

NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Staying Connected in Christ
11 AM Online Worship, Sunday, January 3, 2021
Communion

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. David Renwick

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN *please sing!*

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

St. Anne

1. Our God, Our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the storm blast, and our eternal home.
2. Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
From everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.
3. A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.
4. Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.

Isaac Watts on Psalm 90, 1719

CONFESSION OF SIN

Rev. Katie Francis

O God, you do not change with the changing years,
but we are creatures of time.
As we look back on the road we have traveled,
we thank you for your faithful mercies along the way.
Where the road has been dark, you have not failed us,
though we have often failed you.
Forgive us, we pray, these failures and all our sins.
You are both our guide and goal, our strength and stay.
In this New Year help us walk with you,
for you alone can bring us to our journey's end in peace.

Leslie Weatherhead

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 *please sing!*

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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Cate McCrory

SCRIPTURE

Romans 13:7-14

Sasha May

⁷Pay to all what is due them—taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honor to whom honor is due.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

SERMON

Living in God's Time

Dr. Renwick

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

CHORAL RESPONSE

Be Thou My Vision

Slane

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; nought be all else to me, save that thou art—
Thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word; I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord;
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Ancient Irish Poem

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Romans 8:1, 28, 38

Dr. Quinn Fox

We believe there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

We know that in all things God works for good together with those who love God,
who are called according to God's purposes.

We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers,
nor things present nor things to come, nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

O God, Beyond All Praising

Thaxted

O God, beyond all praising, we worship you today and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
 For we can only wonder at ev'ry gift you send, at blessings without number and mercies without end.
 We lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word, we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.
 The depth of night is passing, the dawn is nearly come, and nearer our salvation than when it first began;
 So lay aside the works of deep darkness for the right, and let us then be girded with armor of the light;
 For Christ the man from heaven from death has set us free, and we through him are given the final victory.
 Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring, that we who know your favor may serve you as our King;
 And whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill, we will triumph through our sorrows and rise to praise you still:
 To marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways, and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise. Michael Perry, alt.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Rev. Donna Marsh

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation

This Do in Remembrance of Me

Judy Hunnicutt

This do in remembrance of me; keep this feast and together we'll be.

This do in remembrance of me till you come to my Kingdom.

This is my body broken for you, take and eat in remembrance of me;
 broken that you might rise up from death into a life everlasting.

*This is my blood, I shed it for you. Take and drink in remembrance of me;
 shed that you might rise up from death into a life everlasting.*

Prayer of Response and The Lord's Prayer

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 *please sing!*

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Cwm Rhondda

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
 I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.
 Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more,
 feed me till I want no more.
2. Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
 Let the fire and cloud pillar lead me all my journey through;
 Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield,
 be thou still my strength and shield.
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
 Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side;
 Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee,
 I will ever give to thee.

William Williams, 1745

BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Dr. Renwick

POSTLUDE

Mr. Fickley

Let's Stay Connected! Announcements for You

Prayers

Please pray for Steve and Janice Quakenbush as they work with Wycliffe Bible Translators providing academic resources and training for Bible translators across the world.

Communion

Today, Jan 3, you are invited to share in the celebration of communion from your home. [Here are guidelines for preparation and serving of communion.](#)

Why Presbyterian? Who We Are, What We Believe, and How We Work

Associate Pastor Dr. Quinn Fox will lead us in an exploration into the history, doctrine and polity (how we make decisions) of the Presbyterian tradition. As the "National" Presbyterian Church, we are part of an important heritage. Join us on Wednesdays during January for this important engagement with our history and tradition, as we strive to be a congregation of faithful followers of Jesus Christ, together in God's world.

Pathway of Christian Discipleship Online Class

Becoming a church member here at National can be a meaningful step forward in your spiritual journey on the Pathway of Christian Discipleship. To inquire about membership or just learn more about Christian faith, please attend the two half-day virtual Pathway class on [Sat, Jan 23](#) and [Sat, Jan 30](#). For more information please [click here](#).

Galatians Series Now on YouTube

Dr. Renwick's journey through Paul's letter to the Galatians is now on YouTube. Please [click here](#) to listen to this series and more!

Floral Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God by the NPC Flower Ministry and the National Presbyterian School in memory of Barbara Freeman, in gratitude for her service to them over many years as a generous and faithful volunteer.

Learn & Grow

Wednesday Faith Connection

Starting Jan 6, you are invited to join us on our [Worship Live page](#) at 7-7:45 pm, led by Dr. Quinn Fox.

Holiday Schedule

Today, Jan 3

- Adult January Term speaker series starts, Jan 3 speaker: Astronomer Dr. Jennifer Wiseman, "*Amazing Universe! What's in the Stars for the Years Ahead?*" [more info](#)

Jan 10

- Adult January Term speaker series [more info](#)
- Regular children's Sunday school [more info](#)
- Regular youth Sunday school [more info](#)

Now Hiring!

NPC's Youth and Children's Ministries are hiring summer interns! Spend your summer working to share Christ's love with the children and youth of NPC through trips, VBS, and weekly programs. To apply, visit nationalpres.org/jobs.

Connect LIVE on Zoom

Immediately following online worship, you are invited to a casual virtual gathering where you can “pass the peace of Christ” with others and enjoy conversation. To join in, simply click the “Connect LIVE” button above the livestream window after the service.

Prayer LIVE

Would you like to pray with a live person after worship? Please call 12-1 pm. A Pastor, Stephen Minister, or Deacon will be prepared to take your call. If all lines are busy, please leave a voicemail with your name and number and you will receive a return call. Phone: (202) 800-9121.

Your Giving and Commitments Make a Difference: Thank you!

Thank you! Because of your financial generosity, National continues to bear powerful witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ at this critical time. Not yet made a gift online or by phone? Go to nationalpres.org/giving or text “NPC” to 77977.

Re-gathering Volunteers Needed

Step one to re-gathering is to recruit and train volunteers to act as greeters, guides and ushers. If you would like to help please [click here](#) to fill in the form, and we will be in touch.

COVID times are just plain hard!

We are in this together. The Care/Connections staff have prepared resources to use during this time. Use them on your own or share with a friend. Feeling Isolated? Grieving? Anxious? Needing to have a hard conversation with someone? Find these resources on the [Care webpage](#) or contact [Liz Martin](#) or [Leslie Saum](#).

NPC Online (My NPC) – New in 2021!

NPC Online will be changing its name - all the same features but called “My NPC!”

What does NPC Online (My NPC) do?

This is our church database, and more.

Here you can:

- Access the church directory
- Update your profile to keep NPC in the loop about address changes etc.
- View your giving
- And more!

Don't have an account?

[Click here](#) and “Request Account.”

How can my church family find me?

Have you checked out your privacy settings? Once you've logged in, click on your name in the upper right corner, then *Actions*, then *Privacy* to make any adjustments.