

March 2, 2025
Communion
Transfiguration of Our Lord

Welcome to
**NATIONAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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

*He began to speak boldly in the synagogue;
but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him,
they took him aside and explained the
Way of God to him more accurately.*

Acts 18:26



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!

Our Journey of Discipleship together!

We are all on a journey of faith to grow closer to Christ—through worship, prayer, scripture, and service. NPC has many resources available to support you on your journey. Please visit nationalpres.org/discipleship or contact Connections Ministry at lsaum@nationalpres.org or 202-537-7494.

Adult Sunday School Plenary Session: Global Security and Christian Theology Stone Fellowship Hall

Today, 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.

Meet your Deacons!

Today, March 2 at 12:30 pm

Stone Fellowship Hall

Deacons are servant leaders who listen to your concerns, pray with you, visit when you are ill, support you through difficult times, and help you connect with other church members. Come to Stone Fellowship Hall to enjoy cookies and meet the D.C., Maryland, and Virginia Deacons.

Club 45 (4th & 5th graders)

Today, March 2 at 5:00 pm

Calling all 4th and 5th graders! Invite your friends and join us for fun, faith, and fellowship. If you are interested in attending, please contact Jill Meek (jmeek@nationalpres.org) or check our [Events page](#) for more information and meeting dates.

Week at a Glance

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

Sunday, March 2

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:45 am: Adult Sunday School Plenary Session
- 9:55 am: Children & Youth Sunday School
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:30 pm: Meet your Deacons
- 5:00 pm: Club 45
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group

Ash Wednesday, March 5

- 7:00 pm: Traditional Worship with Communion and Imposition of Ashes

Sunday, March 9

- Weekly: Lenten Small Groups begin
- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: 2nd Sunday Sandwich Making
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group

Ash Wednesday Worship Service

March 5 at 7:00 pm, Sanctuary & [online](#)

Join us for a special Communion service, marking the beginning of the Lenten season, a time of reflection, repentance, and spiritual growth leading to Easter. If you cannot attend in person, please join us on our [Watch webpage](#).

2nd Sunday Sandwich Making

Sunday, March 9 at 12:15 pm

All are invited to Stone Fellowship Hall to make 400 sandwiches for Martha's Table, a community-led nonprofit that works alongside its neighbors to support those in need. These sandwiches will be delivered to people experiencing hunger on the streets of Washington, D.C. This is a great event for the whole family!

8:45 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING

Improvisations

Joanna Zorack-Greene, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus

▲ OPENING SONG

Reckless Love

Cory Asbury

Before I spoke a word, you were singing over me.

You have been so, so good to me.

Before I took a breath, you breathed your life in me.

You have been so, so kind to me.

O the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God.

O it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine.

I couldn't earn it. I don't deserve it. Still, you give yourself away.

O the overwhelming, never-ending reckless, love of God.

When I was your foe, still your love fought for me.

You have been so, so good to me.

When I felt no worth, you paid it all for me.

You have been so, so kind to me. **Chorus**

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Dr. Stoltzfus

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

Even as we come this hour to praise you,

we confess it is all too easy for us to sacrifice

convictions for the sake of convenience,

your eternal standards for our fading status,

your principles for our self-promotion,

your absolutes for our own ambitions,

our very souls for shallow success and earthly gain.

We are easily seduced by power, prestige, pleasure, and possessions.

From these we turn, unfulfilled again, to you.

Forgive our sinful half-hearted devotion and our double-minded spirit.

Restore us to right relationship with you.

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 Dr. Stoltzfus

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. Lisa Larsen

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Acts 18:1-2, 24-28
Pew Bible Pages 902-903

Leigh Wormmeester

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Rev. Larsen

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

SERMON

Aquila and Priscilla: Partners in Ministry

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

Rev. 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

If We're Honest

Francesca Battiselli

Truth is harder than a lie. The dark seems safer than the light.
And everyone has a heart that loves to hide.

I'm a mess and so are you. We've built walls nobody can get through.
Yeah, it may be hard but the best thing we could ever do, ever do.

*Bring your brokenness and I'll bring mine. 'Cause love can heal what hurt divides.
And mercy's waiting on the other side,
if we're honest (ooh ooh), if we're honest (ooh ooh).*

Don't pretend to be something that you're not, living life afraid of getting caught.
There is freedom found when we lay our secrets down at the cross, at the cross. **Chorus**
If we're honest.

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation

Lead Me to the Cross

Brooke Ligertwood

Savior, I come, I quiet my soul,

remember redemption's hill where your blood was spilled, for my ransom.

And everything I once held dear, I count it all as loss.

Lead me to the cross where your love poured out.

Bring me to my knees, Lord, I lay me down.

Rid me of myself, I belong to you.

Oh, lead me, lead me to the cross.

You were as I, tempted and tried, human. The word became flesh,
bore my sin and death, now you're risen.

Lead me to your heart. (3x)

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

Lord, I Need You

Christy Nockels

Lord, I come. I confess. Bowing here, I find my rest,

And without you, I fall apart. You're the one that guides my heart.

Lord, I need you, O I need you. Every hour I need you.

My one Defense, my Righteousness, O God, how I need you.

Where sin runs deep, your grace is more. Where grace is found, is where you are.

And where you are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.

And where you are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me. **Chorus**

So teach my song to rise to you, when temptation comes my way.

And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on you. Jesus, you're my hope and stay.

And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on you. Jesus, you're my hope and stay. **Chorus (2x)**

My one Defense, my Righteousness, O God, how I need you!

▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Fox

▲ SENDING

NPC Band

▲ Congregation standing, as able

11:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Let Us Break Bread Together

Raymond H. Haan
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus

▲ HYMN 144

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

Hyfrydol

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Dr. Stoltzfus

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!

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.

15th Century Anonymous, translated John Mason Neale

CONFESSION OF SIN in unison

Dr. Stoltzfus

Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

Even as we come this hour to praise you,

we confess it is all too easy for us to sacrifice

convictions for the sake of convenience,

your eternal standards for our fading status,

your principles for our self-promotion,

your absolutes for our own ambitions,

our very souls for shallow success and earthly gain.

We are easily seduced by power, prestige, pleasure, and possessions.

From these we turn, unfulfilled again, to you.

Forgive our sinful half-hearted devotion and our double-minded spirit.

Restore us to right relationship with you.

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

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 Dr. Stoltzfus

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. Lisa Larsen

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Acts 18:1-2, 24-28
Pew Bible Pages 902-903

Max Schestopol

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Rev. Larsen

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

SERMON

Aquila and Priscilla: Partners in Ministry

Dr. Quinn Fox

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the Sanctuary.

RESPONSE

Wie lieblich ist der Maien

Choir

Give thanks, now, faithful Christians, for all who love the Lord,
Who live each day believing in God's eternal Word:
To share Christ's love in living, to witness with each deed,
To use all talents given to plant the gospel seed.

Congregation

Give thanks, now, faithful Christians, for life in fellowship
With all who trust our Savior their serving to equip:
To ease another's burdens, to cope in joy and stress,
To magnify God's message and Christ's great love confess.

Mary Jackson Cathey, alt.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Rev. Larsen

OFFERTORY

Praise, O Praise the Lord

W. A. Mozart

Praise, praise, O praise the Lord, all ye nations! Praise him, all ye peoples!

Laudate Dominum, KV 339

For he has shown evermore his merciful lovingkindness.

O praise the Lord, all ye people. His truth endures forever.

Glory to Father and to the Son, glory be to the Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen.

With Sheri Jackson, soprano

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Rev. Larsen

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation This Do in Remembrance of Me

Judy Hunnicutt

This do in remembrance of me; keep this feast, and together we'll be.

This do in remembrance of me, till I come to my kingdom.

This is my body broken for you, take and eat in remembrance of me;

broken that you might rise up from death into a life everlasting.

This is my blood, I shed it for you, take and drink in remembrance of me;

shed that you might rise up from death into a life everlasting.

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

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

Beecher

Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,

We respond with deep commitment, fresh new lines of faith to trace.

May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,

Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,

Let us follow without faltering, reconciling those on earth.

Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old;

Blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life

That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.

Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,

Messengers of faith, thus giving, hope and confidence and peace. Jane Parker Huber, alt.

▲ BENEDICTION

Dr. Fox

▲ CHORAL AMEN

W. A. Mozart

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Rev. Larsen

▲ POSTLUDE

Fughetta on "Engelberg"

Richard Proulx
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:** Children and Youth Sunday School
- **9:55 am:** Adult Plenary Session
- **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

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.

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.

Adult Sunday School Classes Resume March 9

- ***The Council of Nicaea and Its Creed after 1700 years***
Quinn Fox
Chapel and Online
We are exploring the historical and theological significance of the Nicene Creed, examining its key statements about the Triune God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit).
- ***The Dangerous Act of Loving God and Neighbor***
Nancy Fox, Ginny Beeson
Room 209
We are looking at the inseparable connection of Christian worship and Jesus' call into his work of justice.
- ***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.
- ***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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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).

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 contact Leslie Saum (lsaum@nationalpres.org) directly at 202.537.7494.

Financial Report through December 31, 2024

	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>
Faith Giving	\$3,567,000	\$3,260,000
Facility Use Income	\$871,000	\$831,000
Other Income	<u>\$921,000</u>	<u>\$931,000</u>
Total Income	\$5,359,000	\$5,022,000
Total Expenses	<u>-\$4,809,000</u>	<u>-\$5,075,000</u>
Net Income/(Deficit)	\$550,000	(\$53,000)

To God be the glory! NPC's 2024 financial position is strong. Your spirit of generosity enabled NPC to:

- Finished 2024 with a 10% budget surplus, the highest surplus on record.
- NPC began 2024 with a budget deficit, but our congregation responded with a 15% increase in annual giving.
- Prudent management lead to expenses that were 5% below budget.
- NPC completed the first major successful capital campaign since moving to Nebraska Avenue, including paying off all construction debt.
- Surplus funds will be invested to sustain and grow our ministries under the guidance of the Finance Council and the Session.
- Detailed financial reports are available in the Narthex racks outside the sanctuary.



**Called
to Care**

Newly Separated? Recently Divorced?

Divorcecare is a program for those navigating the end of a marriage. Visit www.divorcecare.org or contact careoffice@nationalpres.org /202.537.7540

Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

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 Mark Tidd,
RADM, CHC, USN (Ret.),
former Chief of Navy Chaplains
and in retirement
Interim Chief Administrative Officer
at NPC

We pray for:

Steve and Janice Quakenbush
in their work with
Wycliffe Bible Translators.

How may we pray for you?

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

Today's Flowers

The flowers in the church today are given to the glory of God
and in commemoration of the 160th anniversary of
President Abraham Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address
delivered on March 4th, 1865.

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

— Abraham Lincoln, March 4, 1865

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
for a 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.



4101 NEBRASKA AVE. NW
WASHINGTON DC 20016
202.537.0800
WWW.NATIONALPRES.ORG



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