

November 23, 2025
Christ the King Sunday

Welcome to
**NATIONAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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

*In his days Judah will be saved,
and Israel will live in safety.
And this is the name by which he will be called:
"The Lord is our righteousness."
Jeremiah 23:6*



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. Questions? Email us at info@nationalpres.org!

Today in Worship: Thanksgiving Food Collection

Thank you all for your generosity and for bringing food to support this year's Thanksgiving Collection. Your contributions make a real difference in the lives of our neighbors, and we are grateful for the spirit of compassion you continue to show. During worship today, you will be invited to come forward and place your offering at the front of the sanctuary, where all donated food items will be gathered. All donations will support our local Mission Partner, Martha's Table, as well as the Food Pantry at the University of the District of Columbia, serving neighbors and students in need. May our gifts today be a tangible expression of Christ's love and generosity this Thanksgiving season.

Week at a Glance

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

Sunday, November 23

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Retirement Reception for Leslie Saum
- 5:00 pm: Youth Family Service Night

Sunday, November 30

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for adults
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Coffee, Cookies, & Community
- 5:00 pm: All Church Advent Night

All Church Advent Night

Sunday, November 30, 5:00 pm

Sanctuary & Stone Fellowship Hall

All are invited to this joyful, intergenerational, hands-on event to mark the beginning of the Advent season. We begin with worship and communion in the Sanctuary, followed by crafts and dinner in Stone Hall. All Church Advent Night combines two favorite celebrations of years past—Advent Vespers & Advent Family Night—so that we can worship, create, and share a meal as one church family. Visit our [Events](#) page to sign up so we can plan well for crafts and dinner. Questions? Contact Jill Meek (jmeek@nationalpres.org).

First Grade Milestone:

The Lord's Prayer

Today during 8:45 am worship our first graders lead us in the Lord's Prayer. As a part of Sunday School, each grade, Kindergarten through 5th, learns a "Milestone in Worship," an element of our worship liturgy. Milestones help children to participate in worship and develop a language of faith.

Youth Family Service Night

Today, November 23, 5:00 pm

Stone Fellowship Hall

NPC Youth families are invited to join for an evening of making lasagnas for Martha's Table, followed by a potluck dinner. Please bring your own knife and cutting board! Visit our [Events Page](#) to sign up to bring a dish to share and/or volunteer to help with setup.

*You are cordially invited to
Celebrate Leslie Saum at her
Retirement Reception*

When: Today, November 23, 12:30 pm

Where: Stone Fellowship Hall

*All are welcome. In place of gifts, attendees
are invited to bring a note of gratitude and
best wishes for Leslie.*

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, December 6, 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, enjoy a hearty breakfast and learn more about some of your favorite Christmas hymns as we move through the Advent season. See you there!

8:45 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING

Improvisations

Kevin Rose, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Craig Meek

▲ OPENING SONG

Your Love Awakens Me

Phil Wickham

There were walls between us. By the cross you came and broke them down.

You broke them down. And there were chains around us.

By your grace we are no longer bound, no longer bound.

You called me out of the grave. You called me into the light.

You called my name and then my heart came alive!

Your love is greater! Your love is stronger!

Your love awakens, awakens, awakens, me! (2x)

Feel the darkness shaking, all the dead are coming back to life!

I'm back to life. Hear the song awaken!

All creation singing we're alive, 'cause you're alive!

You called me out of the grave. You called me into the light.

You called my name and then my heart came alive!

Your love is greater! Your love is stronger!

Your love awakens, awakens, awakens, me! (2x)

And what a love we've found! Death can't hold us down.

We shout it out! We're alive 'cause you're alive! (3x)

Your love is greater! Your love is stronger!

Your love awakens, awakens, awakens, me! (2x)

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Meek

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Glory to thee, both day and night for all the blessings of the light;

Keep me, O keep me, King of kings, beneath thine own almighty wings.

Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son, the ill that I this day have done,

That with the world, myself, and thee, I—ere I sleep—at peace may be.

Teach me to live, that I may dread the grave as little as my bed;

Teach me to die, that so I may rise glorious at that final day.

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.

Thomas Ken, Anglican bishop, royal chaplain,
hymn writer, and author of "The Doxology"

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
 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, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND PATHWAY

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 23:1-6
Pew Bible Page 633

Adele Muoio

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

The Once and Future King

Rev. Lisa Larsen

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the Sanctuary.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND THANKSGIVING GIFTS

Dr. Hylton

*You may bring your tithes and Thanksgiving gifts forward during the offering song,
 or you may place it in an offering plate as you exit the Sanctuary.*

▲ OFFERING SONG

If We're Honest

Francesca Battistelli

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.

▲ 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 Dr. Hylton

THE LORD'S PRAYER Led by NPC 1st Graders
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 Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly Pat Barrett
It all comes down to this, what you require of me.
Love my neighbor as myself and you above all things.
Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly, with you God.
In all things, in all ways, walk humbly, with you God.
It all comes down to this, to be your hands and feet.
Good news to all the world; the truth will set us free. *Chorus*
It's beauty for ashes, it's mourning to dancing,
it's closer and closer, the Kingdom of heaven. (2x)
Years from now we'll see the fruit our hands have sown.
Faith just like a seed the only way it grows. *Chorus*

▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST Rev. Larsen

▲ SENDING NPC Band

▲ Congregation standing, as able

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

Deacons and Stephen Ministers are available to offer confidential prayer for you.
If something is weighing on your mind, if you have a concern, or you need guidance,
look for members of the Prayer Team wearing blue lanyards, standing near the pulpit
following both worship services. They are ready to stop, drop, and pray for you!

NOTES

11:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Cantabile in B Major

César Franck
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Craig Meek

▲ HYMN 6 Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending

Helmsley

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Meek

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

Weisse Flaggen

Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart;
Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

Charles Wesley

CONFESSION OF SIN in unison

Rev. Meek

Glory to thee, both day and night for all the blessings of the light;
Keep me, O keep me, King of kings, beneath thine own almighty wings.
Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son, the ill that I this day have done,
That with the world, myself, and thee, I—ere I sleep—at peace may be.
Teach me to live, that I may dread the grave as little as my bed;
Teach me to die, that so I may rise glorious at that final day.
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.

Thomas Ken, Anglican bishop, royal chaplain,
hymn writer, and author of "The Doxology"

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

Nun danket alle Gott

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
To Father and to Son and Spirit now be given,
The one eternal God, whom heav'n and earth adore,
The God who was and is, and shall be evermore.

Martin Rinkart, 1636

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed

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

Jeremiah 23:1-6
Pew Bible Page 633

Deacon Kathy Arveson

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

The Once and Future King

Rev. Lisa Larsen

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the Sanctuary.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Wie schön leuchtet

O Morning Star, how fair and bright thou beamest forth in truth and light!

O Sov'reign meek and lowly!

Branch of Jesse, David's Son, my Lord and Savior, thou hast won

My heart to serve thee solely!

Thou art holy, fair and glorious, all-victorious, rich in blessing,

Rule and might o'er all possessing.

Philipp Nikolai, 1597

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Dr. Hylton

OFFERTORY

The Last Words of David

Randall Thompson

He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God.

And he shall be as the light of the morning, when the sun riseth,

Even a morning without clouds;

As tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain.

Alleluia. Amen.

2 Samuel 23:3-4

With Grace McFarlane Bottelier, piano and Todd Fickley, organ

▲ PROCESSION OF THANKSGIVING GIFTS

St. George's Windsor

*Congregation brings gifts of food to the Chancel Tables
as the organ plays, "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"*

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Dr. Hylton

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.

Duke Street

Now here thy name, O God of love, their children's children do adore,
Till these majestic hills remove, and spring adorns the earth no more.

Rev. Larsen

Randall Thompson

Dr. Hylton

Sigfrid Karg-Elert
Mr. Fickley, organ

Everyone is invited downstairs to Stone Fellowship Hall after worship for Leslie Saum's Retirement Reception.

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

[illegible]

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- **8:45 am:** Contemporary Worship
- **9:55 am:** Sunday School For All Ages
- **11:00 am:** Traditional Worship
- **12:15 pm:** Retirement Reception for Leslie Saum

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 to 17 months old 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.

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.

****Next week, 11/30, there will be no Children & Youth Sunday School nor Parent Gathering.****

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*)

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



**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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Club 45

Sunday, December 7, 5:00 pm

Youth House

4th & 5th graders, Club 45 is just for you! Come grow in faith and friendship through fun games, Bible study and more. For more information, click here to contact Jill Meek (jmeek@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 the Connections Ministry (202-537-7494 or chan@nationalpres.org).

Spread the Joy of Jesus this Season

Calling all helpers for Christmas Eve!

We will welcome hundreds of guests to NPC this Christmas Eve, and you can show them Christ's love by greeting, ushering, or handing out gifts at any of the three services on Dec. 24. Contact Carol Han (chan@nationalpres.org).

Mission Gifts for Christmas

December 7 & 14

Stone Fellowship Hall

All are invited to fellowship, celebrate the gift of Jesus, and support missionaries and mission organizations at our annual Mission Gifts for Christmas events. Mission Gifts enables you to give meaningful gifts instead of another "thing," by funding God's work locally and internationally. Each donation you make in an honor of a friend, family member, teacher, or coworker helps missionaries and organizations serve those in need. Please visit our [Mission Gifts](#) page for more information.

Pathway of Christian Discipleship Class

Four-part Sunday series, starting

January 4

Becoming a church member here at NPC can be a meaningful step forward in your spiritual journey. To inquire about membership or learn more about Christian faith, please attend the Pathways 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 or to register, visit our [Events page](#) or contact Kemet Rakiatu (202-537-7578, krakiatu@nationalpres.org). Register by December 15.



2026 Generosity Commitments

It's not too late to support our vision of how God can work through NPC to generously share Christ's love within and beyond our walls in 2026! If you have not yet done so, we invite you to prayerfully steward God's blessings and joyfully make your commitment. There are extra cards in the narthex or you can scan the QR code.



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).
- Want to help on Sundays? Visit our [Serve at Church](#) page or contact Carol Han (chan@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).

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.

November 17, 2025 Giving Report

	Faith Giving
Annual Budget	\$ 3,610,000
Received YTD	\$ 2,808,000
Remaining Needed	\$ 802,000

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 celebrate with:

Ethan and Joanna Zorack-Greene on the birth of their son.

We pray for:

God's abundant blessings to us and NPC.

We pray for:

Martha's Table, as they engage the DC community in developing sustainable solutions to poverty.

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. Kathryn Ruth Anderson McDivitt by her brother, Mr. J. Theodore Anderson.

God with Us
Our Coming Savior in
HANDEL'S MESSIAH

NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FESTIVAL CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

Sunday, December 14, 2025 at 5 pm

For information go to 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.



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



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