

June 2, 2024  
Communion

# Welcome to NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*First of all you must understand this, that no  
prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own  
interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by  
human will, but men and women moved by the  
Holy Spirit spoke from God.  
2 Peter 1:20-21*



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)!

**Join us for our sermon series:**

**Questions Everyone Asks:**

*Discovering God, Purpose, and Truth*

**Invite friends to join us on Sundays  
as we consider some of life's  
big questions together.**

**8:45 and 11:00 am services**

- Is the Bible reliable?
- How can I know God personally?

## **Adult SS Guest Presentation**

### **Transhumanist Philosophy:**

### **Another Tower of Babel?**

**Today, June 2, 9:55 am**

**Dr. David Siegrist, Chapel**

Historically, people have wished to transcend the human condition. Now, instead of pursuing that through religion, some are seeking transcendence through advanced technology, including genetic engineering and even uploading one's consciousness to the internet in order to "live" forever. Human improvement is a good thing. Can it be taken too far?

## **Annual Meeting of the Congregation**

**Sunday, June 9, 9:55 am**

**Stone Fellowship Hall**

The Session of NPC has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, June 9, at 9:55 am in [Stone Fellowship Hall](#).

## **Week at a Glance**

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

### **Sunday, June 2**

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

### **Sunday, June 9**

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for Children and Youth
- 9:55 am: Annual Meeting of the Congregation
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship



**Called  
to Care**

## **Deacons**

Our deacons are ready to care for you. They will listen, pray, visit, and encourage you. [careoffice@nationalpres.org](mailto:careoffice@nationalpres.org) / 202.537.7540

*Love one another.*  
John 13:34

# 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

Rev. Lisa Larsen

▲ OPENING SONG

How Firm a Foundation

*Foundation*

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!  
What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?  
  
Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed,  
for I am thy God, I will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
upheld by my gracious, omnipotent hand.  
  
When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
The flames shall not hurt thee, I only design  
thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.  
  
The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake!

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

O Lord, you have given us your Word to be a light shining upon our path.  
Strengthen us to meditate on that Word that we might be convicted of our sins, in  
repentance turn from our wicked ways, and find in it the light that shines more and  
more unto your perfect day.

St. Jerome, translator of the Bible into Latin

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

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

2 Peter 1:16-21  
*Please see page 7.*

Celia Schestopol

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Melanie Lenhard  
Associate Director for Children's Ministry

*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

*Questions Everyone Asks:  
Is the Bible Reliable?*

Dr. Peter James

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,  
or place it in an offering plate as you exit the Sanctuary.*

OFFERING SONG

Trust In You

Lauren Daigle

Letting go of every single dream, I lay each one down at your feet.

Every moment of my wondering never changes what you see.

I've tried to win this war, I confess. My hands are weary, I need your rest.

Mighty warrior, King of the fight, no matter what I face you're by my side.

*When you don't move the mountains I'm needing you to move,*

*when you don't part the waters I wish I could walk through,*

*when you don't give the answers as I cry out to you:*

*I will trust, I will trust, I will trust in you!*

Truth is you know what tomorrow brings. There's not a day ahead you have not seen.

So in all things be my life and breath. I want what you want, Lord, and nothing less!

**Chorus**

You are my strength and comfort. You are my steady hand.  
You are my firm foundation, the Rock on which I stand.  
Your ways are always higher. Your plans are always good.  
There's not a place where I'll go you've not already stood. **Chorus (2x)**

## THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Dr. Fox

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation Give Me Jesus Spiritual; arr. Jeremy Camp

In the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise,  
in the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.

When I am alone, when I am alone, oh, when I am alone, give me Jesus.

*Give me Jesus. Give me Jesus! You can have all this world, just give me Jesus.*

When I come to die, when I come to die, oh, when I come to die, give me Jesus.

*Give me Jesus. Give me Jesus! You can have all this world.*

*You can have all this world. You can have all this world, just give me Jesus!*

Prayer of Response 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.

## ▲ CLOSING SONG Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone

Chris Tomlin

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.

I once was lost but now I'm found was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved.

How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

*My chains are gone, I've been set free!*

*My God, my Savior, has ransomed me!*

*And like a flood, his mercy reigns unending love, amazing grace.*

The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures.

He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. **Chorus (2x)**

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine.

But God who called me here below will be forever mine, will be forever mine.

You are forever mine.

## ▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. James

## ▲ SENDING

NPC Band

▲ Congregation standing, as able

# 11:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

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## WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 531

J. S. Bach  
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Lisa Larsen

### ▲ HYMN

O Living Christ, Our Eyes Behold

*Mit Freuden zart*

O living Christ, our eyes behold, amid your Church appearing,  
All girt about your breast with gold, and bright apparel wearing,  
Your countenance is burning bright, a sun resplendent in its might:  
Lord Christ, we see your glory!

Your glorious feet have sought and found your own in every nation;  
With everlasting voice you sound the call of our salvation.  
You search us still with eyes of flame, you know and call us all by name:  
Lord Christ, we see your glory!

O risen Christ, today alive, amid your Church abiding,  
Who still your blood and body give, new life and strength providing.  
We join the heav'nly company to sing your praise triumphantly,  
For we have seen your glory!

### ▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

#### CHORAL RESPONSE

*Deo gracias*

O wondrous sight, O vision fair of glory that the Church shall share,  
Which Christ, upon the mountain shows, where brighter than the sun he glows!  
The law and prophets there have place, two chosen witnesses of grace;  
The Father's voice from out the cloud proclaims his only Son aloud.  
All faithful hearts are raised on high by this great vision's mystery,  
For which in joyful strains we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

#### CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

O Lord, you have given us your Word to be a light shining upon our path.  
Strengthen us to meditate on that Word that we might be convicted of our sins, in  
repentance turn from our wicked ways, and find in it the light that shines more and  
more unto your perfect day.

St. Jerome, translator of the Bible into Latin

#### SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Larsen

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

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE                      2 Peter 1:16-21                      Charlie Pippert

<sup>16</sup>For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eye witnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, ‘This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.’ <sup>18</sup>We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup>So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup>First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, <sup>21</sup>because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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 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                      Questions Everyone Asks:  
Is the Bible Reliable?                      Dr. Peter James

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S GRACE AND CALL

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

HYMN 327                      O Word of God Incarnate                      Munich

## OFFERTORY

## Christ Is the Morning Star

John Rutter

Christ is the morning star,  
 The light of God that shines from afar;  
 The Son of God in human form revealed,  
 The wound of Adam's sin forever healed.  
 For God, who formed mankind of clay  
 Did bring forth our salvation that day  
 When he, who made all things since time began,  
 Did send his Son to live on earth as man.  
 His glorious majesty displayed  
 To witnesses, near gathered, conveyed:  
 The Father's voice spoke, "My Beloved Son."  
 Take heed, and listen to this blessed One.

*Christ is the morning star,  
 Christ is the morning star,  
 Christ is the morning star.*

And when he comes again as King, then heav'n and all creation shall sing;  
 With saints in glory seated round his throne, we'll see his face, and know as we are known.

*Christ is the morning star,  
 Christ is the morning star,  
 Christ is the morning star.*

## THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Dr. Fox

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Craig Courtney

*In the Style of Felix Mendelssohn*

Mr. Fickley, piano

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 361 *verses 1 & 5*

How Firm a Foundation

*Foundation*

▲ BENEDICTION

Dr. James

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

*Christ is the morning star.*

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Fox

▲ POSTLUDE Toccata on "How Firm a Foundation"

Craig Phillips

Mr. 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:** Children, Youth and limited Adult Sunday School
- **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](#).

- ***Transhumanist Philosophy: Another Tower of Babel?:*** Dr. David Siegrist, Chapel
- ***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).

# UPCOMING SCHEDULE

- **June 9: All Adults are invited to the NPC Annual Meeting.** Children and Youth Sunday School will meet.
- **June 16: Doxology Sunday** - One service at 10:00 am, there will be no Sunday School.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Hands-on Summer**

### **Beginning June 23, 9:55 am**

This summer, you are invited to take part in hands-on art and service projects together! We'll meet in the Garden Rooms 9:55-10:45 am on Sundays, June 23-August 18. All ages can participate!

Each week we'll start with Scripture which will lead us into our project. Some projects can be taken to neighbors that afternoon; others will go to ministry partners. Every week we get to create, chat, and explore God's Word together in a fun, hands-on way. Join us!

## **Love to sing?**

Summer Choir rehearses only on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am to sing for the 11:00 am service. Starting Sunday, June 23 we would love to welcome you! For more information contact the music office at 202.537.7553 or [dwulff@nationalpres.org](mailto:dwulff@nationalpres.org).

## **You can make a difference!**

You are invited to make a dramatic impact here at church on Sunday mornings – join the fantastic Welcome Team! We have opportunities for Greeters, Ushers and Connection Hosts – just bring your smiling face and heart for sharing God's love. Sign up by completing the [Volunteer Form](#). For more information visit the [Events Page](#) or contact Leslie Saum via [lsaum@nationalpres.org](mailto:lsaum@nationalpres.org) or 202-537-7494.

## **Prayer Cards:**

### **How may we pray for you?**

We believe in lifting each other up in prayer in times of need. Our prayer cards are a way to share your prayer requests with us. You'll find these small cards in the guestbooks in the pews. You can drop cards in the offering plates or place them in the prayer box in the Welcome Center.

## **Interested in International Affairs?**

Are you interested in international affairs and the Lord's work overseas? NPC has three committees involved in international ministry: Building up the Global Church, Caring for the Vulnerable, and Proclaiming Jesus as Lord and Savior. If you would like to be part of this dynamic work, please contact Jonathan Edwards at [jedwards@nationalpres.org](mailto:jedwards@nationalpres.org) or Stephanie Eshelman at [eshelmansk@gmail.com](mailto:eshelmansk@gmail.com). Each of these committees welcomes new members.

## **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. Follow the link or search for National Presbyterian Church on Facebook to watch. You do not need a Facebook account to watch.

## **Summer Speaker Series**

### **Sundays, June 23 -August 25**

Each Sunday this summer we'll welcome a special guest speaker on a topic of contemporary concern or perennial meaning for faithful Christians to consider. We will meet in-person in [Stone Fellowship Hall](#) from 9:45-10:45 am. Unable to attend in person? The series will be available to view online. Please see our [webpage](#) or contact [grow@nationalpres.org](mailto:grow@nationalpres.org) for more information.

# JOIN OUR NPC TEAM!

## **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](mailto:kfranke@nationalpres.org).

## **Communications Support Contractor**

NPC is seeking a creative and detail-oriented contractor to support the Communications Director and help ensure effective internal and external communication, promote events, and maintain a cohesive brand message across platforms. Candidates do not need to have experience with all listed tasks, any combination will be considered, with priority given to graphic design and photography. Additional possible tasks include in-house printing, live stream moderation, social media management, website updates, and content creation. Qualified applicants should send a resume to [pcarder@nationalpres.org](mailto:pcarder@nationalpres.org).

## SUMMER SPEAKER SERIES

### **Bringing the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict to a Close: A Historic Point of Departure**

June 23

Alon Ben Meir

### **“The Test:” Immigration, Older Adult Living and the Loneliness Crisis (Luncheon follow-up conversation)**

June 30

Claudia Myers

### **Christian Nationalism, The Capitol Riot, and the Rising Threat to American Pluralism**

July 7

Matthew Taylor

### **The Spirit of Our Politics: Spiritual Formation and the Renovation of Public Life**

July 14

Michael Wear

### **Climate, Security and Immigration (Luncheon conversation: Immigration and the Church in a Time of “Global Insecurity”)**

July 21

Mark Douglas

### **The Age of AI: Christian Ethics and the Future of Humanity**

July 28

Jason Thacker

### **Looking at Jesus through Old Testament Eyes**

August 4

Tremper Longman

### **Joyful Generosity**

August 11

Lacie Stevens

### **Salvation Army leader on volunteerism**

August 18

Kenneth Hodder

### **Summer Trip Reports**

August 25

# 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 struggle with addiction.

### We pray for:

Our Middle East Missionaries as they serve large numbers of displaced people.

### How may we pray for you?

Please submit prayer requests to the Care Office,  
[careoffice@nationalpres.org](mailto: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.

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 are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mrs. Chui Sun Szeto by her daughter.



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