Abraham said of his wife Sarah, 'She is my sister.' And King Abimelech of Gerar sent and took Sarah. But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, 'You are about to die because of the woman whom you have taken; for she is a married woman.'

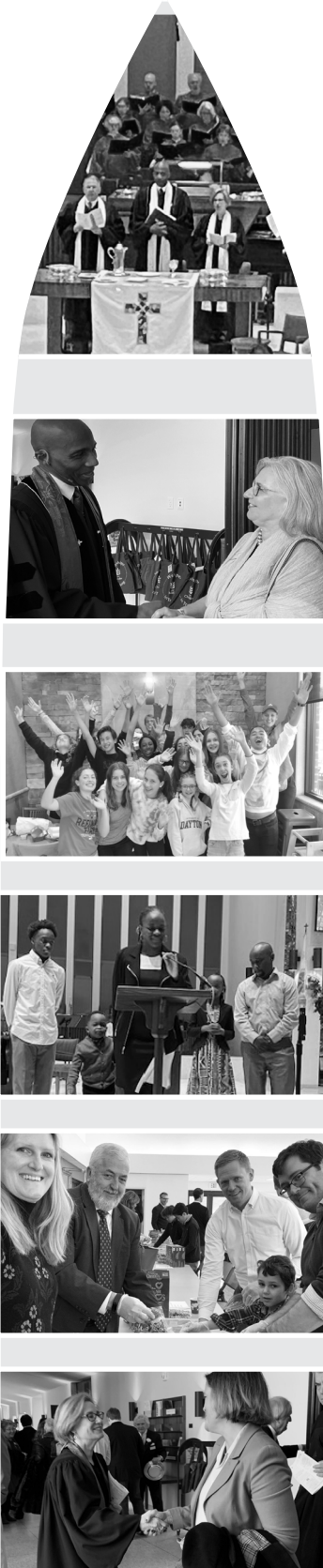
Genesis 20:1-3

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!

Club 45 (4th & 5th graders)

Sunday, 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.

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, 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

Saturday, March 9

- 10:00 am: Festival Choir Rehearsal

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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 on this joyful day! As our church community gathers to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, we want to ensure that everyone feels welcomed and valued. Whether you are greeting attendees at the door, directing them to seating, or assisting with other needs, 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 or 202.537.7494 for more information.

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).

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.

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 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*

Eternal God, we confess that we have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will. We have broken your law. We have rebelled against your love. We have not loved our neighbors. We have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us these and our many sins, we pray, for the sake of your Son our only 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

Rev. Larsen

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Larsen

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 20:1-17

Deacon Kristy Chikes

- ¹Then God spoke all these words: ²I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.
- ⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.
- ⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.
- ⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹For six days you shall labor and do all your work.
- ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work— you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.
- ¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.
- ¹³You shall not murder.
- ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.
- ¹⁵You shall not steal.
- ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Melanie Lenhard
Associate Director for 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
Liberating Words*

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

You may bring your gift forward during the offering song.

▲ OFFERING SONG Battle Belongs Brian Johnson and Phil Wickham

When all I see is the battle, you see my victory.

When all I see is a mountain, you see a mountain moved.

And as I walk through the shadow, your love surrounds me.

There's nothing to fear now, for I am safe with you.

So when I fight, I'll fight on my knees, with my hands lifted high.

O God, the battle belongs to you! And every fear I lay at your feet.

I'll sing through the night. O God, the battle belongs to you.

And if you are for me, who can be against me?

For Jesus, there's nothing impossible for you.

When all I see are the ashes, you see the beauty.

When all I see is a cross, God, you see the empty tomb. **Chorus**

O God, the battle belongs to you.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Dr. Fox

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

Pat Barrett

It all comes down to this what you require of me.

Love my neighbor as myself and you above all things.

Act justly love mercy walk humbly with you God

In all things in all ways walk humbly with you God

It all comes down to this to be your hands and feet.

Good news to all the world the truth will set us free. **Chorus**

It's beauty for ashes, it's mourning to dancing, it's closer and closer, the Kingdom of heaven. (2x)

Years from now we'll see the fruit our hands have sown.

Faith just like a seed the only way it grows. **Chorus**

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.

▲ CLOSING SONG 1000 Tongues Matt Maher and Chris Tomlin

We are a sea of voices, we are an ocean of your praise gathered under one name.

We are a tide that's rising and we cannot be contained, gathered under one name.

O for a thousand tongues to sing the glories of our Lord God Almighty.

O to sing the Savior's praise, a triumph of his grace.

You are worthy, you are worthy, God. Repeat Verse and Chorus

With all Heaven sing, and all earth below: One Holy King, one highest throne! (2x)

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 Prelude in B Major, Op. 99, No. 2 Camille Saint-Saëns
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Lisa Larsen

▲ HYMN 223 VERSES 1-5 O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer *Stuttgart*

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Hymn 223, verse 6
 Bless you Maker, all your creatures, ever under God's control,
 All throughout God's vast dominion; bless the Lord of all, my soul.

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Eternal God, we confess that we have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will. We have broken your law. We have rebelled against your love. We have not loved our neighbors. We have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us these and our many sins, we pray, for the sake of your Son our only Savior.

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 Nicene Creed Rev. Larsen

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Larsen

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 20:1-17

Edward Ifft

¹Then God spoke all these words: ²I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹For six days you shall labor and do all your work.

¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Melanie Lenhard
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SERMON

*Experiencing God's Persistent Love
Liberating Words*

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the sanctuary.

CHORAL RESPONSE I Love You, Lord Laurie Klein/James Gray
I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship you, O my soul, rejoice!
Take joy, my King, in what you hear: May it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS Dr. Quinn Fox

OFFERTORY Love God Sue Farrar
Love God with your heart and soul and mind, and he will bless you, and keep you,
and make his face to shine upon you, for you are his own.
Love God, and hear his Word, and he will prosper your way, day by day,
as you walk through his world, for he loves his own.
May God's lovingkindness cover you, his mercies comfort you, as you seek his ways.
In the night God's song of hope will lift your soul, and you will praise his name.
Love God with your heart and soul and mind, and he will bless you, and keep you,
and make his face to shine upon you, for you are his own. You are his own.
Joanna Zorack-Greene, soprano and pianist

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION Dr. Fox

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation More Love to Thee, O Christ Camille Saint-Saëns

More love to thee, O Christ, more love to thee! Hear thou the prayer I make on bended knee.

This is my earnest plea, more love, O Christ, to thee.

Once blinded to thy grace, sought my own way. Now I seek alone thy face, thy kingdom's way.

This all my prayer shall be: More love, O Christ to thee.

Then shall each breath whisper thy praise. This is the prayer my heart shall raise:

More love, O Christ, to thee, more love to thee.

Sheri Jackson, soprano, and Paul Grosvenor, baritone

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 376 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling *Hyfrydol*

▲ BENEDICTION Dr. Hylton

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

More love to thee.

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST Dr. Fox

▲ POSTLUDE Hyfrydol Ralph Vaughan Williams
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](#).

- **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).



DEACONS

Our Deacons are ready to care for you. They will listen, pray, visit, and encourage you. careoffice@nationalpres.org / 202.537.7540

**Called
to Care**

Love one another. John 13:34.

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

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!

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.

Hearing Assistance

NPC has a great system for hearing assistance in any location in the sanctuary. Small hearing assistance packs are available in the racks just outside of the Sanctuary, along with instructions for use.

If you're watching online, our Facebook broadcast has closed captioning. Please [click here](#) or search for National Presbyterian Church on Facebook to watch. You do not need a Facebook account to watch.

Mozart Requiem Singers

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 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.

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 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 mourn:

the passing of Dr. Beverly Elson, widow of Frank Madison Gray, and the passing of Gena Stephens.

We pray for:

International Justice Mission as they fight for protection and restitution for victims of human rights crimes and for transformation of broken justice systems throughout the world.

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 Edward Blanton in honor of his father Edward's 102nd birthday on March 8th.



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