

August 3, 2025

Communion

Welcome to
**NATIONAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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

*For the message about the cross
is foolishness to those who are perishing,
but to us who are being saved
it is the power of God.*
I Corinthians 1:18



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 & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 Summer Schedule

During the Sunday School hour there are two wonderful ways to engage: Hands-On Summer, an opportunity for all ages to serve and participate in Bible study together, and our Summer Speaker Series, which will offer invaluable insights about living faithfully in challenging times. Check out page 9 for more information. See you there!

Service of Installation

Today, August 3 at 2:00 pm

The National Capital Presbytery joyfully invites you to the Service of Installation for Rev. Lisa Larsen as Associate Pastor of National Presbyterian Church. Join us in person in the Sanctuary or online. There will be a reception following the service in Stone Fellowship Hall.

Job Loss & Uncertainty

Prayer Gathering

Today, August 3 at 12:15 pm

Room 109

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

Club 45

Today, August 3 at 12:30 pm

Jones Hall

Rising 4th & 5th graders, Club 45 is just for you! Come grow in faith and friendship through fun games, Bible study and more. We meet several times throughout the summer, so come whenever you can. For more information, contact Jill Meek (jmeek@nationalpres.org).

College Bible Study

Tuesday, August 5 at 7:00 pm

Youth House

Anyone who is college-aged is invited to the Youth House for dinner and Bible study on Tuesday nights to study the Sermon on the Mount while building community and fellowship. Questions? Contact Meghan Thompson (meghanmct123@gmail.com).

Week at a Glance

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

Sunday, August 3

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:45 am: Summer Speaker Series
- 9:55 am: Hands-On Summer
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Coffee, Cookies & Community
- 12:15 pm: Job Loss & Uncertainty Prayer Gathering
- 12:30 pm: Club 45
- 2:00 pm: Rev. Larsen Installation
- 3:00 pm: Reception

Tuesday, August 5

- 7:00 pm: College Bible Study

Sunday, August 10

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:45 am: Summer Speaker Series
- 9:55 am: Family Fellowship Coffee Hour
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Coffee, Cookies & Community
- 12:15 pm: Sandwich Making
- 12:15 pm: Youth Group - Off-campus Outing
- 5:00 pm: Club 45

Thank You for Supporting Texas Flood Relief

Thanks to your generosity, NPC was able to send \$14,000 to the Salvation Army's Texas Flood Relief Efforts. Your gifts are helping provide emergency assistance, food, shelter, and spiritual care to individuals and families affected by the devastating flooding in Texas. We are deeply grateful for your compassionate response. Your support is making a tangible difference in the lives of those impacted by this disaster. Thank you!

8:45 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING

Improvisations

Joanna Zorack-Greene, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Lisa Larsen

▲ OPENING SONG

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Coronation

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall.

Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.

Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race ye ransomed from the fall,

Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.

Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!

Let ev'ry kindred ev'ry tribe on this terrestrial ball,

To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.

To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!

We'll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all.

We'll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all!

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Larsen

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Lord Jesus Christ, Lamb of God, Lord of lords,

call us, who are called to be saints, along the way of the cross:

Draw us, who would be nearer to you, to the foot of your cross.

Cleanse us, who are unworthy to approach, with the pardon of the cross.

Teach us, ignorant and blind, in the school of your cross.

Bring us, in the fellowship of your sufferings, to the victory of the cross.

Seal us, in your kingdom and glory, among the servants of the cross.

O crucified and risen Lord, with the Father and the Holy Spirit,

you live and reign one God, almighty and eternal, world without end.

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

Rev. Larsen

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 1:18-25
Pew Bible Page 926

Evan Atchison
Summer Intern

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Jill Meek
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 Cross: New Life through Sharing Christ's Death

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

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

All the Way My Savior Leads Me

Chris Tomlin

All the way my Savior leads me. Who have I to ask beside?

How could I doubt his tender mercy? Who through life has been my guide.

All the way my Savior leads me and cheers each winding path I tread.

And gives me grace for ev'ry trial; feeds me with the living Bread.

You lead me and keep me from falling. You carry me close to your heart.

And surely your goodness and mercy will follow me.

All the way my Savior leads me. O the fullness of his love!

O the sureness of his promise in the triumph of his blood.

When my spirit clothed immortal wings its flight to realms of day.

This my song through endless ages: Jesus led me all the way!

Jesus led me all the way! *Chorus (2x)*

...Will follow me...All the way my Savior leads me.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Dr. Fox

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Solo 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)

Elle Schmitt, soprano

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

At the Cross

Chris Tomlin

There's a place where mercy reigns and never dies.

There's a place where streams of grace flow deep and wide.

Where all the love I've ever found comes like a flood, comes flowing down!

At the cross, at the cross, I surrender my life!

I'm in awe of you. I'm in awe of you!

Where your love ran red and my sin washed white,

I owe all to you. I owe all to you, Jesus!

There's a place where sin and shame are powerless.

Where my heart has peace with God and forgiveness.

Where all the love I've ever found comes like a flood, comes flowing down! *Chorus*

Here, my hope is found. Here, on holy ground. Here, I bow down! Here, I bow down!

Here, arms open wide. Here, you saved my life! Here, I bow down! Here I bow! *Chorus*

I owe all to you. I owe all to you, Jesus!

▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Hylton

▲ SENDING

NPC Band

▲ Congregation standing, as able

11:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Shall We Gather At The River

Richard Elliott
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Lisa Larsen

▲ HYMN 461 verses 1-3

God Is Here!

Abbot's Leigh

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Larsen

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hymn 461, verse 4

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt,

Keep us faithful to the gospel, help us work your purpose out.

Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive:

We who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Lord Jesus Christ, Lamb of God, Lord of lords,

call us, who are called to be saints, along the way of the cross:

Draw us, who would be nearer to you, to the foot of your cross.

Cleanse us, who are unworthy to approach, with the pardon of the cross.

Teach us, ignorant and blind, in the school of your cross.

Bring us, in the fellowship of your sufferings, to the victory of the cross.

Seal us, in your kingdom and glory, among the servants of the cross.

O crucified and risen Lord, with the Father and the Holy Spirit,

you live and reign one God, almighty and eternal, world without end.

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

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

Rev. Larsen

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Elder Rick Hawthorne

Pew Bible Page 926

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Jill Meek

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 Cross: New Life through Sharing Christ's Death

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the Sanctuary.

RESPONSE

Hamburg

Choir

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Congregation

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God;
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood. Isaac Watts

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Dr. Quinn Fox

OFFERTORY

O Love

Elaine Hagenberg

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;

I give thee back the love I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer fuller be.

O Joy that seeks me through the pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;

I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that e'er lifts up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;

I lay in dust life's glory, dead, and from the ground there blossoms red life that shall endless be.

O Love, O Love, O Love that will not let me go.

George Matheson

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Dr. Fox

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Instrumental Meditation

Mr. Fickley, organ

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 371 | Lift High the Cross | <i>Crucifer</i> |
| ▲ BENEDICTION | | Dr. Hylton |
| ▲ CHORAL RESPONSE | | <i>Bourbon</i> |
| | Take up your cross, the Savior said, if you would my disciple be;
Take up your cross with willing heart and humbly follow after me. | |
| ▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST | | Dr. Fox |
| ▲ POSTLUDE | Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 545 | J. S. Bach
Mr. Fickley, organ |
| ▲ | Congregation standing, as able | |

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

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

NOTES

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- **8:45 am:** Contemporary Worship
- **9:45 am:** Summer Speaker Series
- **9:55 am:** Hands-On Summer
- **11:00 am:** Traditional Worship
- **12:15 pm:** Coffee, Cookies, & Community

Childcare

Childcare is available 8:30 am until the close of the 11:00 am service. The Nursery (Room 207) and the Toddler Room (Room 230) are located on the second floor of the main church building. Infants - crawling should go to the Nursery and those who are walking - pre-K 4 should utilize the Toddler Room.

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.

Hands-On Summer

This summer, families are invited to participate in hands-on Bible study and service together! We'll meet in the Garden Rooms from 9:55-10:45 am, and all ages can participate. Each week we'll start with Scripture that will lead us into our project.

Summer Speaker Series

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 Stone Fellowship Hall from 9:45-10:45 am.

Today: Mae Elise Cannon: *Peace and Justice in the Middle East: A Christian Perspective*

Summer Speaker Series: Living Faithfully in Challenging Times

August 3: Mae Elise Cannon

Peace and Justice in the Middle East:
A Christian Perspective

August 10: Cherie Harder

Finding Calm Amidst Life's Storms

August 17: Nicole Bibbins Sedeca

Faith and Foreign Policy

August 24

Summer Ministry Reports



**Called
to Care**

The Deacons' Assistance Fund offers financial assistance to members of our church experiencing hardship. This fund is solely supported by the generosity of our congregation. careoffice@nationalpres.org / 202-537-7540

*Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have,
for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.*

Hebrews 13:16

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 the Connections Ministry (202-537-7494 or lsaum@nationalpres.org).

Nominations for Church Officers

The Congregational Nominating Committee seeks your recommendations of persons to serve as Elders, Deacons, board members for the NPC Fund for Charitable Giving, and members of next year's Congregational Nominating Committee. Visit nationalpres.org/nominate for more information and to submit recommendations.

Summer Choir

Sundays at 10:00 am

Love to sing? Summer Choir rehearses only on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am to sing for the 11:00 am service. We would love to welcome you! For more information contact the Music office (202-537-7553 or dwulff@nationalpres.org).

Join Our Welcome Team!

Be part of the dynamic team that greets, serves, and connects with folks on Sundays. Please visit our [Serve at Church](#) page and sign up today! You may also contact Leslie Saum (202-537-7494 or lsaum@nationalpres.org).

2nd Sunday Sandwich Making Sunday, August 10 at 12:15 pm Stone Hall

All are invited to make hundreds of sandwiches for Martha's Table, a nonprofit that works alongside its neighbors to support those in need. This is a great event for the whole family!

Youth Pool Party

August 14 at 6:30 pm

Beat the heat at our youth fellowship pool party! All youth are invited to come out and celebrate the end of summer with your NPC family on August 14. Questions? Contact Kristin Franke (kfranke@nationalpres.org).

NPC at the Washington Nationals

August 16 at 4:05 pm

Join your NPC friends for Faith Day at the Nationals game! All are welcome. Tickets are \$32/each, seated in Section 110. Please [RSVP on our website](#). Questions? Contact Kristin Franke (kfranke@nationalpres.org).

Diaper Collection & Care, Prayer, Dare Sunday, August 31, 10:00 am

Labor Day Sunday is our fun Care, Prayer, Dare hands-on event! Our Care collection this year is diapers for our mission partner Young Lives – diapers of any size can be brought to church bins anytime over the next 3 weeks. Then mark the date for Sunday, August 31 to join in activities to care for others.

- **Care:** Donate diapers for our mission partner Young Lives. You can also contribute to the diaper drive online on our [Events page](#).
- **Prayer:** Come together in prayerful worship at 10:00 am.
- **Dare:** Take the Care Challenge! Commit to share a simple act of Christian love in the coming week.

Join us for hands-on activities, coffee, cookies, and community after the 10:00 am service outside on the upper plaza. For more information, contact Leslie Saum lsaum@nationalpres.org 202-537-7494.

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 and our community.

- View upcoming community service opportunities on our [Events](#) page or contact Serve Director Jonathan Edwards (jedwards@nationalpres.org).
- Want to serve at church? Visit our [Serve at Church](#) page or contact Leslie Saum (lsaum@nationalpres.org) directly at 202-537-7494.
- If you're interested in photography, we would love to utilize your skills to capture photos of our NPC family on Sundays. Contact Caroline Etgen (cetgen@nationalpres.org).

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:

Barbara Browne, Jeanne Carr, and
Monika Petter.

We pray for:

McGilvary College
as they develop leaders for ministry
in churches, schools, and hospitals
in Thailand and Southeast Asia.

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

Heritage Brief

19TH CENTURY BAPTISMAL FONT FROM THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WASHINGTON

The History & Archives Ministry Committee of NPC is pleased to have sponsored the restoration of the marble baptismal font from one of our predecessor congregations, the First Presbyterian Church of Washington, D.C. It is now located near the front of our sanctuary, in the niche along the right wall, just beyond the "Men of Faith" faceted windows and before the transept.

This font dates from the early 1890's and is shown in a photograph (ca. 1892), in the newly refurbished sanctuary of the church on 4-1/2 Street—now John Marshall Park—where the church had been located since 1827. Church records are not clear as to who purchased the font or exactly when, but on the base it indicates it was given in memory of Miss Laura Sunderland (1846-1890), the oldest of the three children of Dr. and Mrs. Byron Sunderland, who served First Presbyterian as pastor for 45 years, from 1853-1898. Laura was a beloved Sunday School teacher at the church for many years, and her death at such a young age from "the grip"—the 19th Century term for influenza—in February of 1890 came as a real shock to everyone at First Presbyterian. Her obituary in *The Washington Post* stated: "Miss Sunderland was one of the best known ladies in the city. She was particularly prominent in charitable works, and the memory of her good deeds will remain long after her body has been consigned to earth."



Prepared by the NPC History & Archives Ministry