

December 20, 2015

Welcome
to the
NATIONAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

*Leading People to Become
Faithful Followers of Jesus Christ
Together in God's World*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*Come to me and listen so that you may live.
I will make you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.*

Isaiah 55:3

Dr. David Renwick, *Senior Pastor* · Dr. Quinn Fox, *Associate Pastor*
Rev. Donna Marsh, *Associate Pastor* · Rev. Evangeline Taylor, *Associate Pastor*
Parish Associates: Dr. Nancy Fox and Dr. Donald Wilson
Dr. Michael Denham, *Director of Music Ministries*
William Neil, *Organist* · Hilda Gore, *Contemporary Music Leader*
Ministry Directors: J. Theodore Anderson (Library & Older Adults), Jill Meek (Children)
Leslie Saum (Connections), McLane Stone (Youth), John Turpin (Serve)



TODAY AT NATIONAL

Mission Gifts for Christmas

Today, all morning in Stone Hall

It's not too late to make a difference with your Christmas giving! Mission Gifts for Christmas cashiers are available after worship for you to give to charities in honor of a friend, family member, teacher, or coworker.

Last year we raised just over \$59,000 for charities through Mission Gifts. We have already raised over \$48,000 this year—**let's see how much more we can give to missions by the end of the year!**

*Shop online through Dec. 27:
nationalpres.org/mission-gifts*

GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays

12:30 p.m.

Culbertson Library (2nd floor, Admin. Bldg.)

GriefShare's "Surviving the Holidays" series prepares you to face the weeks surrounding Christmas after facing loss and grief.

Get helpful tools to deal with the many emotions you'll face as you discover hope for your future. *Contact: Barb Dear, BDear@NationalPres.org or 202.537.7540.*

College Student Lunch

12:15 p.m., Parlor

All college students are invited for a Chipotle catered lunch after the 11 a.m. service.

Moldova Prayer

12:30 p.m., Church Room 107

All are invited for a time of prayer for our NPC Moldova mission partners.

Chrismon Tree

Did you know each of the ornaments on the tree in the Court of Flags represents a symbol of Christ or the Christian life? *Pick up a brochure in the Court of Flags to learn more about these symbols and their meaning.*

Christmas Cards for Sale

Boxed Christmas card sets are available for sale at the church bookstore, located just outside Stone Hall.

Pecan and Fruit Cake Sales

Outside Stone Hall

The Business and Professional Women's Guild is selling fruit cakes and Georgia pecans. *Proceeds will benefit B&P missions.*

Washington Bach Consort

3 p.m., Sanctuary (pre-concert lecture: 2 p.m.)

The Washington Bach Consort presents *Christmas with the Consort*; tickets available at the door.

WEEKLY ON SUNDAYS

December Food Donations: Unsweetened Cereal

Please bring boxes of unsweetened cereal for mission partner Martha's Table to the baskets outside of Stone Hall, or upstairs at the information table. *You can also help by delivering these monthly donations to Martha's Table; contact: Nancy Chapman Colb, nancy@nchapman.com.*

Volunteer at Ingleside Retirement Community

Enable retirement community residents to attend worship services by assisting in wheeling residents from their rooms to services at Ingleside on Sunday afternoons at 4 p.m. Volunteers would serve on a rotating basis the first Sunday of each month. *Contact: Rebekah Liu at Paulreb3@msn.com.*

9:15 & 11 A.M. WORSHIP

Sanctuary

Kindly turn off all electronic devices.

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE	Greensleeves	Richard Purvis William Neil, organ
CALL TO WORSHIP		Rev. Evangeline Taylor
▲ HYMN 56 verses 1-4	The First Nowell	<i>The First Nowell</i>

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

9:15 a.m. Thea Bournazian, Thomas Webster, Jim Anderson

11 a.m. Carol & Michael Wiseman and Trudy & Charles Simmons

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hymn 56, verse 6

Now let us all with one accord sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,
Who hath made heav'n and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell! Born is the King of Israel.

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Merciful and loving God, by your generous gift,
Jesus Christ our Lord humbled himself to raise us up.
He became fully human, that he might lift the lowly.
He was born as one of us, to restore us in your image.
Forgive our sins, gracious God.
Grant us the inheritance of the meek,
And lead us at last to rejoice with all your saints in glory.

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

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Glo-----ria in excelsis Deo! Glo-----ria in excelsis Deo!

HEARING GOD'S WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. David Renwick

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 55:1-13

9:15 a.m. John Neely

The Word of the Lord.

pew Bible p. 598

11 a.m. Elder Jim Holt

Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION

A Servant Is Born: Born to Bless

Dr. David Renwick

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

▲ POSTLUDE Fugato and Toccata on a French Noel Marcel Dupre

▲ Congregation standing, as able

The flowers throughout the church this morning are given to the glory and praise of God by the members and friends of the National Presbyterian Church rejoicing in the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Advent flower dedications beautify our church while honoring a loved one. Donations by check may be made payable to “NPC Flower Fund.” Envelopes for donations and dedication wording are at the information table.

Take flowers to brighten someone’s day. If you are planning to visit someone who is ill or home-bound, pick up a vase with fresh flowers on the table outside of Elson Parlor to bring some cheer!

Chapel prayers after worship. A pastor, elder or deacon, and Stephen Minister will be available in the chapel to pray with you privately about your concerns and celebrations.

Need assistance hearing during the service? Assisted listening receivers are available at the information table, to the right as you exit the sanctuary. These can be used in any location in the sanctuary. *Please remember to return the receivers after the service.*

CHRISTMAS EVE

Thursday, December 24

Family Nativity Service 5 P.M.

Children, youth, and adults perform a 45-minute narrated reenactment of the nativity story with lots of traditional carols and singing. A great service for families of all ages!

Candlelight Services 8 P.M. & 10 P.M.

Dr. David Renwick will preach in these beautiful candlelight services. Come sing carols, light candles, and receive communion.

Invite a friend!

PRAYERS

Please pray for:

Elizabeth Hurlow-Hannah

Jane McDonald

Carol Weihrer

Prayer requests: nationalpres.org/prayer

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP

Chapel

PRELUDE

Dottie Seep, piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Quinn Fox

CALL TO WORSHIP AND INTRODUCTION

PRAYER OF ADORATION

HYMN 49 *verses 1 & 2*

Once in Royal David's City

Henry John Gauntlett

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Merciful and loving God, by your generous gift,
Jesus Christ our Lord humbled himself to raise us up.
He became fully human, that he might lift the lowly.
He was born as one of us, to restore us in your image.
Forgive our sins, gracious God.
Grant us the inheritance of the meek,
And lead us at last to rejoice with all your saints in glory.

SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ADVENT DOXOLOGY

Regent Square

Praise and honor to the Father, praise to god's incarnate Son,
Praise and honor to the Spirit: God th' Eternal Three in One;
One in grace and one in glory while unending ages run.

SERMON

Candle Crèche

Dr. Quinn Fox

Scene One

Joseph, Mary and Jesus

Hymn 25 Away in A Manger

Scene Two

The Angels, Shepherds and Sheep

Hymn 31 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Scene Three

The Wise Men and Star

Hymn 56 verses 1-4 The First Nowell

▲ ADVENT AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

An offering will be received at the center aisle.

▲ BENEDICTION (Extinguishing Of Candles)

▲ HYMN 49 *verses 3 & 4*

Once in Royal David's City

Henry John Gauntlett

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Jones Hall Worship Resumes January 3

There is no service today in Jones Hall.

Please join us at 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel, or 9:15 or 11 a.m. worship in the Sanctuary.

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The U.S. Army Chorus at NPC Tomorrow

Monday, Dec. 21, 1 p.m., Sanctuary

Come and bring a friend to this amazing free concert of Christmas favorites (both sacred and seasonal)! All are invited to the Adult Fellowship Luncheon at 11:30 in Stone Hall before the concert. *For lunch reservations (\$12), call 202.537.0800.*

Upcoming Worship

December 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

- 5 p.m.: Family Nativity Service
- 8 & 10 p.m.: Candlelight Services

December 27

- 11 a.m. only, Sanctuary

January 3

- 8:30 a.m.: Chapel
- 10:50 a.m.: Jones Hall (School Gym)
- 9:15 & 11 a.m.: Sanctuary

SHARE IN THE JOY OF FAITHFUL GIVING!

Help NPC fulfill its mission in 2015 and 2016

2015 has been a wonderful year of worshipping, caring, and serving in the name of Jesus Christ here at National. **December contributions are historically the key to meeting the financial needs of our ministries and facilities.** Please prayerfully consider your part in providing for these ministries through your year-end giving. Every amount, large or small, is significant.

Financial Report

	ANNUAL BUDGET	GIVING TO DATE	NEEDED IN DECEMBER
Individual Faith Giving	\$2,692,322	\$2,127,431	\$564,891
Other Income	\$2,247,510	\$1,997,941	\$249,569
Total Income	\$4,939,832	\$4,125,372	\$814,460
Total Expenses	\$4,939,832	\$4,396,419	N/A

How to Give

- **Recurring gifts** can be set up at NPC Online (<http://bit.ly/NPC-Online>)
- **Easy one-time gifts** can be made at nationalpres.org/giving
- **Stock donations.** Ask your broker to identify you as the donor and to deliver stock information to Morgan Stanley Smith Barney:

DTC Clearing Number: 0015 Client Account number: 504-041937-677 NPC TIN: 53-0196611
Client Name: The National Presbyterian Church, Inc.

P.S. Shop on **Amazon Smile** (www.smile.amazon.com), using "The National Presbyterian Church, Inc." as your designated charity and NPC receives a donation of .05% of the price of your eligible purchases.

Thank you for your prayerful and generous support! Questions? Contact NPC's Finance Manager, Joe Abatemarco: JAbatemarco@NationalPres.org, or 202.537.7484.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Year 2

December 20-27

Sunday

Psalms 24; 110
1 Samuel 2:1b-10
Titus 2:1-10
Luke 1:26-38

Monday

Psalms 122; 67
2 Samuel 7:1-17
Titus 2:11-3:8a
Luke 1:39-48-56

Tuesday

Psalms 33; 94
2 Samuel 7:18-29
Galatians 3:1-14
Luke 1:57-66

Wednesday

Psalms 50; 17
Jeremiah 31:10-14
Galatians 3:15-22
Matthew 1:1-17

Thursday

Psalms 18:1-20; 62
Isaiah 60:1-6
Galatians 3:23-4:7
Matthew 1:18-25

Friday

Psalms 2; 96
Micah 4:1-5, 5:2-4
1 John 4:7-16
John 3:31-36

Saturday

Psalms 116; 27
2 Chronicles 24:17-22
Acts 6:1-7
Acts 7:59-8:8

Sunday

Psalms 34; 121
1 Samuel 1:1-2, 7b-28
Colossians 1:9-20
Luke 2:22-40

CHRISTMAS EVE

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Candlelight Services 8 P.M. & 10 P.M.

Dr. David Renwick will preach in these beautiful candlelight services. Come sing carols, light candles, and receive communion.

WELCOME, GUESTS!

We are so glad you are here today.

- **Welcome packets** and information on the church are available at the information table to the right as you exit the sanctuary, and at the entrances to the church building.
- **Childcare** is available from 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m. for infants through age four. Nursery rooms are located in the main church building ground floor, rooms 16 and 7.
- Enjoy **coffee and cookies** downstairs in Stone Hall after worship.
- **Connections Ambassadors**, wearing blue badges, are here to welcome you and answer questions.
- **Tours of the church** are available upon request. *Call: 202.537.7529.*

In order to share God's word with the world, our services are video recorded and broadcast online. If you do not wish to appear on camera, seating is available in the balcony and back six pews of the Sanctuary.



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