

August 10, 2025

Welcome to NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*We know love by this,
that he laid down his life for us—and we
ought to lay down our lives for
the brothers and sisters.*

I John 3:16



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

Today during the Sunday School hour there are two wonderful ways to engage: Family Fellowship Coffee Hour in the Garden Rooms in place of Hands-On Summer, and our Summer Speaker Series, which will offer invaluable insights about living faithfully in challenging times. Today's speaker is Cherie Harder. Check out page 9 for more information. See you there!

2nd Sunday Sandwich Making Today, 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!

Club 45

Today, August 10 at 5:00 pm

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 12 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).

Youth Pool Party

Thursday, 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).

Week at a Glance

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

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

Tuesday, August 12

- 7:00 pm: College Bible Study

Thursday, August 14

- 6:30 pm: Youth Pool Party

Saturday, August 16

- 4:05 pm: NPC at the Nats

Sunday, August 17

- 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: Job Loss & Uncertainty Prayer Gathering

NPC at the Washington Nationals

Saturday, 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).

8:45 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING Improvisations Joanna Zorack-Greene, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP Dr. Quinn Fox

▲ OPENING SONG O Love that Will Not Let Me Go Indelible Grace

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

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

O light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;

My heart restores its borrowed ray,
that in thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be.

O joy that seekest me through 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 liftest 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.

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION Dr. Fox

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

You who are love itself,
we confess to you our sins and every unloveliness.

Forgive and cleanse us, and teach us to be children of love
in our thoughts, and words, and actions.

May we never turn away our love from those who do not know you.

Teach us to be instruments of your mercy to those in distress or need.

May we be such examples of your loving concern

that others may be guided to discover that they also are your children.

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 I John 4:16, 20-21; 5:2-5 Dr. Fox
- God is love,
 and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.
 Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters are liars;
 for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen
 cannot love God whom they have not seen.
 The commandment we have from God is this:
 Those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.
 By this we know that we love the children of God,
 when we love God and obey his commandments.
 His commandments are not burdensome,
 for whatever is born of God conquers the world
 and this is the victory that conquers the world—our faith.
 Who is it that conquers the world but one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE 1 John 3:11-24 Meghan Thompson
Pew Bible Pages 990-991 Youth Ministry Intern

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 Love: Divine Affection, Loyalty, Generosity 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. 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 King of My Heart John Mark McMillan
- Let the King of my heart be the mountain where I run,
 the fountain I drink from! Oh, he is my song!
 Let the King of my heart be the shadow where I hide,
 the ransom for my life. Oh, he is my song!
You are good, good! Oh! (4x)
- Let the King of my heart be the wind inside my sails,
 the anchor in the waves. Oh, he is my song!
 Let the King of my heart be the fire inside my veins,
 the echo of my days! Oh, he is my song! *Chorus*
 You're never gonna let, never gonna let me down! (4x) *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 AND 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

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*

▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Hylton

▲ SENDING

NPC Band

▲ Congregation standing, as able

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

11:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Variations on a Hymn

Phil Snedecor

CHIMES

Todd Fickley, organ

Phil Snedecor, trumpet

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Quinn Fox

▲ HYMN 376 *verses 1-3* Love Divine, All Loves Excelling *Hyfrydol*

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION Dr. Fox

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Hymn 376, verse 4

Finish, then, thy new creation: Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

CONFESSION OF SIN in unison

Dr. Fox

You who are love itself,
we confess to you our sins and every unloveliness.
Forgive and cleanse us, and teach us to be children of love
in our thoughts, and words, and actions.
May we never turn away our love from those who do not know you.
Teach us to be instruments of your mercy to those in distress or need.
May we be such examples of your loving concern
that others may be guided to discover that they also are your children.

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 I John 4:16, 20-21; 5:2-5 Dr. Fox

God is love,
and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.
Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters are liars;
for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen
cannot love God whom they have not seen.
The commandment we have from God is this:
Those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.
By this we know that we love the children of God,
when we love God and obey his commandments.
His commandments are not burdensome,
for whatever is born of God conquers the world
and this is the victory that conquers the world—our faith.
Who is it that conquers the world but one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

1 John 3:11-24
Pew Bible Pages 990-991

Kwaku Labi

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

Love: Divine Affection, Loyalty, Generosity

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the Sanctuary.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Love One Another

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Love one another with a pure heart fervently; see that you love one another.

with Tess Ottinger and Joanna Zorack-Greene, sopranos

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Dr. Nancy Fox

OFFERTORY

God, Thou Art Love

Craig Courtney

If I forget, yet God remembers.
If these hands of mine cease from their clinging,
Yet the hands divine hold me so firmly I cannot fall.
And if sometimes I am too tired to call for him to help me,
Then he reads the prayer unspoken in my heart and lifts my care.
I dare not fear since certainly I know
That I am in God's keeping,
Shielded so, from all that else would harm,
And in the hour of stern temptation,
Strengthened by his power.
I tread no path in life to him unknown;
I lift no burden, bear no pain alone;
My soul a calm, sure hiding place has found:
The everlasting Arms my life surround.
God, thou art love!
I build my faith on that.
I know thee who has kept my path,
And made light for me in the darkness,
Tempering sorrow so that it reached me like a solemn joy.
It were too strange that I should doubt thy love.

Robert Browning
Soloists of NPC

▲ 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.

Dr. Fox

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us Here

St. Catherine

Great God, your love has called us here as we, by love, for love were made;

Your living likeness still we bear, though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.

We come with all our heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.

Great God, in Christ you call our name, and then receive us as your own,

Not through some merit, right, or claim but by your gracious love alone.

We strain to see your mercy seat, and find you kneeling at our feet.

Great God, in Christ you set us free, your life to live, your joy to share.

Give us your Spirit's liberty to turn from guilt and dull despair,

And offer all that faith can do while love is making all things new.

Brian Wren

Dr. Hylton

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Fox

▲ POSTLUDE

The Rejoicing

G. F. Handel

Mr. Fickley, organ

Mr. Snedecor, trumpet

▲ 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

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SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- **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

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.

Family Fellowship Coffee Hour

Today, August 10 at 9:55 am in between worship services, there will be a Family Fellowship Coffee Hour in the Garden Rooms in place of Hands-On Summer. Come for coffee, cookies, fun, and fellowship!

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: Cherie Harder: *Finding Calm Amidst Life's Storms*

Summer Speaker Series: Living Faithfully in Challenging Times

August 10: Cherie Harder, President - The Trinity Forum

Finding Calm Amidst Life's Storms

By many measures, Americans are more stressed out, distracted, addled, and anxious than ever. It is easy to feel under assault, with our widespread agitation stoked by social media algorithms and exploited by commercial and political actors, and our attention monetized even as it is eroded. Amidst such tempests, how do we find calm? What practices and rhythms of rest and renewal reorient us towards walking the pilgrim way?

August 17

Nicole Bibbins Sedeca,
Fellow, George W. Bush Institute
Faith and Foreign Policy

August 24

Summer Ministry Reports



**Called
to Care**

Deacons

Our deacons are ready to care for you. They will listen, pray, visit, and encourage you. careoffice@nationalpres.org / 202-537-7540

Love one another.

John 13:34

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Care, Prayer, Dare Challenge Sunday August 31, one 10:00 am worship service

- **Care:** Donate diapers for our mission partner Young Lives.
- **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.

Labor Day Sunday is our fun Care, Prayer, Dare hands-on event! Our Care collection this year is Diapers of any size . Bring to church bins anytime over the next 3 weeks. You can also contribute to the diaper drive online on our [Events page](#).

Then, mark the date for Sunday, August 31 to join in hands-on activities to care for others.

Join us for hands-on activities, ICE CREAM, cookies, and community after the 10:00 am service outside on the upper plaza. For more information, contact Leslie Saum (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).

Job Loss & Uncertainty Prayer Gathering Sunday, August 17 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.

**Serve Our City:
Habitat for Humanity Build
Saturday, August 23, 8:30 am-3:00 pm**
National Presbyterian Church is partnering with Habitat for Humanity DC/NOVA for a special build day in Northeast DC. No building experience is needed—just a willing heart and helping hands! This is a great opportunity to serve and support local families in need of safe, affordable housing. For more details or to volunteer, contact Jonathan Edwards, Serve Director (jedwards@nationalpres.org). Spots are limited, so sign up soon!

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).

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

Last Week's Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary were given to the glory of God by J. Theodore Anderson in memory of his father, Carl Joseph Gilbert Anderson.

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 (lskrine@nationalpres.org).

Prayers

We pray for:

healthy, vibrant family relationships.

We pray for:

the persecuted Church, consisting of millions of Christians across the world who are denied their rights, imprisoned, tortured, or martyred for their faith.

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 loving memory of Alice Smith by her daughter and beloved grandsons.

“Let the little children come to me...” – Matthew 19:14

NPC loves children in worship! Kids learn how to worship God and what it means to be loved and accepted in God's family. As adults, we are blessed with the opportunity to honor our baptismal vows and support the spiritual growth of our youngest disciples as we worship alongside them. If you are worshipping with children nearby, please welcome and encourage them as they grow in their faith.



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