

March 31, 2024

Easter



Welcome to
**NATIONAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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

*But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are
looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified.
He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is
the place they laid him.'*

Mark 16:6

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)

WELCOME TO NATIONAL!



*Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father,
so we too might walk in newness of life. Romans 6:4*

WE'RE SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

After Worship Services, Today: Coffee, Cookies and Easter Garden

Everyone is invited to come down to Stone Fellowship Hall after any of the worship services for coffee, cookies, and complimentary keepsake photos taken in the beautiful Easter Garden!

Easter Egg Hunt:

Following the 8:30am & 10:00am services, families are invited to an egg hunt. Meet in the Garden after the 8:30am service, or at the school playground after the 10:00am service.

New to National? Welcome!

Here, you'll find inspirational preaching, joyful music, Christian teaching for all ages, and time to connect with one another. If you have questions 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 more easy ways to connect:

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

Join us for the next sermon series: Questions Everyone Asks: Discovering God, Purpose, and Truth

**Sundays, April 7 to June 9
at 8:45 and 11:00 am.**

- How do I deal with my doubts?
- Does God exist?
- Does life have a bigger purpose?
- Why does God allow pain and suffering?
- Is Christianity too narrow?
- Is Jesus really God?
- Is the Bible reliable?
- How can I know God personally?

8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE TODAY

Quietly in the dim light of dawn

CHIMES

CHORAL INTROIT

Andrea Gabrieli

Maria Magdalena, with her the other Mary, early went to see the garden tomb.

"Jesus, the one you seek is not here, but is risen, just as he spoke to you.

He goes to Galilee before you. There you will see him, as he said.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed!**

Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed!**

Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!**

▲ HYMN

Fanfare and Hymn for Easter Morning

Paul Sjolund

Easter Hymn

Jesus Christ is risen today, *Alleluia!* Our triumphant holy day, *Alleluia!*

Raise your joys and triumphs high, *Alleluia!* Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth reply, *Alleluia!*

Lives again our glorious King, *Alleluia!* Where, O death, is now your sting? *Alleluia!*

Died he to redeem and save, *Alleluia!* Where your victory, O grave? *Alleluia!*

Love's redeeming work is done, *Alleluia!* Fought the fight, the vict'ry won, *Alleluia!*

Death in vain forbids him rise, *Alleluia!* Christ has opened Paradise, *Alleluia!*

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Lisa Larsen

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Easter Hymn

Sing we to our God above, *Alleluia!* Praise eternal as God's love, *Alleluia!*

Praise our God, ye heav'nly host, *Alleluia!* Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. *Alleluia!*

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Almighty God, in raising Jesus Christ from the grave,

you shattered the power of sin and death, and brought us hope of everlasting life.

We confess that we do not always believe in this hope,

We remain captive to doubt, fear, and sin. Forgive us, gracious God.

Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new.

Hear our grateful praise, O Risen Lord,

as we celebrate your wondrous love and eternal glory.

SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

▲ RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Lasst uns erfreuen

O friends, in gladness let us sing supernal anthems echoing,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One,

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed Rev. Larsen

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

Mark 16:1-8

8:30 am: Faith Burton
10:00 am: Ty Wormmeester
11:30 am: Miles Green

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Rev. Larsen

*At the 8:30am & 10:00am services,
children age 5 to 5th grade may exit for Children's Chapel,
returning after the sermon. At 11:30, children return to their pews.
At all services, parents may take children age 4 & under to the nursery,
and pick them up there after the service.*

SERMON

*Experiencing God's Persistent Love
Does the Resurrection Matter?*

Dr. Hylton

CHORAL RESPONSE I Am the Resurrection and the Life

John Rutter

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: He that believeth in me, though he were
dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Dr. Quinn Fox

At the 8:30am & 10:00am services, children age 5 to 5th grade return to join their families in the Sanctuary

OFFERTORY	Gratias agimus tibi	J. S. Bach
	Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.	<i>Mass in B Minor</i>
	<i>We give thanks to you because of your great glory.</i>	

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER	Dr. Fox
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	Thine Is the Glory	G. F. Handel
	Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son.	
	Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.	
	Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,	
	Kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.	
	<i>Thine is the glory, risen conquering Son.</i>	
	<i>Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.</i>	
	Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb.	
	Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.	
	Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,	
	For the Lord now liveth. Death hath lost its sting. <i>Refrain</i>	
	No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life!	
	Life is nought without thee. Aid us in our strife.	
	Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love.	
	Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. <i>Refrain</i>	

▲ BENEDICTION	Dr. Hylton
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▲ CHORAL RESPONSE	Hallelujah, Amen	G. F. Handel
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▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST	Dr. Fox
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▲ POSTLUDE	Toccata	Charles-Marie Widor Mr. Fickley, organ
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▲ Congregation standing, as able

BRASS ENSEMBLE

William Gerlach, Principal Trumpet, National Symphony Orchestra
Michael Harper, Assistant Principal Trumpet, National Symphony Orchestra
Kevin Paul, Trumpet, The United States Army Band, "Pershing's Own"
James Nickel, Associate Principal Horn, National Symphony Orchestra
Lee Rogers, Principal Trombone, Washington National Opera Orchestra
Seth Cook, Principal Tuba, Washington National Opera Orchestra

PERCUSSION

Adam Green, Timpani, United States Air Force Band (Ret.)

EXCITING UPCOMING EVENTS

Israel-Palestine: The Way Forward?!

An Evening Conversation

April 10, 7:00 p.m.

Stone Fellowship Hall

Join us for an evening conversation between a Palestinian Christian and an Iraqi-born American Jew. **Rev. Prof. Mitri Raheb** is Founder and President of Dar al-Kalima University in Bethlehem. **Dr. Alon Ben-Meir** is a Senior Fellow of International Relations and Middle Eastern studies at New York University's Center for Global Affairs.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, April 6, 8:00 am

Stone Fellowship Hall

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 Kerry Stoltzfus, presenting: "Reflections on Pastoral Ministry: The Power of Presence" Please email grow@nationalpres.org for more information or to RSVP.

Women's Ministry Lunch

Saturday, April 6, 12:00 pm

Stone Fellowship Hall

All women are invited to the Women's Ministry Lunch. This noon fellowship gathering will be a time of prayer and praise as we celebrate a year of growing deeper roots in Christ and commitment to one another. Please join us for delicious food and faith-filled conversation. [Registration](#) is available on the [NPC website](#).

Pathway of Christian Discipleship Class **Saturday, April 13, In-person**

Becoming a church member here at NPC can be a meaningful step forward in your spiritual journey. To inquire about membership or just learn more about Christian faith, please attend the one-day in-person Pathway of Christian Discipleship class. For more information, and to register by April 3, contact Kemet Rakiatu at krakiatu@nationalpres.org or 202.537.7578.

Great Day of Service

Saturday, May 18, 9:30 am-1:00 pm

You're invited to join us on the Great Day of Service, when friends and neighbors will join us to serve our city and those encountering food insecurity around the world. People of all ages are invited to help pack meal kits, tutor kids in reading and math, collect food and clothing, and build a Habitat house.

Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Serve Director Jonathan Edwards at jedwards@nationalpres.org or 202-537-7505.



FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Easter

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Doris Harmon by Susan and Richard Meyer, and in memory of G. Joseph Sears on the occasion of his April 3rd birthday with love from his wife Margaret Smith Sears.

Palm Sunday

The flowers in the Sanctuary were given to the glory of God by Joyce Yoder in loving memory/honor of her son, Nathan Yoder.

FIND YOUR PLACE TO CONNECT



Questions? Visit the Welcome Center or email info@nationalpres.org.

Whether your passion is serving, singing or Sunday School, we have a place for you! Here are a few examples of how you can get connected to our church community. Questions? We are available to chat at the Welcome Center or you may email us at info@nationalpres.org. You can also find details about these and more at nationalpres.org.



Sunday School

Grow in Christ through God's Word in weekly Sunday School for children, youth, and adults.

Vacation Bible School

This summer's VBS is June 24-28, from 9:30am-12:30pm. Children age 4 to rising 5th grade will explore the depths of God's love through Bible stories, music, crafts, games, and service projects.



Club 45

4th & 5th graders meet monthly for games and a devotional as they grow in faith and friendship.



Youth Group

Middle and high school students gather regularly for fun games, meaningful conversation, and Bible study.

Youth Summer Trips

This summer, high school students and middle school students will grow their faith and friendships on trips filled with fun, worship and adventure!



Young Adults

Young adults gather for small group discussion and fun outings.



Sandwich Making, Food Drives and Great Day of Service

Year-round opportunities to serve, including a special day of service with family-friendly, hands-on service projects here at National and in the surrounding community.

Care and Support

We are here to celebrate and support you at times of joy and new beginnings. We also walk alongside you during life transitions and challenges.



Small Groups

Our welcoming small groups gather throughout the week in person and online for Bible study, book discussion, prayer, support, and fellowship together.



Large Groups

Our large groups include Men's Breakfast, Women's Brunch, Military Ministry, Senior Adults, Chancel Choir and Festival Choir.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

Prayers

On this Easter Sunday, we pray that the grace of God, the hope of Jesus' resurrection, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit will live in our hearts every day.

We pray for:

Little Lights Urban Ministries as they provide tutoring, friendship, holistic ministry and services to children and families living in DC housing projects.

We celebrate with:

Alan and Lauren Kim on the birth of their daughter.

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 encouraged. 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.

May we pray for you?



**Called
to Care**

Please contact the Care Office if you would like to receive prayer or if you would like your name included on our Care & Joy list. All prayer requests are kept confidential and are prayed for by our Prayer Team.

He cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7b



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