

# NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## *Staying Connected in Christ*

11:00 am Online Worship, March 14, 2021

Fourth Sunday in Lent

### WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

#### PRELUDE

Passacaglia in D minor

Dieterich Buxtehude  
Todd Fickley, organ

#### CHIMES

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. David Renwick

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

#### HYMN *please sing!*

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

*Hymn to Joy*

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the gloom of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.
2. All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.
3. Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began;  
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife,  
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

#### CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Rev. Katie Francis

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness,  
our shortcomings, and our offenses against you.

You alone know how often we have sinned

in wandering from your ways,

in wasting your gifts,

in forgetting your love.

Have mercy on us, O Lord.

We repent of all we have done to displease you.

Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

**SILENT CONFESSION AND KYRIE** *sung first by the choir, then all*

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

**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.

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

**A TIME FOR CHILDREN**

Rev. Francis

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows

**Through baptism we enter the covenant God has established. Within this covenant God gives us new life, guards us from evil, and nurtures us in love. In embracing this covenant, God claims us as his own, as we choose whom we will serve, by turning from evil and turning to Jesus Christ.**

Baptismal Questions

Baptism

Alexandra Lee Lenss

*Daughter of Katherine Lee Lenss and Valdis Karlis Lenss*

Prayer of Response

**SCRIPTURE**

Romans 12:3-8

Elder Nancy Piho

<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup>We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup>ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Body Life  
1 Corinthians 12

Dr. Quinn Fox

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

**HYMN** *please sing*

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

*Linstead*

1. Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy,  
Teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.  
*Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the gifts around: Joy abounds!*
2. Jesus calls us in, sends us out, bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
Gives us love to tell, gifts to share, God (Immanuel) everywhere!  
*Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the gifts around: Love abounds!*

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Apostles' Creed

Rev. Francis

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,  
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

**OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS**

One Faith, One Hope, One Lord

Rev. Francis  
Craig Courtney

*One faith, one hope, one Lord, one church for which he died,  
One voice, one song we lift in praise to him who was and is and shall be evermore.*  
There is one body, one Spirit, as you were called to one hope;  
One Lord, baptism, and faith, one God and Father of us all, who is in you all.  
Though we may be many people, diverse with various gifts,  
We are given to each other for the unity of faith  
That we may grow in the knowledge of God, in the fullness of Christ.

**DOXOLOGY**

*Old Hundredth*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Rev. Donna Marsh

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!*

Though I May Speak

*O Waly Waly*

1. Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,  
And have not love, my words are vain; as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.
2. Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,  
But be not giv'n to love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.
3. Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole.  
Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship and are freed.

**BENEDICTION**

Dr. Fox

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**POSTLUDE**

We Thank Thee, Lord Jesus Christ, BWV 623

J. S. Bach  
Mr. Fickley

# Let's Stay Connected! Announcements for You

## Floral Dedication

The flowers in the Sanctuary are offered to the Glory of God and in honor of Girvan Maxwell Singh by the Singh family.

## Mission Meet-up today, 1:00 pm

NPC mission partner and Wycliffe Bible translator, Steve Quakenbush, will speak on "God on the Move: Mission and Migration," followed by Q&A. For information on how to join, [click here](#).

**Adult Fellowship Broadcast, tomorrow, Mar 15 at 1:00 pm** will feature our own Director of the Library and Archives, Jim Anderson. He will discuss *Presbyterian Women, Significant Individuals in the Life of the Church*. [Please click here for info on how to join.](#)

## Prayers

*We pray for:*

Please pray for those who are on the front lines dealing working with the public: Healthcare workers, teachers, and other essential workers.

*We pray for our mission partners, including:* Steve and Janice Quakenbush work with Wycliffe Bible Translators providing academic resources and training for Bible translators across the world.

*Please submit prayer requests to:* Liz Martin, [lmartin@nationalpres.org](mailto:lmartin@nationalpres.org), 202.537.7540

## You are invited to celebrate Easter with us!

*He is not here; for he is risen, as he said. Matthew 28:6*

Come and discover that this is the best news of all! This season, we will journey together through Jesus' sacrifice for our salvation to his resurrection and victory over the darkness.

### Leading up to Easter

- To March 24: Vespers every Wednesday evening | 7:00 pm online
- March 27: Palm Pickup Events | Pickup 4-5pm | Picnic 5:00 pm
- March 28: Palm Sunday Service | 11:00 am online
- April 1&2: 24-Hour Holy Week Prayer Vigil | 8:00 pm-8:00 pm
- April 1: Maundy Thursday Service | 7:00 pm online
- April 2: Good Friday Service | 7:00 pm online and in person

### April 4, Easter Sunday Rejoice with us in the resurrection of our Lord!

- 8:30 am Traditional Service Online
- 9:30 am In-Person Outdoor Service in the NPC parking lot
- 11:00 am Traditional Service Online

Please [click here](#) for all the details.

### **Holy Week Prayer Vigil**

Please join your National Presbyterian Church family and friends this Holy Week for a 24-hour Prayer Vigil.

- Starts: 8:00 pm, April 1, Maundy Thursday
- Ends: 8:00 pm, April 2, Good Friday

In preparation for Easter, we will lift up the burdens of these days of uncertainty, anticipating the joy of the ultimate resurrection victory on Easter morning. [Please click here](#) for more info, resources and to sign up.

### **Pathway of Christian Discipleship 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 classes on Saturday, Apr 17 and Saturday, Apr 24. [Click here](#) for more information or contact Kemet Rakiatu to register by Apr 7 at [KRakiatu@NationalPres.org](mailto:KRakiatu@NationalPres.org) or 202 537-7578.

### **Vacation Bible School**

Save the date! NPC will be hosting Vacation Bible School June 28 - July 2, 2021. We are planning to be outdoors on the NPC Campus. [Registration is now open here](#). Due to space constraints and social-distancing requirements, we are only able to accept campers from the NPC and NPS community. Join us for this fun, faith-filled adventure! Please contact [mlenhard@nationalpres.org](mailto:mlenhard@nationalpres.org) for more information. Youth wishing to serve at VBS may [sign up here](#).

### **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.

## **Learn & Grow**

### **Lenten Vespers**

NPC's pastors teach about Spiritual Gifts, based on Romans 12, on Wednesday evenings online at 7:00 pm. This continues to March 24, before Holy Week.

### **Adult, Children & Youth Sunday School**

You are invited to join us! You can check out our options for each group here:

- [Adult Sunday School info](#)
- [Children Sunday School info](#)
- [Youth Sunday School info](#)

### **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? For easy and safe online giving, please visit [nationalpres.org/giving](http://nationalpres.org/giving). To give by phone, just text “NPC” to 77977.

### **Dr. Renwick's Teaching Series are now on YouTube**

Want to grow in faith? [Click here](#) to watch

- *Colossians*
- *Galatians*
- *Matters of Race*

...and to see other classes on our YouTube channel.

**These pandemic days are just plain hard,** yet we are in this together! The Care/Connections staff have prepared resources that might help on topics like isolation, anxiety, and difficult conversations. Use them on your own or share with a friend. Find these resources on the [Care webpage](#) or reach out to [Liz Martin](#) in the Care Office if we can help.

### **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.



# MARCH 2021 BUILDING TOGETHER UPDATE



Garden Rooms progress



Artist's rendition of Garden Rooms



Plaza decking underway



Princeton  
Sentry Ginkgo



Sweet Bay  
Magnolia

## “Planting” the Garden Rooms!

One of the most exciting features of our new construction is our garden rooms and the outside area around them. Steel framing of the walls and roof deck are now complete and the floor and roof slabs have been poured. The floor above the garden rooms will comprise the extended Sanctuary level plaza. On either side of the plaza will be two planters that each accommodate two Princeton Sentry Ginkgo trees. The Ginkgos will provide greenery on the new extended patio in the summer and feature golden yellow foliage for several weeks in autumn. Two lower planters are being constructed on either side of the terrace going from the garden rooms to the fountain level. These planters are each large enough to contain three Sweet Bay Magnolia trees that will feature creamy small blossoms in the spring and dark green leaves year-round.



## CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

The layer of protection under the Sanctuary plaza failed many years ago which resulted in water penetrating into the main church building across the entire front of the building. Late last year, the failed membrane was replaced. Early this month, a flood test verified that the new membrane is adequately protecting the structure. Concrete repairs are now underway within the building to repair areas damaged by the many years of water penetration.



New Elevator

Elevator installation progress continues! The two new elevators are on schedule to be completely installed by the end of March.

The steel structure and floor decking to connect the two sides of the mezzanine level are in place. This new space where the former stage once was, will eventually form the mezzanine lobby near the central stairs and the bridge walkway to the new garden rooms and outside garden.

The historic chandelier in the Court of Flags, was recently placed on a winch/pulley system to be easily raised and lowered once the central stairs are installed below it. This month the scaffolding was removed after the chandelier was cleaned and re-wired for LED lighting.



Steel for Mezzanine floor



And there was light!



## MISSION COMMITMENT



Compassion Protestant Society Staff and Volunteers

NPC's Capital Campaign Partner **National Evangelical (Presbyterian) Synod of Syria and Lebanon (NESSL)** has especially appreciated our financial support in what became an unprecedented year of need. The Presbyterian church in Syria and Lebanon has been operating four Syrian curriculum schools in Lebanon in the towns of Min Elias, Minyara, Tripoli, and Sour. But in 2020, Lebanon was crippled by four simultaneous challenges:

- high disease caseload
- Covid-19-related economic setbacks
- an already collapsing economy, and
- in August, the huge explosion in Beirut.



Beirut children with food and supplies

Schools throughout Lebanon have been closed since the beginning of the pandemic so NESSL responded by opening up the refugee school facilities as distribution points for aid to Syrians in Lebanon and their Lebanese host communities, who are often among the poorest in the country. NPC provided funds through the Compassion Protestant Society's Project Hope, helping the most vulnerable families.

## CAPITAL \$ CAMPAIGN



A message from our Capital Campaign Continuity Committee co-chair **Clyde Taylor**:



*Friends,*

*It may be a bit late for New Year's resolutions, but for those of you who have put off the opportunity to participate in National's capital project, it is definitely timely for you to join your co-congregants in this exciting endeavor.*

*You now see in the construction photographs the evidence of God's grace and blessing on this His congregation. Improvements and new facilities are on schedule. Our mission partners are thankful and grateful for the funds we are providing. Furthermore, the vast majority of the roughly 500 NPC member units who have pledged have contributed on schedule and made it possible to delay drawing on the approved line of credit for the project.*

*We pray that those of you who are not yet a partner in our "**Building Together for the Next 50 Years**" project will prayerfully consider sacrificial support for this ministry mission.*

*We are ready to assist you in any way possible. Just email or call our Director of Finance and Administration Leah Skrine at [lskrine@nationalpres.org](mailto:lskrine@nationalpres.org) or (202) 537-7484.*

*Thankfully, Clyde*

**Email Us: [BuildingTogether@nationalpres.org](mailto:BuildingTogether@nationalpres.org)**

**Capital Project Steering Committee**

John Neely (Chair); Mary Jo Pera (Vice Chair), John Lawlah, Susie Westrup, Diane Stewart (Facilities Director), David Renwick (Senior Pastor/ex officio)