

ADVENT 2016

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9 & 11 a.m. – Sanctuary

10:50 a.m. – Jones Hall

Dec. 11: *Joy*
Rev. Donna Marsh

Dec. 18: *Love*
Dr. David Renwick
*Special music with the Chancel
Choir, Soloists, Harp, Strings,
Brass, & Organ*

WEDNESDAY VESPERS

7 p.m. – Sanctuary

Music, Message, & Communion

Dec. 14: *The Glories of His
Righteousness*
Dr. David Renwick

Handel's "Messiah" Concert
Sunday, Dec. 11, 5 p.m., Sanctuary
Make plans to bring your family and friends to NPC Festival Choir, Soloists & Orchestra's performance of Handel's beloved masterpiece. No tickets are required; an offering will be received. A reception will follow in Stone Hall. *Childcare (age 5 and under) available with*
RSVP to: Childcare@NationalPres.org.

Mission Gifts for Christmas
Sundays, Dec. 11 & 18, Stone Hall
Mission Gifts for Christmas provides an opportunity to give to organizations serving those in need in honor of a friend, family member, teacher, or coworker. *Visit the market on Sunday or visit nationalpres.org/mission-gifts to shop online!*

Christmas Eve

Family Nativity Service **DECEMBER 24 | 5 PM**

Kids, teens, and adults bring the Bible's nativity story to life in this narrated reenactment with lots of music.

Candlelight Services **DECEMBER 24 | 8 PM & 10 PM**

Carols will be sung and Communion will be served as we celebrate the birth of our Lord.

Christmas Day

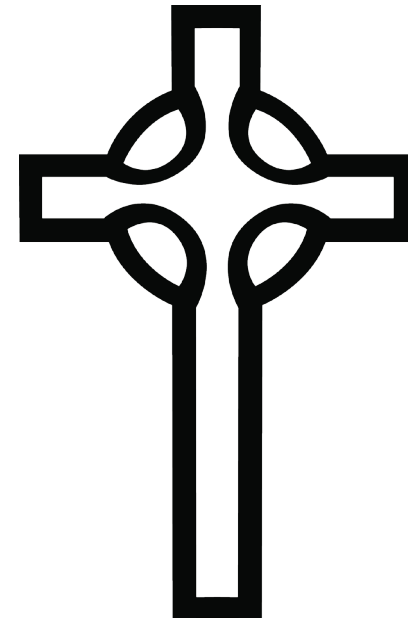
Sunday Worship Service **DECEMBER 25 | 11 AM**

Bring the whole family as Dr. Renwick shares the Christmas story for all ages.



4101 NEBRASKA AVE. NW
WASHINGTON DC 20016
202.537.0800
www.nationalpres.org

THE NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



ADVENT VESPERS

Reflections on "Joy to the World"

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

7 p.m.

Sanctuary

Vespers in Advent

Reflections on "Joy to the World"

PRAYER AND MEDITATION

PRELUDE Noel in D Major Louis Claude Daquin
William Neil, organist

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Evangeline Taylor

▲ HYMN 27 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child *Tempest adest floridum*

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

O God of the ages and ages to come,
make us watchful as we await the coming
of your Son our Savior.
When he comes, may he not find us sleeping in sin,
but awake, and rejoicing in his praises.
Bring to light things hidden in darkness,
even the shadows of our hearts.
Forgive our sins, we pray.
Then cleanse and renew us,
that we may walk in your light and glorify your name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 *Regent Square*

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one;
One in might and one in glory while unending ages run.

SCRIPTURE Psalm 98 Katharine Wystrach
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

HOMILY The Savior Reigns Dr. Quinn Fox
Titus 2:11-14

CHORAL RESPONSE

In the Bleak Midwinter

Gustav Holst
Cranham

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter long ago.
Our God, heav'n cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
heav'n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
the Lord God incarnate Jesus Christ.
Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
But his mother only, in her maiden bliss,
worshiped the beloved with a kiss.
What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him: Give my heart.

Christina Rossetti

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table Rev. Evangeline Taylor

Eucharistic Prayer

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation

When God's Time Had Ripened

Alfred V. Fedak
Rose of Bethlehem

When God's time had ripened, Mary's womb bore fruit,
Scion of the Godhead, sprung from Jesse's root:
So the True Vine branches from the lily's stem,
The Rose without blemish blooms in Bethlehem.
More than mind can fathom, limit or untwine,
This mysterious yoking, human and divine,
But what reason fetters faith at length unlocks,
And wise hearts discover truth in paradox.
As the Bread of heaven, that we might be fed,
Chose a manger cradle in the House of Bread,
So has Life Eternal mingled in the womb
With our mortal nature to confound the tomb.
For this swaddled infant in a humble place
Holds our hope of glory and our means of grace;
In the Love enfleshed here dawns the world's rebirth,
Promise of salvation, pledge of peace on earth.

Carl P. Daw, Jr.

Prayer of Response and The Lord's Prayer

▲ HYMN 40 Joy to the World! *Antioch*

▲ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE In dulci jubilo J.S. Bach

An offering will be received at the doors as you exit.