

November 17, 2024
New Member Sunday

Welcome to
**NATIONAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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

*And let us consider how to provoke
one another to love and good deeds,
not neglecting to meet together,
as is the habit of some,
but encouraging one another,
and all the more as you see
the Day approaching.
Hebrews 10:24-25*



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!

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, come meet them and enjoy a lovely reception after the 11:00 am service down in Stone Fellowship Hall.

- Robert Adcock* Washington, DC
 - Jon Alger Washington, DC
 - Mary Ann Alger Washington, DC
 - Juliet Armerding Washington, DC
 - Luke Armerding Washington, DC
 - Zachary Olson Washington, DC
 - Mike Papadopoulos Chevy Chase, MD
 - Anna-Kay Richards Arlington, VA
 - Josef Skoldeberg Bethesda, MD
 - KeJi Skoldeberg Bethesda, MD
 - Alan Wu Bethesda, MD
- * *Baptism*

If you are interested in membership here at National or just learning more, please attend the next Pathway of Christian Discipleship class online on January 25th and February 1st. For more information, visit our [Events page](#) or contact Kemet Rakiatu at krakiatu@nationalpres.org or 202.537.7578.

First Grade Milestone: The Lord's Prayer

Today during 8:45 am worship our first graders lead us in the Lord's Prayer. As a part of 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.

Week at a Glance

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

Sunday, November 17

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: New Member Reception
- 5:00 pm: Club 45
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group

Saturday, November 23

- 10:00 am: Messiah Rehearsal

Sunday, November 24

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 5:00 pm: Youth Family Service Night

Messiah Rehearsals Have Begun

It's not too late to join the Festival Choir!

To Us a Savior: A Portrait of Christ in HANDEL'S MESSIAH will be presented on Sunday, December 15, at 5:00 pm. Saturday Rehearsals continue 10:00 am–1:00 pm on November 23 and December 7. To sign up, please visit our [Events webpage](#) or call the NPC Music Office at (202) 537-7553. No tickets are required to attend the event. A freewill offering will be received. A QR code for online giving during the offering will also be available. For generous donations now please scan this QR code.



Youth Family Service Night Sunday, Nov. 24 at 5:00 pm Stone Fellowship Hall

All youth and their families are invited to serve together, as we make vegetarian lasagna to be distributed by Martha's Table on McKenna's Wagon. Please bring your own knife and cutting board! We'll start by making lasagnas together, then join for a potluck dinner afterwards.

8:45 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING Improvisations Joanna Zorack-Greene, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

▲ OPENING SONG By Faith Keith and Kristyn Getty

By faith we see the hand of God in the light of creation's grand design,
in the lives of those who prove his faithfulness, who walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith our forebears walked the earth with the pow'r of God's promise in their hearts
of a holy city built by God's own hand, a place where peace and justice reign.

We will stand as children of the promise;

We will fix our eyes on him, our soul's reward.

Till the race is finished and the work is done,

we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith the prophets saw a day when the longed-for Messiah would appear
with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death, and rise triumphant from the grave.

By faith the church was called to go in the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost,
to deliver captives and to preach good news in ev'ry corner of the earth. **Chorus**

By faith this mountain shall be moved and the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail,
for we know in Christ all things are possible for all who call upon his name.

Chorus (2x)

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

O Lord, teach us to understand that your Son died to save us,
less from suffering than from ourselves,
less from injustice than from being unjust.

Forgive and transform us.

Christ died that we might live—but live as he lives—by dying as he died,
who died to himself.

George MacDonald

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

From A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily task
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Hylton

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 10:19-25
Pew Bible Page 976

Elder Peggy Lewis

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Melanie Lenhard
Associate Director of Children's Ministry

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

SERMON

The Call to Persevere

Dr. Quinn Fox

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. Nancy Fox

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

▲ OFFERING SONG

Sovereign

Chris Tomlin

Sovereign in the mountain air, sovereign on the ocean floor,
with me in the calm, with me in the storm!

Sovereign in my greatest joy, sovereign in my deepest cry,
with me in the dark, with me at the dawn!

In your everlasting arms, all the pieces of my life, from beginning to the end, I can trust you.

In your never-failing love, you work everything for good.

God, whatever comes my way, I will trust you! God,

whatever comes my way, I will trust you!

All my hopes, all I need, held in your hands!

All my life, all of me, held in your hands!

All my fears, all my dreams, held in Your hands! **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

Dr. Nancy Fox

THE LORD'S PRAYER

First Grade Milestone

Children

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Children and Congregation

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

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.

▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Quinn Fox

▲ SENDING

NPC Band

▲ Congregation standing, as able

2018 12 15 10:00 AM CCI #1000222 and #13312

11:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE Pavane from *Rhythmic Suite* Robert Elmore
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

▲ HYMN 223 O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer *Stuttgart*

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

CHORAL RESPONSE Alice Parker
When I can read my title clear to mansions in the skies,
I'll bid farewell to every tear, and wipe my weeping eyes. *Pisgah*

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

O Lord, teach us to understand that your Son died to save us,
less from suffering than from ourselves,
less from injustice than from being unjust.

Forgive and transform us.

Christ died that we might live—but live as he lives—by dying as he died,
who died to himself.

George MacDonald

SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news of the Gospel.

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

Dr. Hylton

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

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.

Gloria Patri

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

In life and death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit,

we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.

With believers in every time and place,

we rejoice that nothing in life or in death

can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Holy Spirit,

we strive to serve Christ in our daily task

and to live holy and joyful lives,

even as we watch for God's new heaven and earth,

praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

From A Brief Statement of Faith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Hylton

SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 10:19-25
Pew Bible Page 976

Cynthia Armstrong-Friedmann

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Melanie Lenhard
Associate Director of Children's Ministry

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

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SERMON

The Call to Persevere

Dr. Quinn Fox

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the sanctuary.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *sung first by the choir, then the congregation*

Finlandia

Be still, my soul! The Lord is on thy side; bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.

Leave to thy God to order and provide; in every change, he faithful will remain.

Be still, my soul! Thy best, thy heav'nly friend, through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Katharine von Schlegel, translated by Jane Laurie Borthwick

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Dr. Nancy Fox

OFFERTORY

You Are My Light

James R. Day

*The text of this work is based on World War II prison writings of
German pastor, theologian, and martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer.*

*The music intermingles a Reformation hymn and a 12th century Hebrew chant
often sung by Jewish people persecuted and perishing in Nazi concentration camps:
"I believe with a perfect faith in the coming Messiah. Though he tarry, yet, I do believe."*

You are my light, you are my song. Of whom shall I be afraid?

Ani ma'amin, be'emunah sh'leim. B'viat ha mashiach anima'amin.

Lo, God is here! Let us adore, and know how holy is this place!

Ani ma'amin, be'emunah sh'leim. B'viat ha mashiach anima'amin.

Let all within us feel God's power, and silent bow before his face.

Ani ma'amin, be'emunah sh'leim. B'viat ha mashiach anima'amin.

You are my light, you are my song. Of whom shall I be afraid?

From Psalm 27 using *Vater unser* and *Ani ma'amin*

▲ 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.

NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION

Dr. Hylton

Affirmation of Commitment

Baptism

Robert Adcock

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.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Dr. Nancy 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

By Gracious Powers

Perfect Love

By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered,
And confidently waiting, come what may,
We know that God is with us night and morning,
And never fails to greet us each new day.

Yet is this heart by its old foe tormented,
Still evil days bring burdens hard to bear;
O give our frightened souls the sure salvation
For which, O Lord, you taught us to prepare.

And when again this cup is filled to brimming
With bitter suffering, hard to understand,
We take it thankfully and without trembling,
Out of so good and so beloved a hand.

Yet when again in this same world you give us
The joy we had, the brightness of your sun,
We shall remember all the days we lived through,
And our whole life shall then be yours alone.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, translated by Fred Pratt Green

▲ BENEDICTION

Dr. Quinn Fox

▲ CHORAL AMEN

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Nancy Fox

▲ POSTLUDE

Introduction and March

William Walton
Mr. Fickley, organ

▲ Congregation standing, as able

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

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

Childcare

Childcare is available 8:30 a.m. until the close of the 11:00 a.m. 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 age 2-pre-K should utilize the Toddler Room.

Children's Sunday School

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

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 Spirit of Our Politics***
Facilitators: Ginny Beeson and Nancy Fox
Garden Rooms A & B
We are reading and discussing Michael Wear's book, along with associated articles and readings.
- ***The Gospel of Mark - A Study***
Facilitators: Donna Duss, Margaret Gardner, and others
Garden Room C
We are discussing Jesus' life and teachings as presented in the Gospel of Mark using N.T. Wright's Bible Study guide, *Mark for Everyone*.
- ***The Early Church: The First Three Centuries***
R.V. Seep
Chapel and [Online](#)
Join us for a comprehensive survey of the first three centuries of the Christian movement and its impact on the future shape of the church.
- ***Parent Gathering***
Jones Hall, Education Building
All parents of youth and children are invited to stop by Jones Hall in the Education building for coffee, fellowship, and small group Bible studies that correspond with the children's and youth classes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanksgiving Worship & Food Collection

Thursday, Nov. 28 at 10:00 am

Join us for a warm worship service of thanksgiving! To express gratitude for the abundance we enjoy, we bring donations of nonperishable food and offer it during the service. Please see our [Events Page](#) for more information, and to view the [suggested donation list](#).

Advent Family Night

Sunday, Dec. 1 at 5:00 pm

Stone Fellowship Hall

Start the Advent season on a fun, family-friendly, and faith-centered note! We'll begin with a short time of worship, then make crafts you can enjoy all season, and have dinner together. Please let us know if your family is coming, so we can plan for crafts and dinner accordingly. If you have questions or need to RSVP, contact Jill Meek, jmeek@nationalpres.org.

JOIN OUR NPC TEAM!

NPC Communications Director

The Communications Director develops and executes a comprehensive communication strategy that reflects the Church's mission and values. This role manages internal and external communications, oversees branding efforts, and enhances the church's visibility and engagement across various platforms. The ideal candidate will possess strong skills in content creation and digital communication, be adept at managing multiple tasks while effectively meeting deadlines, and demonstrate a passion for ministry. Qualified applicants should send a resume to recruiting@nationalpres.org.

Associate for Young Adult and Youth Ministries

NPC is searching for an Associate for Young Adult and Youth Ministries. The successful candidate will have an innovative spirit and relational heart for developing new, sustainable models of ministry to young professionals in our congregation, and supporting the existing youth ministry programming. To apply, please send a resume, cover letter, and a list of 3 references to kfranke@nationalpres.org.

Youth and Children's Summer Interns

Applications are now open for summer interns for our youth and children's ministry! These full-time, paid internships are great opportunities to learn about ministry, spend time with younger NPC members, and grow in your own faith. Applications are due January 15; minimum age is 18. To apply, please contact Kristin Franke, kfranke@nationalpres.org.



**Called
to Care**

Like to cook?

Families with new babies or members with health challenges would welcome meals. careoffice@nationalpres.org / 202.537.7540

For I was hungry and you gave me food.

Matthew 25:35

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.

Prayers

We pray:

for those whose faith is tested.

We pray for:

Habitat DC/NOVA,
as they work to reduce poverty and homelessness in our community by providing affordable homes for those in need.

How may we pray for you?

Please submit prayer requests to the Care Office,
careoffice@nationalpres.org
202.537.7540.

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.

To make a gift in support of the general ministry at NPC:

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



If you haven't made your 2025 commitment, please 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 and in memory of the life of Gwendolyn Faye Sisco by Dr. Robert Betz.



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