

August 2, 2026
Communion

Welcome to NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*I am speaking the truth in
Christ—I am not lying;
my conscience confirms it
by the Holy Spirit—I have
great sorrow and unceasing
anguish in my heart.*
Romans 9:1-2



Senior Pastor
Associate Pastors

Parish Associate
Music

Ministry Directors

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)
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!

Mini Coffee Hour

Today, 9:55 am

Garden Rooms

In lieu of Hands-On Summer, stop by the Garden Rooms for coffee, sweet treats, and fellowship. For additional info, contact Jill Meek (jmeek@nationalpres.org).

Club 45

Today, 5:00 pm

Youth House

Rising 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, contact Jill Meek (jmeek@nationalpres.org).

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).

Week at a Glance

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

Sunday, August 2

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Summer Speaker Series
- 9:55 am: Mini Coffee Hour
- 10:00 am: Summer Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Coffee, Cookies, & Community
- 5:00 pm: Club 45
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group

Tuesday, August 4

- 7:00 pm: Youth Park Night

Wednesday, August 5

- 7:00 pm: College Bible Study

Saturday, August 8

- 4:00 pm: Army Chorus 70th Anniversary Concert and Reception

Sunday, August 9

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Summer Speaker Series
- 9:55 am: Mini Coffee Hour
- 10:00 am: Summer Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Sandwich Making
- 12:15 pm: 50-Year Member Celebration
- 5:00 pm: Club 45
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group

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 and get connected:



Youth Park Night

Tuesday, August 4, 7:00 pm

Turtle Park, 45th & Van Ness NW

All NPC youth are invited to Turtle Park on Tuesdays to play sports and games, and to hang out with youth staff. Bring a friend! For questions, contact Rev. Kristin Franke at (kfranke@nationalpres.org).

8:45 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING

Improvisations

Kevin Rose, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Lisa Larsen

▲ OPENING SONG

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Nettleton

Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

By your grace may I remember, hither by thy help I've come.
And I hope by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, Lord take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Larsen

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

We appeal to you, Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:

In your infinite mercy, it is your will that all should come to know you.
You made heaven and earth, you rule supreme over all,
you are the true, the only God; there is no god above you.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, and on his merits, forgive our manifold sins.
Through the work of the Holy Spirit, grant that all may come to know you,
for you alone are God.

Irenaeus of Lyons

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. Larsen

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. Larsen

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Romans 9:1-5
Pew Bible Page 920

Eleanor Schmitt

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Melanie Lenhard
Associate Director of Children's Ministries

*Rising 1st to 5th graders may exit with leaders for Children's Chapel.
Parents may take children Pre-K and under to the nursery.*

SERMON

God's Heart, Paul's Mission

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

Sovereign

Chris Tomlin

Sovereign in the mountain air, sovereign on the ocean floor,
with me in the calm, with me in the storm!

Sovereign in my greatest joy, sovereign in my deepest cry,
with me in the dark, with me at the dawn!

*In your everlasting arms, all the pieces of my life, from beginning to the end, I can trust you.
In your never-failing love, you work everything for good.*

God, whatever comes my way, I will trust you!

God, whatever comes my way, I will trust you!

All my hopes, all I need, held in your hands!

All my life, all of me, held in your hands!

All my fears, all my dreams, held in your hands! (2x) Chorus

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Rev. Meek

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation Lord, I Need You

Christy Nockels

Lord, I come. I confess. Bowing here, I find my rest,

And without you, I fall apart. You're the one that guides my heart.

Lord, I need you, O I need you. Every hour I need you.

My one Defense, my Righteousness, O God, how I need you.

Where sin runs deep, your grace is more. Where grace is found, is where you are.

And where you are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.

And where you are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me. *Chorus*

So teach my song to rise to you, when temptation comes my way.

And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on you. Jesus, you're my hope and stay.

And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on you. Jesus, you're my hope and stay. *Chorus (2x)*

My one Defense, my Righteousness, O God, how I need you!

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

King of My Heart

John Mark McMillan

Let the King of my heart be the mountain where I run,
the fountain I drink from! Oh, he is my song!

Let the King of my heart be the shadow where I hide,
the ransom for my life. Oh, he is my song!

You are good, good! Oh! (4x)

Let the King of my heart be the wind inside my sails,
the anchor in the waves. Oh, he is my song!

Let the King of my heart be the fire inside my veins,
the echo of my days! Oh, he is my song! *Chorus*

You're never gonna let, never gonna let me down! *(4x) Chorus*

▲ 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 a member of our prayer team.*

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

11:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Adagio from Organ Sonata No. 1

Felix Mendelssohn

CHIMES

Todd Fickley, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Lisa Larsen

▲ HYMN 253

I'll Praise My Maker

Old 113th

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Larsen

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

Morning Song

Praise God, whose loving covenant supports those in distress,
Remembering past promises with present faithfulness.

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Rev. Larsen

We appeal to you, Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:

In your infinite mercy, it is your will that all should come to know you.

You made heaven and earth, you rule supreme over all,

you are the true, the only God; there is no god above you.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, and on his merits, forgive our manifold sins.

Through the work of the Holy Spirit, grant that all may come to know you,
for you alone are God.

Irenaeus of Lyons

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. Larsen

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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Romans 9:1-5
Pew Bible Page 920

Miles Green
Youth Ministries Intern

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

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Melanie Lenhard
Associate Director of Children's Ministries

*Rising 1st to 5th graders may exit with leaders for Children's Chapel.
Parents may take children Pre-K and under to the nursery.*

SERMON

God's Heart, Paul's Mission

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the Sanctuary.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Pleading Savior

E're the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind;
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heav'n;
There is no place where our failings have such kindly judgment giv'n.

F. W. Faber, alt.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Rev. Craig Meek

OFFERTORY

Hear Ye, Israel

Felix Mendelssohn

Hear ye, Israel! Hear what the Lord speaketh: "O had'st thou heeded my commandments!" *Elijah*
Who hath believed our report? To whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?
Hear ye, Israel! Hear what the Lord speaketh!

Sheri Jackson, soprano

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Rev. Meek

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation

Deep River

Howard Helvey
Spiritual

*"Draw near and hear the words of the Lord your God," said Joshua,
"By this you shall know that among you is the living God."*

While all Israel were crossing over on dry ground,

*the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan,
until the entire nation finished crossing over.* Joshua 3

Deep river, my home is over Jordan, deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.

Oh don't you want to go to that gospel feast, that promised land where all is peace?

Deep river, my home is over Jordan, deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.

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

Blest Be the God of Israel

Kingsfold

Blest be the God of Israel, the ever living Lord.

You come in power to save your own, your people Israel.

For Israel you now raise up salvation's tower on high.

In David's house, who reigned as king and servant of the Lord.

Through holy prophets did you speak your word in days of old,

That you would save us from our foes and all who bear us ill.

On Sinai you gave to us your covenant of love;

So with us now you keep your word in love that knows no end.

Of old you gave your solemn oath to father Abraham;

Whose seed a mighty race should be and blest forevermore.

You vowed to set your people free from fear of every foe,

That we might serve you all our days in goodness, love, and peace.

And now, O Christ, your name shall be the prophet of the Lord;

The way of God will you prepare to make God's coming known.

You shall proclaim to Israel salvation's dawning day,

When God shall wipe away all sins with mercy and with love.

Song of Zechariah (Luke 1)

▲ BENEDICTION

Dr. Hylton

▲ CHORAL AMEN

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Rev. Meek

▲ POSTLUDE

Rigaudon

André Campra
Mr. Fickley, organ

▲ Congregation standing, as able

*Please come forward after worship for confidential prayer
with a member of our prayer team.*

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:** Summer Speaker Series
- **9:55 am:** Mini Coffee Hour
- **10:00 am:** Summer Choir Rehearsal
- **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 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.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

Summer Choir, 10:00 am

Summer Choir rehearses only on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am to sing for the 11:00 am service. Love to sing? We would love to welcome you! For more information contact the music office at dwulff@nationalpres.org.

Summer Speaker Series, 9:55 am

Throughout the Summer, NPC invites guest speakers from across the DMV area to discuss with us matters related to faith and practice in the present-day. Join us in Stone Fellowship Hall at 9:55 am and bring your questions!

Today: Tremper Longman
Biblical Reflection on Immigration

August 9: Francis Collins
The Road to Wisdom: on Truth,
Science, Faith, and Trust

August 16: Jennifer Wiseman
Dark Matter and Bright Stars

August 23: Kristin Franke
Summer Trip/Events Report

August 30: Paul Miller
Natural Law and the Christian
Public Witness



Prayer Cards

May we pray for you? Prayer cards are in the guestbook and may be left in the collection plate or the prayer box in the Welcome Center.

careoffice@nationalpres.org / 202-537-7540

Call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you.
Jeremiah 29:12

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

50-Year Member Celebration

Sunday, August 9, 12:15 pm

Stone Fellowship Hall

Join us in Stone Fellowship Hall after the 11:00 am worship service to celebrate those who have been members at NPC for 50 years or more.

Food For Our Neighbors

The NPC Food Pantry cares for DC neighbors facing food insecurity. Please donate items in the bin inside the main entrance. For suggested donations, visit the [NPC website](#).

Gratitude for Your Generosity

The Finance Council is reporting to Session that giving increased by 4% during the first half of 2026. Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we are able to support the ministries and programs to help people become faithful followers of Jesus Christ together in God's world. Projects are also planned this year and next to better care for the campus God has entrusted to us.

Nominations for Church Officers

The Congregational Nominating Committee seeks your recommendations of persons to serve as Elders, Deacons, board members for the NPC Fund for Charitable Giving, and members of next year's Congregational Nominating Committee. Please visit nationalpres.org/nominate for more information about these positions and to submit recommendations. Paper recommendation forms are available in the narthex.

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.

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 Rev. Kristin Franke (kfranke@nationalpres.org).

THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE!

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 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

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 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 celebrate with:

Emily and Aaron Stubblefield
on the birth of their son.

We pray for:

McGilvary College as they develop leaders
for ministry in churches, schools, and
hospitals in Thailand and Southeast Asia.

How may we pray for you?

Please submit prayer requests
to the Care Office,
careoffice@nationalpres.org
202-537-7537.

Today's Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God
by Sarah Lefferts Fosdick and Sam Fosdick
in loving honor of Roger and Elisabeth Lefferts
on their 41st wedding anniversary.

“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 worshiping with children nearby, please welcome and encourage them as they grow in their faith.



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