

April 12, 2026  
Second Sunday of Easter  
Communion

Welcome to  
**NATIONAL  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

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

*Therefore a man leaves  
his father and his mother and clings to his wife,  
and they become one flesh.*

Genesis 2:24

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

## **Sunday Sandwich Making**

**Today, 12:15pm**

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 and help them thrive. These sandwiches will be delivered to people experiencing hunger on the streets in Washington, D.C. This is a great event for the whole family!

## **Club 45 (4th & 5th graders)**

**Today, 5:00 pm**

Calling all 4th and 5th graders! Invite your friends and join us for fun, faith, and fellowship. If you are interested in attending, please contact Jill Meek at [jmeek@nationalpres.org](mailto:jmeek@nationalpres.org) or check our [Events page](#) for more information and meeting dates.

## **Great Day of Service**

**Saturday, April 18, 9:30 am-1:00 pm**

You're invited to Great Day of Service, when friends and neighbors will join together to serve our city and those encountering food insecurity around the world. People of all ages are welcome to participate in activities such as packing meal kits, welcoming and reading with refugee families, collecting food, clothing, and diapers, building a house with Habitat for Humanity, and serving at Central Union Mission's Men's Shelter. For more information, contact Serve Director Jonathan Edwards ([jedwards@nationalpres.org](mailto:jedwards@nationalpres.org)) or visit our [Events page](#).

## **Week at a Glance**

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

### **Sunday, April 12**

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Sandwich Making
- 5:00 pm: Club 45
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group

### **Tuesday, April 14**

- 7:00 pm: "Big Sing" with Rev. John Bell

### **Saturday, April 18**

- 9:30 am: Great Day of Service

### **Sunday, April 19**

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

## **Strategic Plan Presentation**

**Sunday, April 19, 12:15 pm**

### **Sanctuary**

Easter is a season of new beginnings, and we have one to celebrate together. On April 19, following the 11:00 am service, we invite the entire congregation to an all-church meeting where the Strategic Planning Team will share NPC's newly Session-approved Strategic Plan. This plan was prayerfully developed with your input, building on the past decade of momentum God has bestowed upon us. Join us afterwards in Stone Hall to celebrate our shared calling to worship, discipleship, care, and service in the years ahead. We can't wait to celebrate what God has in store for NPC!

# 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 Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed Keith and Kristyn Getty

How can it be? The One who died has borne our sin through sacrifice,  
to conquer every sting of death; Sing, sing hallelujah!

For joy awakes as dawning light when Christ's disciples lift their eyes;  
Alive he stands their Friend and King; Christ, Christ, he is risen.

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

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

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

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

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

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION Rev. Meek

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Show your lovingkindness, O Lord, to all who stand in need of your help. Be with  
the weak to make them strong, and with the strong to make them gentle. Cheer the  
lonely with your comfort, and the troubled with your peace. Assure the guilty with  
your grace, and the sinful with your mercy. As the sinful and the guilty, Lord, we  
seek your forgiveness. Bless us, your Church, in the fulfillment of her mighty task,  
and all your servants who have toiled today in Christ's name. John Baillie

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

Rev. Meek

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 2:18-24  
*Pew Bible Page 2*

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

*Flourishing Together*  
*A Biblical Journey through Marriage and Relationships*  
It Is Not Good to Be Alone

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. Lisa Larsen

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

OFFERING SOLO

I Will Be Here

Steven Curtis Chapman

Tomorrow morning if you wake up and the sun does not appear:

I, I will be here.

If in the dark we lose sight of love, hold my hand and have no fear.

'Cause I, I will be here.

*I will be here when you feel like being quiet.*

*When you need to speak your mind I will listen, and I will be here*

*When the laughter turns to crying, through the winning losing and trying  
we'll be together 'cause I will be here.*

Tomorrow morning if you wake up and the future is unclear: I, I will be here.

As sure as seasons are made for change, our lifetimes are made for years.

So I, I will be here.

*I will be here and you can cry on my shoulder.*

*When the mirror tells us we're older, I will hold you.*

*And I will be here to watch you grow in beauty and tell you all the things you are to me—I will be here.*

Joanna Zorack-Greene

## THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Rev. Larsen

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation Jesus Paid It All

*All to Christ*

I hear the Savior say, thy strength indeed is small.

Child of weakness, watch and pray, find in me thine all in all.

*'Cause Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe.*

*Sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow.*

Lord now indeed I find, thy power and thine alone,

can change the leper's spots and melt the heart of stone.

*'Cause Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe.*

*Sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow.*

*He washed it white as snow!*

O praise the one who paid my debt

and raised this life up from the dead. (3x)

Prayer of Response and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Larsen

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

This Is Amazing Grace

Phil Wickham

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness, whose love is mighty and so much stronger?

The King of glory, the King above all kings.

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder and leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?

The King of glory, the King above all kings.

*This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love, that you would take my place,*

*that you would bear my cross. You would lay down your life,*

*that I would be set free. Jesus, I sing for...all that you've done for me.*

Who brings our chaos back into order, who makes the orphan a son and daughter?

The King of glory, the King of glory.

Who rules the nations with truth and justice, shines like the sun in all of its brilliance?

The King of glory, the King above all kings. *Chorus*

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain! Worthy is the King who conquered the grave. (3x)

Worthy, worthy, worthy! *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 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 I Know That My Redeemer Liveth G. F. Handel  
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Craig Meek

▲ HYMN Celebrate with Joy and Singing *Hymn to Joy*

Celebrate with joy and singing, "Alleluia" be our song.  
Jesus Christ has ris'n to save us, praises to our Christ belong.  
Through great love has come the vict'ry; life, not death, can be our claim.  
Let us now declare Christ's greatness, spread good news, proclaim Christ's name.

Honor, glory, praise, thanksgiving give we now to God above.  
With the cross and grave Christ bought us, let us now return that love.  
By our lives of dedication, as we teach and testify,  
May we show Christ's love around us, may it grow and purify.

Worship now with shouts of gladness, for the Christ, the Holy One,  
On the day of resurrection, for the world new life has won.  
Let us praise and pray the Savior, trust his acts, believe his word.  
Our salvation has been purchased by our loving, risen Lord.

Mary Jackson Cathey, alt.

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION Rev. Meek

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE *Rendez à Dieu*

Thou, through whose glorious resurrection, true life and liberty renew,  
Whose gracious call brings benediction, each now with grace and peace endue.  
Fill all our hearts with deep conviction that sin's dark stains have been forgiv'n;  
Strengthen, fulfill our best intention to freely serve this side of heav'n.

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison* Rev. Meek

Show your lovingkindness, O Lord, to all who stand in need of your help. Be with the weak to make them strong, and with the strong to make them gentle. Cheer the lonely with your comfort, and the troubled with your peace. Assure the guilty with your grace, and the sinful with your mercy. As the sinful and the guilty, Lord, we seek your forgiveness. Bless us, your Church, in the fulfillment of her mighty task, and all your servants who have toiled today in Christ's name. John Baillie

SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON Rev. Meek

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

### WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE                      Genesis 2:18-24                      Deacon Kathy Arveson  
*Pew Bible Page 2*

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                      *Flourishing Together*                      Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.  
*A Biblical Journey through Marriage and Relationships*  
It Is Not Good to Be Alone

### 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. Lisa Larsen

OFFERTORY                      As the Bridegroom to His Chosen                      John Rutter  
As the bridegroom to his chosen, as the king unto his realm,  
as the keeper to the castle, as the pilot to the helm,  
as the captain to his soldiers, as the shepherd to his lambs, so, Lord, art thou to me  
As the fountain in the garden, as the candle in the dark,  
as the treasure in the coffer, as the manna in the ark,  
as the firelight in the winter, as the sunlight in the spring, so, Lord, art thou to me.  
As music at the banquet, as the stamp unto the seal,  
as refreshment to the fainting, as the wine-cup at the meal,  
as the singing on the feast-day, As the amen to the prayer, so, Lord, art thou to me.  
As the ruby in the setting, as the honey in the comb,  
as the light within the lantern, as the father in the home,  
as the eagle in the mountains, as the sparrow in the nest, so, Lord, art thou to me.

Johannes Tauler



# 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
- **12:15 pm:** Sandwich Making

## 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*)
- **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*)

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](http://www.divorcecare.org) or contact [careoffice@nationalpres.org](mailto:careoffice@nationalpres.org) /202-537-7537

*Therefore encourage one another and build up each other,  
as indeed you are doing.*

1 Thessalonians 5:11

# EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Pathway of Christian Discipleship Class Saturday, April 25, 9:00 am**

Come learn more about NPC and the Christian faith. Enjoy special teaching, meet new friends, and enjoy food and fellowship. For more info or to register by April 20, visit our [Events](#) page or contact Kemet Rakiatu ([krakiatu@nationalpres.org](mailto:krakiatu@nationalpres.org) or 202-537-7578).

## **Our Journey of Discipleship Together!**

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

*Want to dig deeper on discipleship with pastors and leaders? Or considering church membership as a next step on your journey offaith? Attend our one day Spring class!*

## **Mission Briefing - Steve Quakenbush Sunday, April 26, 12:30 pm**

### **Garden Rooms**

Come celebrate as Steve Quakenbush retires after more than 40 years of faithful mission work. Steve and his wife, Janice, have faithfully served in global ministry - especially in the Philippines - helping language communities access Scripture in meaningful ways. Enjoy lunch as Steve reflects on four decades of ministry and shares how his sending church, National Presbyterian Church, has been part of this mission.

## **Youth Group Dinners**

On Sunday nights, our youth group meets for dinner and fellowship. We're always grateful for those who would be willing to provide a simple meal and spend time in fellowship eating with us! For more details, contact Rev. Kristin Franke ([kfranke@nationalpres.org](mailto:kfranke@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.

### **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](http://nationalpres.org/jobs), or email Rev. Kristin Franke ([kfranke@nationalpres.org](mailto:kfranke@nationalpres.org)).

## **Today's Flowers**

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God, in loving memory of Alan Parham, in honor of his April 16 birthday, by his daughter Laura Atchison and grandsons Calvin and Evan.

The flowers in the Narthex are given to the glory of God in loving memory of the life of Vivian Christy Sansoni, celebrating her 25 birthday on April 16, from her father, Brian Sansoni, and her family and friends, who love her and miss her dearly.

# THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE!

## New to National? Welcome!

Welcome and thank you for being here today!

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

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



## Newcomers and long-timers:

Let us know you are here!

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

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

## Children and Youth E-newsletters

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

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

## Get Connected Through Service!

Want to share in faith and fellowship through service?

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



- View upcoming community service opportunities on our [Events](#) page or contact Serve Director Jonathan Edwards ([jedwards@nationalpres.org](mailto:jedwards@nationalpres.org)).
- Want to help on Sundays? Visit our [Serve at Church](#) page or contact Carol Han ([chan@nationalpres.org](mailto: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](mailto: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 2026.

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



## Prayers

### We pray for:

The Persecuted Church which consists of millions of Christians across the world who are denied their rights, imprisoned, tortured, or martyred for their faith.

### How may we pray for you?

Please submit prayer requests to the Care Office, [careoffice@nationalpres.org](mailto:careoffice@nationalpres.org) 202-537-7537.

*“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



[/NATIONALPRES](#)

[@NATIONALPRES](#)