

February 16, 2025

Welcome to NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*For he was a good man,
full of the Holy Spirit and of faith.
And a great many people
were brought to the Lord.*

Acts 11:24



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!

Mission Trip Informational Meeting Today, February 16 at 12:30 pm Garden Rooms A

Are you interested in going on a short-term mission trip to the **Dominican Republic** in 2025? You are invited to a lunch and information session. NPC will participate in an Intergenerational Mission trip, July 12-18. Our team will serve alongside our mission partner, Foundation for Peace, a Christian nonprofit dedicated to working hand in hand on health, education and community initiatives in the Dominican Republic. For more information, contact Serve Director Jonathan Edwards (jedwards@nationalpres.org).

Young Professionals Bible Study This Wednesday, February 19 at 7:00 pm Room 109

Each week, young professionals gather for a Bible study that focuses on applying faith to daily life in Washington DC, as well as for periodic social events. For more information contact Kristin Franke (kfranke@nationalpres.org).

VBS Campers & Volunteers: Sign Up Today!

Vacation Bible School is June 23-27 from 9:30 am-12:30 pm, for children age 4 to rising 5th grade. Register your campers today for a week of Bible stories, music, crafts, games, service, and more! We also need adult volunteers to serve as crew leaders and station leaders. Come point kids to Jesus, their "True North" as we explore what it means to trust Jesus in a wild world! Contact: Jill Meek (jmeek@nationalpres.org).

Week at a Glance

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

Sunday, February 16

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Adult Sunday School
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship with Officer Installation
- 12:30 pm: Dominican Republic Mission Trip Meeting

Wednesday, February 19

- 7:00 pm: Young Professionals Bible Study

Sunday, February 23

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

Lenten Small Groups

March 5-April 16 - Sign up now!

Interested in growing in discipleship in community with others? Join a short-term small group discussion of our Lenten sermon series on Spiritual Medicine from the Psalms. In-person and online groups will explore insights from the Psalms of who God is and how God responds to our spiritual needs with healing. Please visit [NPC's Event page](#) to [register](#) for a group by February 23.

Join Our Welcome Team!

We need many smiling faces to greet, usher, and connect with folks on Sundays. Please visit our [Serve at Church](#) page and sign up today! You may also may contact Leslie Saum (lsaum@nationalpres.org) directly at 202.537.7494.

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

O How Good It Is

Keith and Kristyn Getty

O how good it is when the family of God
dwell together in spirit, in faith and unity;
Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love
are the fruit of his presence here among us.

*So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord,
and with one heart we'll live out his word
til the whole world sees the Redeemer has come,
for he dwells in the presence of his people.*

O how good it is on this journey we share
to rejoice with the happy and weep with those who mourn.

For the weak find strength, the afflicted find grace,
when we offer the blessing of belonging. *Chorus*

O how good it is to embrace his command
to prefer one another, forgive as he forgives.

When we live as one we all share in the love
of the Son with the Father and the Spirit. *Chorus*

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Dr. Fox

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Eternal God, in disobedience and sin, we often worship only who we wish you to be.

Forgive, amend, and transform us, we pray.

Show us how to worship you in the way we treat others:

not as posturing adversary, but as advocate,

not in accusation, but with encouragement,

not as confronting foe, but as comforting friend.

Make us open-hearted and open-handed, congenial, generous, mature.

May others see in us a people devoted to Jesus Christ,

comfortable in our own skin, and at liberty to freely give of ourselves.

May they see in us true imitation of our Lord,

and a clear view of the Holy Spirit's ministry,

coming alongside us day by day, and in our deepest needs.

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 Acts 11:19-26 Elder Nyla Beth Gawel
Pew Bible Pages 895-896

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES Dr. Fox

*Kindergarten to 5th graders may exit with leaders for Children's Chapel.
Parents may take children Pre-K and under to the nursery.*

SERMON Barnabas: Encouraging Others on the Journey 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 Oceans Joel Houston

You call me out upon the waters, the great unknown where feet may fail,
And there I find you in the mystery; in oceans deep, my faith will stand.

*And I will call upon your name and keep my eyes above the waves.
When oceans rise, my soul will rest in your embrace
for I am yours and you are mine.*

Your grace abounds in deepest waters, your sovereign hand will be my guide.
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me,
you've never failed and you won't start now.

*So I will call upon your name and keep my eyes above the waves.
When oceans rise, my soul will rest in your embrace
for I am yours and you are mine.*

Spirit, lead me where my trust is without borders;
let me walk upon the waters wherever you would call me.
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander
and my faith will be made stronger in the presence of my Savior. (2x)

*And I will call upon your name and keep my eyes above the waves.
When oceans rise, my soul will rest in your embrace
for I am yours and you are mine.*

▲ 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 All Creatures of Our God and King arr. David Crowder
All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing:
O praise him, Alleluia!
Thou, burning sun with golden beam, thou, silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise him, O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou, rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Thou, rising moon in praise rejoice! Ye lights of evening, find a voice!
O praise him, O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let all things their Creator bless! And worship him in humbleness.
O praise him, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit—Three in One!
O praise him, O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
O Alleluia! Alleluia! (3x) O Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST Dr. Hylton

▲ SENDING NPC Band

▲ Congregation standing, as able

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

NOTES

Sanctuary and Online

PRELUDE

Samuel Sebastian Wesley
Todd Fickley, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Quinn Fox

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Laudes Domini

Dr. Fox

Alice Parker

Come and taste along with me consolation flowing free,
From the Father's wealthy throne, sweeter than the honeycomb.
I'll praise God and you praise God, and we'll all praise God together;
We'll praise the Lord for the work that he has done,
and we'll bless his name forever.

Farabee

John Leland

Dr. Fox

Eternal God, in disobedience and sin, we often worship only who we wish you to be.

Forgive, amend, and transform us, we pray.

Show us how to worship you in the way we treat others:

not as posturing adversary, but as advocate,

not in accusation, but with encouragement,

not as confronting foe, but as comforting friend.

Make us open-hearted and open-handed, congenial, generous, mature.

May others see in us a people devoted to Jesus Christ,

comfortable in our own skin, and at liberty to freely give of ourselves.

May they see in us true imitation of our Lord,

and a clear view of the Holy Spirit's ministry,

coming alongside us day by day, and in our deepest needs.

Believe the good news of the Gospel.

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

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.

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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Acts 11:19-26
Pew Bible Pages 895-896

Elder Linda Botsford

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Dr. Fox

*Kindergarten to 5th graders may exit with leaders for Children's Chapel.
Parents may take children Pre-K and under to the nursery.*

SERMON

Barnabas: Encouraging Others on the Journey Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the Sanctuary.

RESPONSE

Holy Spirit

Stuart Townend and Keith Getty, alt.

Choir

Holy Spirit, living Breath of God, breathe new life into my weary soul;
Bring the presence of the Risen Lord to renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause your Word to come alive in me; give me faith for what I cannot see.
Give me passion for your purity; Holy Spirit, bring new life to me.

Congregation

Holy Spirit, come abide within; may your joy be seen in all I do;
Let your blessings of encouragement wing my words and ground my attitude:
Kindness to the greatest and the least, gentleness to sow the path of peace.
Turn my striving into works of grace; Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Rev. Lisa Larsen

OFFERTORY

Sweet Are the Prayers of a Friend

Pepper Choplin

Sweet are the prayers of a friend.

*How sweet are the prayers that are offered up by a friend,
who calls, calling up to heaven, calling, "Lord, come down, come down and bless again."*

Friends pray for healing, they pray revealing the heavy burdens of our souls.

They pray for courage, unflinching courage, asking God to make us whole.

How sweet are the prayers that are offered up by a friend,

who calls, calling up to heaven, calling, "Lord, come down, come down and bless again."

Friends pray us through troubles, through all our struggles when life seems to fall apart.

They pray through grieving, always believing, God can heal the broken heart.

How sweet are the prayers that are offered up by a friend,

*who calls, calling up to heaven, calling, "Lord, come down, come down and bless again...
come down and bless again."*

Sweet are the prayers of a friend for a friend.

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

Ordination and Installation of Elders and Deacons

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 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

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

Canonbury

Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of thy tone;

As thou hast sought, so let me seek thine erring children lost and lone.

O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious things thou dost impart;

And wing my words that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.

O fill me with thy fullness, Lord, until my very heart o'erflow

In kindly and consoling word, thy love to tell, thy praise to show.

O use me, Lord, use even me, just as thou wilt, and when, and where;

Until thy blessed face I see, thy rest, thy joy, thy glory share.

Frances Ridley Havergal, alt.

▲ BENEDICTION

Dr. Hylton

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

Pepper Choplin

Sweet are the prayers of a friend for a friend.

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Rev. Larsen

▲ POSTLUDE

Sonata de Primo Tono

José Lidón

Mr. Fickley, organ

▲ Congregation standing, as able

*Everyone is invited downstairs to Stone Fellowship Hall for
Coffee, Cookies, and Community after worship.*

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

All worship services are in the Sanctuary and online on our [Watch](#) webpage.

- **8:45 am:** Contemporary Worship
- **9:55 am:** Adult Sunday School
- **11:00 am:** Traditional Worship

Childcare

Childcare is available 8:30 am until the close of the 11:00 am service. The Nursery (Room 207), the Early Walker Room (Room 231), and the Toddler Room (Room 230) are located on the second floor of the main church building. Infants - crawling should go to the Nursery, walkers under 2 (as of September 30) should go to the Early Walker Room, and those ages 2-pre-K should utilize the Toddler Room.

Children's Sunday School

Resumes February 23

Visit our [Children's webpage](#) to learn 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).

Youth Sunday School

Resumes February 23

Visit our [Youth webpage](#) for information about Sunday School, youth group, and other special events.

- Youth Sunday School, for grades 6-12, meets in the Multipurpose Building for fellowship, worship, and small group Bible studies.

Adult Sunday School

Visit our [Adult Classes webpage](#) for class descriptions and more information.

- ***The Council of Nicaea and Its Creed after 1700 years***
Quinn Fox
Chapel and Online
We will explore the historical and theological significance of the Nicene Creed, examining its key statements about the Triune God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) as articulated in the creed that resulted from the First Council of Nicaea in 325 AD (1700 years ago).
- ***The Dangerous Act of Loving God and Neighbor***
Nancy Fox, Ginny Beeson
Room 209
Using Dr. Mark Labberton's book *The Dangerous Act of Worship* and other resources, we will look at the inseparable connection of Christian worship and Jesus' call into his work of justice.
- ***Parent Gathering***
Resumes February 23
Jones Hall, Education Building

- ***Ephesians and Philippians***
R. V. Seep
Garden Room A
In Philippians the apostle Paul finds joy while in prison, taunted by his critics, wanting necessities, and separated from those he loved. Amid dire circumstances, Paul pens a letter radiating joy. Ephesians gives us a birds-eye view of key themes in Christian reflection and living—God, the world, Jesus, the church, salvation, Christian behavior, marriage and family, and spiritual warfare.
- ***The Gospel According to Mark***
Margaret Gardner, Donna Duss
Garden Room C
Mark's gospel describes the life of Jesus with a pathos and urgency that underline its momentous implications for all humanity. Mark challenges us to fully follow Jesus now and into eternity.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, March 1 at 8:00 am

Stone Fellowship Hall

Men are invited to join us in-person at NPC in Stone Fellowship Hall on the first Saturday of every month for our men's breakfast.

Please email grow@nationalpres.org for more information.

Plenary Session:

Global Security and Christian Theology Stone Fellowship Hall

Sunday March 2 at 9:45 am

We live in the wealthiest and most heavily defended time in history, so why do we feel so insecure? In a secular world, what does Christian theology have to say about this problem? Join us for a Plenary Adult Class with Dr. John Heathershaw, Professor of International Relations, University of Exeter, England, as we explore these and other questions.

Call for Singers!

A GERMAN REQUIEM

JOHANNES BRAHMS

English Translation by

Robert Shaw

NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FESTIVAL CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025 at 5 pm

Reserve your place in the Festival Choir!

Call for 150 Singers / All Are Welcome / Experienced Singers Preferred
Beautiful New Scholarly Performance Edition Features both German and English
Nominal Cost of \$20

Rehearsals for this musical masterpiece begin 10 am on Saturday, March 1.

Rehearsal Schedule

Preliminary Saturday Rehearsals 10 am–2 pm

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and April 5

Performance Weekend Rehearsals

Friday, April 11 from 7 pm–10 pm

Saturday, April 12 from 10 am–2 pm

Go to www.nationalpres.org/brahms to immediately sign up.

Or call the NPC Music Office at 202-537-7553.



**Called
to Care**

Stephen Ministry

Our Stephen Ministers will listen and pray with you weekly.

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

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!

Newcomers and long-timers:

Let us know you are here!

Whether in the Sanctuary or worshipping online - we want to know you and care for you:

- Please sign the guestbook in the pews or online on our [Watch](#) webpage.

Ways to Connect:

- Sign up for our e-newsletter on our website or info@nationalpres.org.
- Contact our Connections Ministry to get a conversation started:
lsaum@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.

Your Giving Makes 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.

To support the general ministry of National:

- Go to nationalpres.org/giving
- Text "NPC" to 833.414.9444
- Scan the QR code below:



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.

Prayers

We mourn:

the passing of Irene Koerner.

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.

The flowers in the Sanctuary
are given to the glory of God
by Dianne and John Tingley
in loving memory of their parents,
David and Audrey Rhea,
and Ethel and Stuart Tingley.

Heritage Brief

FREDERICK DOUGLASS ADDRESS AT OUR CHURCH IN 1866

On Tuesday evening, February 13, 1866, probably the best known and most significant event of the 19th Century to occur at our church (then the First Presbyterian Church of Washington) took place: a speech delivered from our pulpit by the renowned abolitionist, orator, and writer, Frederick Douglass. This charity fundraising-event was approved and endorsed by our long-time pastor Dr. Byron Sunderland and the Session at the request of a local charity which supported indigent black women and children who had been freed from slavery beginning with emancipation in the District of Columbia four years earlier. Because of Mr. Douglass's race, no other white organization or church in town was willing to allow him to speak in its facility, but Sunderland—long an outspoken abolitionist himself—and the elders approved the request as being fully appropriate for a Christian church.

On the very day that our church approved this use of the sanctuary for a week hence, a sizeable, highly publicized, and contentious meeting occurred at the White House between a Douglass-led group and President Andrew Johnson over the group's demand for black civil rights and equality before the law. This was immediately followed by strong, public criticism of the President by Douglass over the shoddy way the group had been treated. In response to Douglass's criticism, a significant number of church members and pew holders, including some lay leaders, proceeded to oppose Douglass's use of our pulpit, feeling that he had been rude to the President, even as many others remained supportive of his upcoming address. This internal argument grew quite heated and very public during the week leading up to the speech, but the event was held as scheduled and was a great success. A crowd of about 1000, including many dignitaries heard the two-hour address. (The subject: "The Assassination and Its Lessons"—on the killing of President Lincoln in the city just ten months earlier.)

Unfortunately, the internal conflict at the church became even more public after the event, drawing both praise and condemnation in newspapers as far away as San Francisco. Eventually about a third of the congregation left First Presbyterian because of this event of great charity held there. Years later Dr. Sunderland said he was amazed the church survived the occasion—though gradually it grew again. The strong Biblical position on racial generosity taken by Dr. Sunderland and the Session in 1866 continues at NPC today.

Prepared by the NPC History & Archives Ministry



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