

December 28, 2025  
Christmastide

Welcome to  
**NATIONAL  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

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

*A new heart I will give you,  
and a new spirit I will put within you,  
and I will remove from your body the heart of  
stone and give you a heart of flesh.*

Ezekiel 36:26



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)  
Carol Han (Connections)

# EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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)!

## **Laser Tag with Camp Ligonier**

### **Sunday, January 4**

On January 4 our ministry partners from Ligonier Camp and Conference Center will join us for worship and Parent Gathering to share about their ministry. Then all children and youth are invited for laser tag in the evening!

- 5:00 pm: Children's Laser Tag
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group Laser Tag

For more information and to register, visit our [Events](#) page.

## **Congregational Meeting**

### **Sunday, January 4, 12:15 pm**

#### **Sanctuary**

The Session of NPC has called a Congregational Meeting to dissolve the pastoral relationship with Dr. Quinn Fox upon his retirement. The Congregational Meeting will be in person and will not be live streamed.

## **Job Loss & Uncertainty Prayer Gathering**

### **Sunday, January 4, 12:30 pm**

#### **Room 109**

Your Deacons will host a prayer gathering for those struggling with job loss and uncertainty. Come for prayer and support.

## **Pathway of Christian Discipleship Class** **Four-part Sunday series, starting January 4**

If you're interested in becoming a member of NPC or learning more about the Christian faith, please attend the Pathway of Christian Discipleship class on January 4, 11, 18, and 25 at 9:55 am. While everyone is welcome to come, attendance at all four sessions is required for membership. For more information, visit our [Events page](#) or contact Kemet Rakiatu (202-537-7578, [krakiatu@nationalpres.org](mailto:krakiatu@nationalpres.org)).

## **Week at a Glance**

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

### **Sunday, December 28**

- 10:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 11:15 am: Coffee, Cookies, & Community

### **Sunday, January 4**

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Congregational Meeting
- 12:30 pm: Coffee, Cookies, & Community
- 12:30 pm: Job Loss & Uncertainty Prayer Gathering
- 5:00 pm: Children's Laser Tag
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group Laser Tag

## **Mission Gifts for Christmas - Thank You!**

Thank you to everyone who came down to Stone Hall to participate in Mission Gifts for Christmas on December 7 & 14! Your generosity is helping a number of organizations respond to needs in our community and around the world. If you were unable to participate in person, you can still give online through December 31. To contribute, please visit the [Mission Gifts webpage](#).

# 10:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

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## WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE      Prelude on "Whence Is That Goodly Fragrance?"      Harrison Oxley  
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP      Rev. Lisa Larsen

▲ HYMN 27      Gentle Mary Laid Her Child      *Tempus adest florum*

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

CONFESSION OF SIN      Rev. Larsen

O Lord, you have mercy upon all.

Forgive us of our sins, and mercifully kindle in us the fire of your Holy Spirit.

Take away from us the heart of stone, and give us a heart of flesh,

a heart to love and adore you, a heart to delight in you, a heart to follow

and enjoy you, for Christ's sake.

Ambrose of Milan

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

*In dulci jubilo*

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;

Now we need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!

Calls us one and calls us all to gain the everlasting hall.

Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH      A Christmas Affirmation

Rev. Larsen

We believe in one God, whose almighty word brought forth the universe,

who speaks to us by his Spirit through what he has created

and through what has been written for us in Holy Scripture.

We believe that at just the right moment in history,

God's Word became flesh in the life of Jesus of Nazareth,

who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, was born of the Virgin Mary,

was nurtured and matured in Joseph's household, and who came to Israel and all

the world to reveal the kingdom of God is at hand.

We believe that this glorious good news heralded by angels points not only to a baby

in a manger in Bethlehem, but also to the cross of Calvary, and to the empty tomb.

There the angel's message "He is risen!" heralded the glorious good news of

Christ's resurrection.

We remember that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, and to show us the very character of God.

We recognize that he comes each day to meet us in our need, and to offer abundant life.

We rejoice in the knowledge that he will one day return in glory to rule in righteousness, to renew all things, and to claim us as God's own.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

#### SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 36:25-27  
*Pew Bible Page 704*

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

#### A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Rev. Larsen

#### THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptismal Questions

Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows

**Through baptism we enter the covenant God has established. Within this covenant God gives us new life, guards us from evil, and nurtures us in love. In embracing this covenant, God claims us as his own, as we choose whom we will serve, by turning from evil and turning to Jesus Christ.**

Baptism

Owen Beni Chanthunya  
*Son of Nadia Lahon Gbaka and Dzilimbire Harry Chanthunya*

Prayer of Response

*Children return to pews. Parents may take children Pre-K and under to the nursery.*

#### SERMON

A New Heart for a New Year

Dr. Quinn Fox

### WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

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

#### ▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*St. Stephen*

When morning lights the eastern sky, O Lord, your mercy show;  
On you alone our hope relies; let us your kindness know.

For your name's sake, O gracious Lord, revive our souls and bless,  
And in your faithfulness and love redeem us from distress.

#### CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Dr. Nancy Fox

#### OFFERTORY

In the Bleak Midwinter

Gustav Holst  
*Cranham*

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heav'n cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;  
Heav'n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.

In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed  
The Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,  
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air.

But his mother only, in her maiden bliss,  
Worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise man, I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give him: give him my heart.

Christina Rossetti  
Dr. Michael Denham

## Regent Square

## PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE 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.

## All My Heart Today Rejoices

*Warum sollt' ich*

Dr. Quinn Fox

Dr. Nancy Fox

### Carillon on “Joy to the World”

Mary Beth Bennett  
Mr. Fickley, organ

▲ Congregation standing, as able

*Please come forward after worship for confidential prayer by one of our Deacons or Stephen Ministers.*

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

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

[illegible]

# SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- **10:00 am:** Traditional Worship
- **11:15 am:** Coffee, Cookies, and Community

## Childcare

Childcare is available on the second floor of the main church building from 9:45 am until the close of the 10:00 am service. To maintain a safe environment, we have new age guidelines for each room, using the child's age as of September 30, 2025.

Babies - 17 months are in Room 207. Early Toddlers (18 months - 2 years old) are in Room 230. 3's and 4's are in the Toddler Room (Room 231).

## Library Hours: 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Our NPC Library, located on the second floor, is open from 9:00 am-1:00 pm on Sundays. Stop in to say hi! We've got books for all ages and ministries to enrich your faith journey and further our mission of leading people to become faithful followers of Jesus together in God's world.

**\*NO Sunday School today. The next Sunday School term begins 1/4.\***

## 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 Rooms 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

- **Religion and the American Revolution**, Charles Hambrick-Stowe (*Chapel & Online*)
- **How Christianity Changed the World**, David Siegest (*Garden Room C*)
- **Pathway to Christian Discipleship**, NPC Staff (*Garden Room A*)
- **Parent Gathering** (*Jones Hall, National Presbyterian School*)

Visit our [website](#) for descriptions and more information.



## The Care and Joy List

Would you like to be on or receive our Care and Joy list, for those who want our congregation to pray for them? [careoffice@nationalpres.org](mailto:careoffice@nationalpres.org) / 202-537-7540

*First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone.*

1 Timothy 2:1

# EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Men's Breakfast**

**Saturday, January 10, 8:00 am**

### **Stone Fellowship Hall**

Men are invited to join us in-person at NPC on the first Saturday of every month for our men's breakfast. This month we meet on the second Saturday due to the holidays. Serve Director Jonathan Edwards will be the speaker. See you there!

## **Confirmation Information Meeting**

**Sunday, January 11, 12:15 pm**

### **Garden Room A**

Any youth who are in 9th grade or older are invited to participate in Confirmation this year. Parents and youth are invited to an informational meeting to learn more about the class. For more information, contact Kristin Franke ([kfranke@nationalpres.org](mailto:kfranke@nationalpres.org)).

## **Romania Mission Trip Info Session**

**Sunday, January 11, 12:30 pm**

### **Garden Rooms**

Are you interested in joining a short-term mission trip in 2026? NPC will participate in a mission trip to Romania, June 5–14, partnering with the Smiles Foundation and working with their Outreach Team to care for vulnerable communities. Come to the info meeting to learn more! For additional details, contact Serve Director Jonathan Edwards ([jedwards@nationalpres.org](mailto:jedwards@nationalpres.org)).

## **High School Winter Retreat**

**January 23-25, 2025**

All high school youth are invited to a weekend away at Northbay Adventure Camp as we spend time growing in friendship with each other and growing in faith with God. For more details, contact Kristin Franke ([kfranke@nationalpres.org](mailto:kfranke@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](https://nationalpres.org/discipleship) or contact the Connections Ministry (202-537-7494 or [chan@nationalpres.org](mailto:chan@nationalpres.org)).

### **Join our staff - NPC Seeking Communications Manager**

NPC is seeking a creative and detail-oriented Communications Manager who will develop and execute a comprehensive communication strategy that reflects the Church's mission and values. 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. Collaboration with staff and congregants is essential to ensure that all communications resonate with the target audience and support established goals. For more information, visit our [Jobs](#) webpage.

Qualified applicants should send a resume to [recruiting@nationalpres.org](mailto:recruiting@nationalpres.org).

# 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!

Scan this QR code to learn more about NPC & get connected:



## 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.

## 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.

## Get Connected Through Service!

Want to share in faith and fellowship through service? No matter your age, skills, or ability, you can use your gifts to serve our church, our community, and our world. Scan the QR code to learn more about the opportunities below.



- View upcoming community service opportunities on our [Events](#) page or contact Serve Director Jonathan Edwards ([jedwards@nationalpres.org](mailto:jedwards@nationalpres.org)).
- Want to help on Sundays? Visit our [Serve at Church](#) page or contact Carol Han ([chan@nationalpres.org](mailto:chan@nationalpres.org)).
- If you're interested in photography, we would love to utilize your skills to capture photos on Sundays. Contact [communications@nationalpres.org](mailto:communications@nationalpres.org).

## Your Giving Makes a Difference

In this season of expectation, may your generosity reflect the hope Christ brings. Your giving helps light the way for our church family, community, and world.

Please consider making a year-end gift.

To give now scan the QR code or text "NPC" to 833-414-9444. For other ways to give go to [nationalpres.org/giving](https://nationalpres.org/giving), call our Finance Office at 202-537-7495, or email our Director of Finance and Administration at [lskrine@nationalpres.org](mailto:lskrine@nationalpres.org).



## Prayers

### We pray that:

our witness to the grace of Jesus Christ would shine throughout 2026.

### We pray for:

Unique Learning Center, a Christian ministry strengthening the educational and spiritual lives of children in the Shaw community of Washington, DC.

### How may we pray for you?

Please submit prayer requests to the Care Office, [careoffice@nationalpres.org](mailto:careoffice@nationalpres.org) 202-537-7540.

## Today's Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary are offered to the Glory of God and in honor of Girvan Maxwell Singh's December 26th birthday by the Singh family.



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