

February 1, 2026
Communion

Welcome to NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*I press on toward the goal for the prize
of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.*
Philippians 3:14



Senior Pastor
Associate Pastors

Parish Associate
Music

Ministry Directors

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.
Rev. Lisa Larsen
Rev. Craig Meek
Kristin Franke
Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus
Dr. Michael Denham (Director)
Todd Fickley (Organist)
Joanna Zorack-Greene
(Contemporary Music Leader)
Jonathan Edwards (Serve)
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!

Fourth Grade Milestone:

Sacrament of Communion

Having completed a study of Communion in Sunday School, NPC fourth graders join us in worship today to receive Communion alongside their church family.

Fifth Grade Milestone:

Prayer of Confession

Today during 11:00 am worship our fifth graders lead us in the Prayer of Confession. 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.

State of the Church: Future & Finances Today, February 1, 9:55 am

Stone Fellowship Hall

All are warmly invited to join us for an update by our Senior Pastor on our vision for NPC in 2026. We will also hear from our newly hired Associate Pastors, review 2025 year-end financial results, and share highlights from the 2026 budget approved by Session. There will be no Adult Sunday School classes that day in hopes that you will join us. Nursery and Sunday School classes for children and youth will continue as usual. Light refreshments will be provided as we come together in gratitude and hope for what God is doing among us.

Job Loss & Uncertainty Prayer Gathering Today, February 1, 12:30 pm Room 109

Come for prayer and support.

Week at a Glance

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

Sunday, February 1

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: State of the Church Presentation
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for Children & Youth
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Coffee, Cookies, & Community
- 12:30 pm: Job Loss & Uncertainty Prayer Gathering
- 5:00 pm: All Church Family Dinner
- 5:00 pm: Club 45
- 5:00 pm: Youth Group

Saturday, February 7

- 8:00 am: Men's Breakfast

Sunday, February 8

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Sandwich Making
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group

All Church Family Dinner

Today, February 1, 5:00 pm

Stone Fellowship Hall

The whole family is invited to an all-church dinner! From 5:00-6:00 pm, we'll have small group sermon discussions, children's care, Club 45, and youth group, before joining for a whole church dinner. For more details or to [signup](#), visit the [Events page](#) or contact Kristin Franke (kfranke@nationalpres.org).

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, February 7, 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 for more information.

8:45 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING Improvisations Joanna Zorack-Greene, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Craig Meek

▲ OPENING SONG 10,000 Reasons Matt Redman

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning, it's time to sing your song again.

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship his holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship your holy name.

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger. Your name is great and your heart is kind.

For all your goodness, I will keep on singing;
ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. *Chorus*

And on that day, when my strength is failing, the end draws near, and my time has come;

Still, my soul will sing your praise unending;
ten thousand years, and then forevermore! *Chorus*

Oh I'll worship your holy name. Lord, I'll worship your holy name.

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Rev. Meek

Most merciful God,

We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,

By what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength,

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been,

Amend what we are, and direct what we shall be,

So that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,

To the glory of your holy name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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. Meek
- 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

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 3:12-16
Pew Bible Page 955

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Kristin Franke
Associate Pastor

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

SERMON

Joy Made Visible
Pressing On Toward Christ

Dr. Hylton

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the Sanctuary.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Rev. Meek

*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.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Rev. Meek

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)

Joanna Zorack-Greene, soprano

Prayer of Response and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Meek

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

All Because of Jesus

Steve Fee

Giver of every breath I breathe, Author of all eternity,

Giver of every perfect thing, to you be the glory.

Maker of heaven and of earth, no one can comprehend your worth.

King over all the universe, to you be the glory.

And I'm alive because I'm alive in you.

It's all because of Jesus I'm alive.

*It's all because the blood of Jesus Christ
that covers me and raised this dead one's life.*

It's all because of Jesus I'm alive.

Giver of every breath I breathe, Author of all eternity,

Giver of every perfect thing, to you be the glory.

Maker of heaven and of earth, no one can comprehend your worth.

King over all the universe, to you be the glory.

And I'm alive because I'm alive in you. *Chorus*

Every sunrise sings your grace, the universe cries out your praise.

I'm singing freedom all my days now that I'm alive. *Chorus (2x)*

▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Hylton

▲ SENDING

NPC Band

▲ Congregation standing, as able

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

*Everyone is invited downstairs to Stone Fellowship Hall after worship
for the State of the Church Presentation.*

11:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Allegro
from Concerto Op. 7, No. 4

William Felton
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Craig Meek

▲ HYMN 307

Fight the Good Fight

Duke Street

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

John Yarrington

Seek the Lord while he may be found. Call upon him while he is near.

CONFESSION OF SIN in unison

Led by NPC 5th Graders

Most merciful God,

We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,

By what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength,

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been,

Amend what we are, and direct what we shall be,

So that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,

To the glory of your holy name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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. Meek

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

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A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Kristin Franke
Associate Pastor

*Kindergarten to 5th graders may exit with leaders for Children's Chapel.
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SERMON

Joy Made Visible
Pressing On Toward Christ

Dr. Hylton

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the Sanctuary.

RESPONSE

Hamburg

Soloist and Choir

Jesus, our only joy be thou. As thou our joy wilt be;

Jesus, be thou our glory now, and through eternity.

O hope of every contrite heart, O joy of all the meek,

To those who fall, how kind thou art! How good to those who seek!

Congregation

But what to those who find? Ah, this nor tongue nor pen can show:

The love of Jesus, what it is none but his loved ones know.

Bernard of Clairvaux

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Rev. Meek

OFFERTORY

You Do Not Walk Alone

Elaine Hagenberg

May you see God's light on the path ahead when the road you walk is dark.

May you always hear, even in your hour of sorrow, the sweet singing of the lark.

When times are hard may hardness never turn your heart to stone.

May you always remember when the shadows fall you do not walk alone.

May you see God's light on the road ahead as you trust and faithfully press on

Toward the goal and prize of your heav'nly call to make it surely your own.

When times are hard may hardness never turn your heart to stone.

May you always remember when the shadows fall you do not walk alone.

Based on a Traditional Irish Blessing

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Rev. Meek

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation

Guide My Feet

Wendell Whalum

Guide my feet while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!

Spiritual

Hold my hand while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!

Stand by me while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!

I'm your child while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain!

Prayer of Response and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Meek

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 God of Love

Forest Green

O God of love, whose Spirit wakes in every human breast,
Whom love, and love alone, can know, in whom all hearts find rest:
Help us to spread your gracious reign till greed and hate shall cease,
And kindness dwell in human hearts, and your blessed world find peace.

O God of beauty, oft revealed in works of human art,
In speech that flows to melody, in holiness of heart:
Teach us to turn from sinfulness that shuts our hearts to you,
So we may know the loveliness of lives made free and new.

O God of righteousness and grace, seen in our Christ, your Son,
Whose life and death reveal your face; by whom your will is done:
In faithfulness help us press on in true humility,
Till Christ is formed within our hearts unto eternity. Henry Hallam Tweedy, alt.

▲ BENEDICTION

Dr. Hylton

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

May you always remember when the shadows fall you do not walk alone.

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Rev. Meek

▲ POSTLUDE

Allegro
from Concerto in G

William Hayes
Mr. Fickley, organ

▲ Congregation standing, as able

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

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

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

NOTES

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- **8:45 am:** Contemporary Worship
- **9:55 am:** State of the Church Presentation
- **9:55 am:** Sunday School For Children and Youth
- **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.

Children's Sunday School

Visit our [Children's webpage](#) to learn about our Children's Ministry.

- Children ages 2-3 years have Sunday School in the Toddler Rooms in the main church building.
- Children age 4 through 5th grade meet for Sunday School in the Education Building (National Presbyterian School).

Youth Sunday School

Visit our [Youth webpage](#) for information about Sunday School, youth group, and other special events.

- Youth Sunday School, for grades 6-12, meets in the Multipurpose Building for fellowship, worship, and small group Bible studies.

Adult Sunday School

Begins February 8

- **Church in Late Antiquity**, R.V. Seep (*Chapel & Online*)
- **Discovering the Gospel of John**, Margaret Gardner (*Garden Room C*)
- **Financial Peace University**, Megan Schmoll & Leah Skrine (*Garden Room A*)
- **The Listening Life**, Ginny Beeson & Lewrene Glaser (*Room 209*)
- **Parent Gathering** (*Jones Hall, National Presbyterian School*)



**Called
to Care**

May we pray for you?

If you would like to request prayer or feel called to join our prayer team, contact careoffice@nationalpres.org / 202-537-7540

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
Philippians 4:6

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mission Briefing: Lebanon Sunday, February 8, 12:15 pm Garden Rooms

All are invited to the Garden Rooms following the 11:00 am service for lunch and a special Mission Briefing focused on Lebanon from our Mission Partners, Dustin and Sherri Ellington, who serve in Beirut at the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary. Come learn how Christ is moving through their ministry and how our church can support the work God is doing to raise up the next generation of pastors and church leadership in the Middle East.

Retirement Reception for Dr. Fox Sunday, February 15, 12:15 pm Stone Fellowship Hall

Join us in expressing our gratitude to both Quinn and Nancy Fox. Although words cannot fully capture all that they have given, we invite you to share your sentiments by mailing or bringing cards to our office. We also invite you to join us on February 15 for a farewell celebration after the 11:00 am service. And finally, we will honor Quinn with a traditional departure gift known as a Love Gift. If you wish to take part, make a notation "Fox Love Gift" on your online transaction or personal check and get it to the Finance Office through the offering plate, cyberspace, or mail. These pass-through gifts are not tax deductible.

Grace McFarlane Bottelier & Friends Jamaican Hurricane Relief Benefit Concert Sunday, February 15, 3:00 pm Sanctuary

Enjoy an afternoon of classical music compositions for piano, strings, flute, organ, voice, and fundraising for ongoing hurricane relief efforts in Jamaica.

Lenten Small Groups Beginning February 18, 6:30 pm

Interested in growing in discipleship in community with others? Join a short-term small group discussion of our Lenten sermon series on Encountering God. In-person and online groups will explore Old and New Testament texts that show us how to realize God's presence more fully in our lives. Please [register online](#) for a group by February 8.

Ash Wednesday Service Wednesday, February 18, 7:00 pm

We will begin the Lenten season with scripture readings, prayers, the imposition of ashes, and Communion as a sign of our unity with Christ and with one another. This season is a time of reflection, repentance, and spiritual growth leading up to Easter

Spring Women's Ministry Retreat Saturday, March 7, 9:00 am Stone Fellowship Hall

We hope you'll join us for a beautifully paced day of rest, renewal, and rich connection as we gather around this year's theme, *Loved Beyond Measure*, an exploration of God's faithful, fulfilling love for us. Our retreat speaker, Elizabeth Fitch, brings a warm, grounded presence shaped by a life that has woven together small-town roots and big-city experience. We'll enjoy great music, a delicious lunch, and the gift of unhurried time together. Visit the [Events page](#) to [register](#) and for more information.

Last Chance to Sign Up: Romania Mission Trip June 5-14

Interested in joining a mission trip to Romania June 5–14, 2026? NPC will partner with the Smiles Foundation Outreach Team to care for vulnerable communities. The deadline to sign up is next Sunday, February 8. For additional details, contact Serve Director Jonathan Edwards (jedwards@nationalpres.org).

THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE!

New to National? Welcome!

Welcome and thank you for being here today!

- Please stop by the Welcome Center just outside the Sanctuary. We would love to meet you, and we have a gift for you!

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



Newcomers and long-timers:

Let us know you are here!

Whether in the Sanctuary or worshipping online - we want to know you and care for you:

- Please sign the guestbook in the pews or online on our [Watch](#) webpage.

Children and Youth E-newsletters

If you have little ones or youth in your household and would like to receive our updates, please:

- Visit our [Children's webpage](#) for kids up to 5th grade.
- Visit our [Youth webpage](#) for kids in middle and high school.

Get Connected Through Service!

Want to share in faith and fellowship through service?

No matter your age, skills, or ability, you can use your gifts to serve our church, our community, and our world. Scan the QR code to learn more about the opportunities below.



- View upcoming community service opportunities on our [Events](#) page or contact Serve Director Jonathan Edwards (jedwards@nationalpres.org).
- 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 communications@nationalpres.org.

Your Giving Makes a Difference

Because of your generosity and faithfulness last year, our church was able to balance the budget and continue fulfilling the mission God entrusted to us. We are deeply grateful for the trust you place in us and for your partnership in God's work. We give thanks for you and for all that was accomplished together in 2025.

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



Prayers

We pray for:

those whose faith is tested.

We pray for:

Our Middle East Missionaries as they serve large numbers of displaced people.

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 General Reginald C. Harmon by Susan and Richard Meyer.

"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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