

May 3, 2026
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Communion

Welcome to
**NATIONAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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

*Did not one God make her?
Both flesh and spirit are his.
And what does the one God desire? Godly offspring.
So look to yourselves, and do not let anyone be
faithless to the wife of his youth.*

Malachi 2:15

Senior Pastor
Associate Pastors

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

Parish Associate
Music

Ministry Directors

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!

Club 45 (4th & 5th graders)

Today at 5:00 pm

Calling all 4th and 5th graders! Join us for the final Club 45 of the school year. If you are interested in attending, please contact jmeek@nationalpres.org or check our [Events page](#) for more information.

Youth Group

Today, 6:30 pm

Youth House

Bring a friend to youth group for dinner, Bible study, and games. Youth Group meets on Sunday evenings, beginning with dinner together in the Multipurpose Building. Parents and NPC members are invited to sign up to bring an easy meal to share. For more details, contact Rev. Kristin Franke (kfranke@nationalpres.org)

Sunday, May 10, 12:15 pm

Stone Fellowship Hall

All are invited to Stone Fellowship Hall to make hundreds of sandwiches for Martha's Table, a community-led nonprofit that works alongside its neighbors to support those in need. These sandwiches will be delivered to people experiencing hunger on the streets of Washington, D.C. This is a great event for the whole family!

Youth Mission Trip Car Wash

Sunday, May 17, 9:30 am - 1:00 pm

Get your car washed and support our high school youth who will be traveling to the Dominican Republic in July to serve with our partner Foundation for Peace! Come to the youth house driveway (near the Van Ness St. NW entrance) continuing until after the second worship service.

Week at a Glance

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

Sunday, May 3

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Coffee, Cookies, & Community
- 5:00 pm: Club 45
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group

Sunday, May 10

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

College Summer Cookout

Thursday, May 21, 6:00 pm

Calling all college students here for the summer! Join for a summer cookout together, and get (re)connected to NPC for the summer. For questions, contact Rev. Kristin Franke (kfranke@nationalpres.org).

Young Adult Cookout

Sunday, May 24, 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Kickoff the summer with a young adult cookout after worship on Sunday, May 24! Bring a friend and a side or dessert to share. RSVP to Rev. Kristin Franke (kfranke@nationalpres.org), or just show up!

8:45 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING Improvisations Joanna Zorack-Greene, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Kristin Franke

▲ OPENING SONG By Faith Keith and Kristyn Getty

By faith we see the hand of God in the light of creation's grand design,
in the lives of those who prove his faithfulness, who walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith our forebears walked the earth with the pow'r of God's promise in their hearts
of a holy city built by God's own hand, a place where peace and justice reign.

*We will stand as children of the promise;
We will fix our eyes on him, our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished and the work is done,
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.*

By faith the prophets saw a day when the longed-for Messiah would appear
with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death, and rise triumphant from the grave.

By faith the church was called to go in the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost,
to deliver captives and to preach good news in ev'ry corner of the earth. *Chorus*

By faith this mountain shall be moved and the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail,
for we know in Christ all things are possible for all who call upon his name. *Chorus (2x)*

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION Rev. Franke

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Eternal, gracious, and merciful God, we confess that we have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will. We have broken your holy law. We have rebelled against your love. We have not loved our neighbors. We have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, 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 Nicene Creed Rev. Franke

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Franke

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Malachi 2:13-16
Pew Bible Page 778

Leslie Saum

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Rev. Franke

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

SERMON

Flourishing Together
A Biblical Journey through Marriage and Relationships
Grace for Every Story

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

Rev. Craig 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

Mighty to Save

Hillsong Worship

Everyone needs compassion, love that's never failing. Let mercy fall on me.

Everyone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Savior, the Hope of nations!

Savior, he can move the mountains! My God is mighty to save. He is mighty to save.

Forever, Author of Salvation, he rose and conquered the grave. Jesus conquered the grave!

So take me as you find me, all my fears and failures. Fill my life again.

I give my life to follow, everything I believe in.

Now I surrender. Yes, I surrender! *Chorus*

Shine your light and let the whole world see

we're singing for the glory of the risen King! *(2x) Chorus*

My Savior, you can move the mountains. You are mighty to save!

You are mighty to save! Forever, Author of Salvation,

You rose and conquered the grave. Yes, you conquered the grave!

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Rev. Meek

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Solo Meditation

He's Always Been Faithful

Sara Groves

Morning by morning I wake up to find the power and comfort of God's hand in mine.

Season by season I watch him amazed, in awe of the myst'ry of his perfect ways.

All I have need of his hand will provide; He's always been faithful to me.

I can't remember a trial or a pain he did not recycle to bring me gain.

I can't remember one single regret in serving God only and trusting his hand.

All I have need of his hand will provide; He's always been faithful to me.

This is my anthem, this is my song, the theme of the stories I've heard for so long:

God has been faithful, he will be again, his loving compassion it knows no end.

All I have need of his hand will provide; He's always been faithful to me.

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

His Mercy Is More

Matt Boswell and Matt Papa

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?

Omniscient, all knowing, he counts not their sum.

Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore.

Our sins, they are many; his mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?

What Father, so tender, is calling us home?

He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.

Our sins, they are many; his mercy is more.

Praise the Lord, his mercy is more,

Stronger than darkness, new every morn.

Our sins, they are many; his mercy is more.

What riches of kindness he lavished on us.

His blood was the payment; his life was the cost.

We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford.

Our sins, they are many; his mercy is more. *Chorus (2x)*

Our sins, they are many; his mercy is more.

▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Hylton

▲ SENDING

NPC Band

▲ Congregation standing, as able

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

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

11:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Adagio

Camille Saint-Saëns

CHIMES

from Symphony No. 3

Todd Fickley, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Kristin Franke

▲ HYMN

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Austrian Hymn

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for a blest abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river ever flows thy thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hov'ring, see the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a cov'ring, showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna which God gives them when they pray.

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Franke

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Austrian Hymn

Savior, if of Zion's city I, through grace, a member am,
Let the world deride or pity, I will glory in thy name;
Fading are the world's best pleasures, all its boasted pomp and show;
Solid joys and lasting treasure none but Zion's children know.

Isaac Watts

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Rev. Franke

Eternal, gracious, and merciful God, we confess that we have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will. We have broken your holy law. We have rebelled against your love. We have not loved our neighbors. We have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

SILENT CONFESSION AND CHORAL MEDITATION

To wash away the crimson stain grace, grace alone prevaieth.
Our works, alas! are all in vain; in much the best life failleth.
For none can glory in thy sight, all must alike confess thy might,
And live alone by mercy.

Martin Luther

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Franke

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. Franke
 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

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE Malachi 2:13-16 Elder Gretchen Asmuth
 Pew Bible Page 778

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES Rev. Franke
 *Kindergarten to 5th graders may exit with leaders for Children’s Chapel.
 Parents may take children Pre-K and under to the nursery.*

SERMON *Flourishing Together* Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.
 *A Biblical Journey through Marriage and Relationships
 Grace for Every Story*

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the Sanctuary.

CHORAL RESPONSE *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*
 This day God’s people meeting the Holy Scripture hear;
 Christ’s living presence greeting, through bread and wine made near.
 We journey on believing, renewed with heav’nly might,
 From grace more grace receiving on this blest day of light. Charles Price

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS Rev. Craig Meek

OFFERTORY God So Loved the World John Stainer
 God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son,
 that whoso believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.
 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world,
 but that the world through him might be saved. John 3:16-17

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION Rev. Meek
 Invitation to the Table
 Words of Institution and Distribution

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- **8:45 am:** Contemporary Worship
- **9:55 am:** Sunday School For All Ages
- **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. 3s and 4s 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

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

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

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Journey of Discipleship Together!

We are all on a journey of faith to grow closer to Christ—through worship, prayer, scripture, and service. NPC has many resources available to support you on your journey. Please visit nationalpres.org/discipleship or contact the Connections Ministry (chan@nationalpres.org).

Visit Our Library!

Come by the gorgeous library for books for all ages! Visit us on Level 2 of the Main Church, and chat with our new volunteer librarians. Questions about the library can be addressed to npclibrary@nationalpres.org.

Join Our Team!

Associate for Youth Ministries

NPC is hiring an Associate for Youth Ministries. The ideal candidate has a heart for reaching middle school and high school youth with the Good News of Jesus Christ. This position will be responsible for all aspects of weekly youth programs and special events, as well as maintaining the relational outreach and connection aspect of the Youth Ministry.

For more information and to apply, visit nationalpres.org/jobs.

Ministry Internship Hub

This fall, NPC is running a Ministry Internship Hub, and hiring 4-6 ministry interns in a variety of areas. These internships are open to any college-aged students interested in serving part time at NPC, and exploring conversations about leadership and spiritual development. Primary hours of work will be Sunday mornings, with an additional group supervision meeting to be scheduled during the week.

For more information and to apply, visit nationalpres.org/jobs, or email Kristin Franke (kfranke@nationalpres.org).



**Called
to Care**

The Care and Joy List

Would you like to be on or receive our Care and Joy list, for those who want our congregation to pray for them? careoffice@nationalpres.org / 202-537-7540

*First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions,
and thanksgivings be made for everyone.*

1 Timothy 2:1

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 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, community, and world.



Scan the QR code to learn more about the opportunities below.

- View upcoming community service opportunities on our [Events](#) page or contact 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.

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 mourn:

the passing of Fred Cogswell.

We pray for:

Martha's Table, as the create community-led programs in Washington DC, focusing on empowering neighbors to thrive from early childhood through adulthood

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 by Betty and Rick Hawthorne, in loving memory of their parents Jack and Lucille Chance, and Carlton and Betty Hawthorne.

“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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