

October 12, 2025  
Confirmation Sunday

Welcome to  
**NATIONAL  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

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

*Therefore confess your sins  
to one another  
and pray for one another,  
so that you may be healed.  
The prayer of the righteous  
is powerful and effective.  
James 5:16*



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](http://nationalpres.org). Questions? Email us at [info@nationalpres.org](mailto:info@nationalpres.org)!

## **2nd Sunday Sandwich Making**

**Today, October 12, 12:15 pm**

### **Stone Fellowship 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!

## **Women's Ministry Fall Brunch**

**Saturday, October 18, 12:00 pm**

**Register by Tomorrow, October 13**

All women are invited to the Fall Brunch. Our speaker will be Christian writer and mentor Connally Gilliam on "Living the Unexpected Life," as we continue to pursue this year's theme of exchanging perfectionism for God's peace and presence. Please join us for inspiration, fellowship, delicious food, and a bit of fun. Visit our [Events page](#) to register by October 13.

## **Military Ministry Toy Drive**

### **Accepting Donations Into November**

The Military Ministry is sponsoring a Holiday Toy Drive for hospitalized children at Walter Reed Military Hospital. These gifts, selected by a Child-Life Specialist, support kids going through difficult treatments. The shopping list is on our [Events webpage](#). Choose a gift and bring it to the bins outside the Sanctuary for the next several weeks. You may also send a check to the church with "Military Ministry Toy Drive" in the memo line.

## **Week at a Glance**

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

### **Sunday, October 12**

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Adult Sunday School
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Coffee, Cookies, & Community
- 12:15 pm: Sandwich Making

### **Saturday, October 18**

- 12:00 pm: Women's Ministry Fall Brunch

### **Sunday, October 19**

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Coffee, Cookies, & Community
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group

## **Men's Breakfast**

**Saturday, November 1, 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. Email [grow@nationalpres.org](mailto:grow@nationalpres.org) for more information.

## **Service of Remembrance**

**Sunday, November 2, 12:30 pm**

### **Sanctuary**

All are invited to this worship service in which we remember those who have passed away in the previous year. The service will take place in the Chapel. Anyone who has lost a loved one may find peace and comfort in attending. The Columbarium will be open following the service.

# 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

Dr. Nancy Fox

▲ OPENING SONG

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*Cwm Rhonda*

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy pow'rful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,

Feed me now and ever more, feed me now and ever more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;

Let the fiery, cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.

Strong Deliverer strong Deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield.

Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;

Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.

Songs of praises, songs of praises,

I will ever give to thee, I will ever give to thee.

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Dr. Fox

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Loving God, in the wrong we have done, and in the good we have not done,

We have sinned in ignorance, weakness, and through our own deliberate fault.

We come to you in guilt and sorrow.

We turn to you once again in repentance and need.

Forgive us, we pray, and heal us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Apostles' Creed

Dr. Fox

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and

buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;

the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Galatians 6:1-2 and James 5:13-16  
*Pew Bible Pages 948 and 983*

Christopher Park

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Kristin Franke  
Director of Youth & Family 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

Buried Burdens, Bold Prayers  
How the Church Heals Together

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. 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

My Worth Is Not In What I Own

Fernando Ortega

My worth is not in what I own, not in the strength of flesh and bone.  
But in the costly wounds of love... at the cross.

My worth is not in skill or name, in win or lose, in pride or shame.  
But in the blood of Christ that flowed... at the cross.

*I rejoice in my Redeemer, greatest treasure, wellspring of my soul.  
I will trust in him, no other, my soul is satisfied in him alone.*

As summer flowers we fade and die. Fame, youth, and beauty hurry by.  
But life eternal calls to us... at the cross.

I will not boast in wealth or might, or human wisdom's fleeting light.  
But I will boast in knowing Christ... at the cross. *Chorus*

Two wonders here that I confess: my worth and my unworthiness.  
My value fixed, my ransom paid... at the cross. *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      Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed      Keith and Kristyn Getty

How can it be? The One who died has borne our sin through sacrifice,  
to conquer every sting of death; Sing, sing hallelujah!  
For joy awakes as dawning light when Christ's disciples lift their eyes;  
Alive he stands their Friend and King; Christ, Christ, he is risen.

*Christ is risen, he is risen indeed! Oh, sing hallelujah.*

*Join the chorus, sing with the redeemed. Christ is risen, he is risen indeed.*

Where doubt and darkness once had been, they saw him and their hearts believed;  
But blessed are those who have not seen, yet sing hallelujah.

Once bound by fear, now bold in faith, they preached the truth and power of grace;  
And pouring out their lives they gained life, life everlasting. *Chorus*

The power that raised him from the grave now works in us to powerfully save;  
He frees our hearts to live his grace; Go tell of his goodness. *Chorus* (2x)

▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST Dr. Hylton

▲ SENDING NPC Band

- ▲ Congregation standing, as able

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

# NOTES

# 11:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

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## WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Adoration

Florence Price  
Jonathan Rajaseelan, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Nancy Fox

▲ HYMN 446

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

*Austrian Hymn*

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Dr. Fox

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*Austrian Hymn*

Blessèd citizens of Zion, washed in our Redeemer's blood,  
Jesus, whom our souls rely on, makes us holy priests to God.  
By great love and grace he raises kingdom citizens to sing,  
And as priests his solemn praises we for thankful off'ring bring.

John Newton, alt.

CONFESSION OF SIN in unison

Dr. Fox

Loving God, in the wrong we have done, and in the good we have not done,  
We have sinned in ignorance, weakness, and through our own deliberate fault.  
We come to you in guilt and sorrow.  
We turn to you once again in repentance and need.  
Forgive us, we pray, and heal us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Apostles' Creed

Dr. Fox

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and  
buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Quinn Fox

CONFIRMATION AND THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM\*

Lydia Adcock	Ethan Ansah
William Cadou	Emerson Ela
Margaret Evans*	Paisley Fromer
Marko Guenov	Maggie Kendall
Ben Maurer	Bram Schestopol
Grier Swann*	

Congregational Prayer *in unison*

**God of love, we rejoice to receive these newest  
brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ.  
May they discover your grace in Jesus Christ,  
through membership in this church family.  
May your love hold them, your truth guide them, your joy delight them.  
Gracious God, touch us all again this day with your grace of belonging.  
Give us new lives for old, new spirits, new faith, and new commitment  
in place of all that has grown tired or stale in our lives.  
We have heard your call and are made new by your Spirit.  
So may we rise and go from here to discover whatever awaits us,  
in joy and in trust, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

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

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Galatians 6:1-2 and James 5:13-16  
*Pew Bible Pages 948 and 983*

Peter Tam

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

SERMON

Buried Burdens, Bold Prayers  
How the Church Heals Together

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

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

CHORAL RESPONSE

*Converse*

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior still our refuge—take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Does the world despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield you, and you'll find true solace there.

Joseph Scriven, alt.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Dr. Fox

OFFERTORY

Sweet Are the Prayers of a Friend

Pepper Choplin

*Sweet are the prayers of a friend. How sweet are the prayers that are offered up by a friend,  
by a friend who calls, calling up to heav'n, calling, "Lord, come down and bless again."*  
Friends pray for healing, they pray revealing the heavy burdens of our souls.  
They pray for courage, unfailing courage, asking God to make us whole.  
Friends pray us through troubles, through all our struggles when life seems to fall apart.  
They pray us through grieving, always believing, God can heal the broken heart.  
Sweet are the prayers of a friend for a friend.

▲ 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!*

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.

▲ HYMN

O Christ, the Healer

*Erhalt uns, Herr*

O Christ, the healer, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.

How can we fail to be restored, when reached by love that never ends?

How strong, O Lord, are our desires, how weak our knowledge of ourselves!

Release in us those healing truths unconscious pride resists or shelves.

Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your community may find

The wholeness that, enriching us, shall reach the whole of humankind.

Fred Pratt Green

▲ BENEDICTION

Dr. Hylton

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

Sweet are the prayers of a friend for a friend.

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Fox

▲ POSTLUDE

Rigaudon

André Campra

Mr. Rajaseelan, 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



# SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- **8:45 am:** Contemporary Worship
- **9:55 am:** Sunday School For Adults
- **11:00 am:** Traditional Worship
- **12:15 pm:** Coffee, Cookies, & Community

## Childcare

Childcare is available on the second floor of the main church building from 8:30 am until the close of the 11:00 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.

**There will be NO Sunday School for Children and Youth  
or Parent Gathering today.**

## Adult Sunday School:

- **Galatians and James**, R.V. Seep (*Chapel & Online*)
- **Discovering the Gospel of John**, Margaret Gardner & Quinn Fox (*Garden Room C*)
- **Uncommon Ground: Living Faithfully in a World of Difference**, Ginny Beeson, Lewrene Glaser, Nancy Fox (*Room 209*)
- **Parent Gathering** (*Jones Hall, National Presbyterian School*) (*will resume 10/19*)

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



**Called  
to Care**

## Feeling anxious or burdened? Need to slow down?

Care notes are inspirational booklets on various topics. Pick one up in the Welcome Center. [careoffice@nationalpres.org](mailto:careoffice@nationalpres.org) / 202-537-7540

*He cares for you.*

1 Peter 5:7

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Taste and See!**

### **Welcome Team Orientation & Safety Refresher**

**Sunday October 26, 12:15 pm**

### **Garden Rooms**

Come and find out more about this vital team that not only greets and connects with folks on Sundays, but does important work behind the scenes to care for and connect our NPC family! This session provides an orientation for new folks and a refresher for existing team members. Questions? Contact Leslie Saum (202-537-7494 or [lsaum@nationalpres.org](mailto:lsaum@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](http://nationalpres.org/discipleship) or contact the Connections Ministry (202-537-7494 or [lsaum@nationalpres.org](mailto:lsaum@nationalpres.org)).

## **Join Our NPC Staff Team**

As Leslie Saum's retirement approaches, NPC is seeking a **Director of Connections Ministry** to develop and guide a program that engages members of the congregation and helps them foster connections to each other and the church's missions. It is a full-time position that reports to the Associate Pastor of Care, manages the Membership Office and the Welcome Team ministry, and works closely with the church's Care, Grow, Serve, and Worship ministries. The successful candidate is a caring, friendly, people-oriented person with excellent communication and interpersonal skills who knows how to juggle multiple tasks simultaneously, manage deadlines effectively, use technology effectively, proactively build and maintain effective relationships among staff and recruits, and collaborate with a team of volunteers. Qualified applicants should send a resume to [npcrecruiting@gmail.com](mailto:npcrecruiting@gmail.com).

# 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 Leslie Saum ([lsaum@nationalpres.org](mailto:lsaum@nationalpres.org)).
- If you're interested in photography, we would love to utilize your skills to capture photos on Sundays. Contact Caroline Etgen ([cetgen@nationalpres.org](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:lskrine@nationalpres.org)).

## Prayers

**We pray for:**  
a bold prayer life.

**We pray for:**  
Young Lives, as they present the gospel to teenage parents, and help them grow in their faith.

**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 Narthex flowers are given to the glory of God  
and in memory of Doris Botsford on her October 12 birthday  
by Diana Schwanhausser.

The Sanctuary flowers are given in loving memory of  
Philip Lam, a beloved brother, who lost his battle to PSP last year.  
He taught fortitude, perseverance and grace through his battle with PSP.  
With thanksgiving, love and admiration,  
Beverly and Peter Tam.

*Reserve your place in the Festival Choir!*

*Emmanuel*

**God with Us**

Our Coming Savior in  
**HANDEL'S MESSIAH**

NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FESTIVAL CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

**Sunday, December 14, 2025 at 5 pm**

Rehearsals for this musical masterpiece begin 10 am on Saturday, November 8

*Rehearsal Schedule*

**Saturday Rehearsals 10 am – 1 pm**

November 8, 15, 22 and December 6

**Performance Weekend Rehearsals**

Friday, December 12 from 7 pm – 10 pm

Saturday, December 13 from 9:30 am – 1:30 pm

For information or to immediately sign up go to [www.nationalpres.org/messiah-2025](http://www.nationalpres.org/messiah-2025).  
or call the NPC Music Office at 202-537-7553.

*“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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