

December 11, 2016

Welcome to the NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.
Luke 1:47

Senior Pastor	Dr. David Renwick
Associate Pastors	Dr. Quinn Fox, Rev. Donna Marsh, Rev. Evangeline Taylor
Parish Associate	Dr. Nancy Fox
Music	Dr. Michael Denham (<i>Director</i>), William Neil (<i>Organist</i>) Hilda Gore (<i>Contemporary Music Leader</i>)
Ministry Directors	J. Theodore Anderson (<i>Library, Archives, & Older Adults</i>) Kristin Franke (<i>Youth</i>), Jill Meek (<i>Children</i>) Leslie Saum (<i>Connections</i>), John Turpin (<i>Serve</i>)



TODAY AT NATIONAL

Handel's "Messiah" Concert

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. A reception will follow in Stone Hall. *No tickets are required; an offering will be received. Childcare (age 5 and under) available with RSVP to: Childcare@NationalPres.org.*

Mission Gifts for Christmas

Sundays, Dec. 11 & 18, Stone Hall

Your Christmas giving can make a difference! Come down to Mission Gifts for Christmas after worship to give to charities in honor of a friend, family member, teacher, or coworker. Representatives are available for you to learn about the organizations and how your gift helps. *Pick up at catalog in Stone Hall, or shop online: nationalpres.org/mission-gifts.*

Christmas Decorations

National is adorned with many beautiful decorations during the Christmas season. The Creche in the museum case at the Chapel entrance contains hand sculpted figures from Spain. The ornaments on the Chrismon tree represent symbols of Christ and the Christian life. *Pick up a brochure in the Court of Flags to learn more about these symbols and their meaning.*

Pecan Sales

Outside Stone Hall bookstore

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

WEEKLY ON SUNDAYS

Sunday School

9:30–10:30 a.m. through December 18

Adults

- Abiding in Jesus, *Church Bldg Rm 105*
- Men's Bible Class, *Admin Bldg Culbertson Library*
- I & II Samuel, *Agencies Bldg Room 105*
- The History of the Church in the Middle Ages, *Church Building Room 110/111*
- Wrestlers, *Agencies Lower Level*
"The Christian Roots of Religious Liberty" (part 2); Dr. Robert Wilken, Professor of the History of Christianity at the University of Virginia
- Parents' Gathering
10–10:30 a.m., Elson Parlor

Youth

- Middle School (6th & 7th grade)
Multipurpose Bldg. Room 101
- Middle School (8th grade)
Agencies Bldg. Room 101
- High School (9th–12th grade)
Youth House

Children

- Age 2–5th grade: Drop off/pick up at the National Presbyterian School building.

Children's Choirs (K–5th grade)

Sundays, 10:25–10:55 a.m., School Bldg

Youth Choir (6–12th grade)

Sundays, 10:20–10:50 a.m. Church Bldg, Rm 5

December Donations: Cereal

Please bring donations of **unsweetened cereal** for mission partner Martha's Table to the baskets outside of Stone Hall, or upstairs at the info table.

Notes of Greeting and Encouragement

Write postcards to NPC members and friends who are in need of encouragement. *Supplies are available in Stone Hall.*

Today's Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Johanna Huijssoon and her husband Terry, in loving memory of her mother and his "Mutti" Diny Huijssoon, remembering her December 14th birthday.

Advent flower dedications beautify our church while honoring a loved one. Donations by check may be made payable to "NPC Flower Fund."

9 A.M. WORSHIP

Sanctuary

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Noël en récit en taille

Louis-Claude Daquin
Dan Campolieta, guest organist

CHIMES AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Evangeline Taylor

- ▲ HYMN 58 *verses 1-4* While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks *Westminster Old*

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Lord Jesus, you have come to live among us. You see our sin, and you know the deep flaws of the society we have created. Do not go away; but stay with us. Help us, because without you we are lost. Forgive us, for you are the one who saves. Please renew our hope; restore our peace; and save our joy! adapted from Pierre Talc, *Prayers Encircling the World*

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 *In dulci jubilo*

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart, and soul, and voice; Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls us one and calls us all to gain the everlasting hall. Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save.

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

Elizabeth and Scott Kauffmann
with Ella Kauffmann

- ▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Advent Affirmation *see p. 6*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Donna Marsh

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Rev. Evangeline Taylor

My Heart Ever Joyful

My heart ever faithful, sing praises, be joyful, thy Jesus is near!

Away with complaining, faith ever maintaining, my Jesus is here!

J. S. Bach
from *Cantata BWV 68*
Joanna Jones, soprano

- ▲ ADVENT DOXOLOGY *Regent Square*

Praise and honor to the Father, praise and honor to the Son, praise and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One: One in might and one in glory while unending ages run.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER *see p. 6*

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:26-38

Elder Serge Duss

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

SERMON

Joy: Future Facing

Rev. Donna Marsh

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

- ▲ HYMN 40 Joy to the World! *Antioch*

- ▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

- ▲ POSTLUDE Postlude in F Christian Cappelen

- ▲ Congregation standing, as able

Jones Hall (School Gym)

▲ WELCOME SONGS	Light of the Stable	Steve & Elizabeth Rhymr
	No Other Name	Joel Houston

Dr. Quinn Fox

Hilda Gore

▲ SONG OF RESPONSE How Great Is Our God (Christmas)

Lord Jesus, you have come to live among us. You see our sin, and you know the deep flaws of the society we have created. Do not go away; but stay with us. Help us, because without you we are lost. Forgive us, for you are the one who saves. Please renew our hope; restore our peace; and save our joy!

adapted from Pierre Talec, *Prayers Encircling the World*

▲ RESPONSE OF PRAISE Grace Like A Wave Aaron Robertson

SERMON Joy: Future Facing Rev. Donna Marsh

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Advent Affirmation Dr. Quinn Fox

We believe in one God, whose almighty word brought forth the universe, who speaks to us by his Spirit through what he has created and through what has been written for us in Holy Scripture. We believe that at the right moment in time, God's Word became flesh in the life of Jesus of Nazareth, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary. We believe that this good news of great joy which heralded Jesus' birth also points us to the cross on which Jesus died, and to his empty tomb. There the angel's message "He is risen!" heralded the glorious good news of Christ's resurrection. We believe that this same Jesus is alive to meet us every day, and to offer us new and abundant life. We rejoice in the knowledge that one day he will return to rule in righteousness, to renew the earth, and to claim us as God's own.

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 *offering received* God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

▲ CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

▲ Congregation standing, as able

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

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Sanctuary

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

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Louis-Claude Daquin
Dan Campolieta, guest organist

CHIMES AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Evangeline Taylor

▲ HYMN 58

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Westminster Old

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

Margaret and David Gardner
with Zack Gardner

CHORAL RESPONSE

Grace, truth, and right God's rule attend; Christ's kingdom knows no earthly end.
Great be our joy! Joy! Joy! Joy!
Praise ye the Lord on high with joy! Praise ye the Lord on high with joy!

Hugo Jüngst
German Carol

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Lord Jesus, you have come to live among us. You see our sin, and you know the deep flaws of the society we have created. Do not go away; but stay with us. Help us, because without you we are lost. Forgive us, for you are the one who saves. Please renew our hope; restore our peace; and save our joy! adapted from Pierre Talec, *Prayers Encircling the World*

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Calls us one and calls us all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Donna Marsh

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:26-38

Elder Lou Crenshaw

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Joy: Future Facing

Rev. Donna Marsh

WE LEAVE TO SERVE IN GOD'S WORLD

CHORAL RESPONSE

Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly light, and usher in the morning;
Ye mortals, shrink not with affright, but hear the angel's warning.
This Child, now weak in infancy, our confidence and joy shall be,
The pow'r of Satan breaking, our peace eternal making.

J. S. Bach
from *Christmas Oratorio*

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH An Advent Affirmation Dr. Nancy Fox

We believe in one God, whose almighty word brought forth the universe,
who speaks to us by his Spirit through what he has created and
through what has been written for us in Holy Scripture.

We believe that at the right moment in time, God's Word became flesh in the life
of Jesus of Nazareth, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the Virgin Mary. We believe that this good news of great joy
which heralded Jesus' birth also points us to the cross on which Jesus died,
and to his empty tomb. There the angel's message "He is risen!" heralded
the glorious good news of Christ's resurrection.

We believe that this same Jesus is alive to meet us every day, and to offer us new
and abundant life.

We rejoice in the knowledge that one day he will return to rule in righteousness,
to renew the earth, and to claim us as God's own.

PASTORAL PRAYER 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.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Carol of Joy

Dan Forrest

Green leaves all fallen, withered and dry; brief sunset fading, dim winter sky;
Lengthening shadows, dark closing in; then, through the stillness, carols begin.
*O fallen world, to you is the song! Death holds you fast, and night tarries long.
Jesus is born, your curse to destroy; sweet to your ears, a carol of joy!*

Pale moon ascending, solemn and slow; cold, barren hillside shrouded in snow;
Deep, empty valley, veiled by the night: Hear angel music, hopeful and bright.
*O fearful world, to you is the song! Peace with your God, and pardon for wrong.
Tidings for sinners, burdened and bound, carol of joy: a Savior is found!*

Earth wrapped in sorrow, lift up your eyes! Thrill to the chorus filling the skies.
Look up, sad-hearted! Witness God's love; join in the carol swelling above!
*O friendless world, to you is the song! All heaven's joy to you may belong!
You who are lonely, laden, forlorn – O fallen, O fearful, O friendless world –
Now unto you a Savior is born!*

Eileen Berry

▲ ADVENT DOXOLOGY

Regent Square

Praise and honor to the Father, praise and honor to the Son,
Praise and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One:
One in might and one in glory while unending ages run.

▲ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

▲ HYMN 40

Joy to the World!

Antioch

▲ BENEDICTION

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

A Savior is born!

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

▲ POSTLUDE

Postlude in F

Christian Cappelen

▲ Congregation standing, as able

UPCOMING EVENTS

U.S. Army Chorus at NPC

Tomorrow, Dec. 12, 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 11:45 in Stone Hall before the concert. *Sign up for lunch today in Stone Hall or call 202.537.0800.*

Advent Mid Week Worship

Dec. 14, 7-7:55 p.m., Sanctuary
Come for a time of restorative mid-week worship. Dr. Renwick will preach: "The Glories of His Righteousness."

Wednesday Women Bible Study & Prayer Group

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Church Rooms 110/111 & 105

Women are invited for prayer, followed by a study of Christmas prayers of adoration and praise. Stay after for lunch together.
Contact: Mildred Wheat 703.931.1490.

Surviving the Holidays

Sunday, Dec. 18, 12:30 p.m.
Culbertson Library (2nd floor; Admin. Bldg.)

Get helpful tools to deal with the many emotions you'll face in the weeks surrounding Christmas after facing loss and grief. *Call: 202.537.7540.*

Christmas Eve

FAMILY NATIVITY SERVICE | 5 PM
Kids, teens, and adults bring the Bible's nativity story to life in this narrated reenactment with lots of music.

CANDLELIGHT SERVICES | 8 PM & 10 PM
Dr. David Renwick will preach at these beautiful candlelight services. Carols will be sung and Communion will be served as we celebrate the birth of our Lord.

Christmas Day

ONE WORSHIP SERVICE | 11 AM
Dr. Renwick shares the Christmas story.

New Year's Day

ONE WORSHIP SERVICE | 11 AM

Your Gifts Make a Difference!

- 8 NPC families enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner through the NPC Deacon's Assistance Fund.
- 14 boxes full of high quality winter wear were received for homeless neighbors through Friendship Place
- \$2,795 was contributed for Friendship Place, and 20 boxes of food for the hungry were collected for Martha's Table during Thanksgiving day worship.
Thanks to all who prayed, donated, delivered, and collected!

Say "Yes" to Living Generously

Make your 2017 commitment today!
Your commitment enables our church to plan wisely for the year ahead.

You may make your commitment by:

- Placing your commitment card (available in the Friendship Registers) in the offering plate
- Filling out your commitment online at www.nationalpres.org/giving

Christmas Support

Do you know of an NPC family in need of a complete Christmas dinner? *Contact our Care Ministries office at 202.537.7537 for ways we can help.*

Refugee Family Project

Save the date: Saturday, Jan. 14, 2-4 p.m.
Want to help with the new refugee family resettling in the DC area next year? Lutheran Social Services, our agency partner, will be hosting a training seminar.

Prepare for Marriage Seminar

Saturday, Feb. 11, 8:45 a.m.-3 p.m.
Elson Parlor

This class is offered once per year and is required for all couples whose weddings will be held at NPC. *Contact Holly Novak by Jan. 30 to register: HNovak@NationalPres.org; 202.537.7527.*

WELCOME TO NATIONAL!

We are so glad you are here today.

If you are with us for the first time, welcome! Our prayer is that everyone who worships at National will find a spiritual home here – a home where the love and presence of Jesus Christ are experienced whenever we gather in community to worship God. Classes and groups are offered for all ages for us to better know God and one another. Preaching and teaching equip us to act as Christ's light in the world, serving and caring for one another through prayer, networks of support, and service projects locally and internationally.

Connections Ambassadors, wearing blue badges, are here to welcome you and answer any questions. Come downstairs to Stone Hall after worship to meet others and enjoy coffee and cookies.

Welcome packets and information | Available at the information table to the right as you exit the sanctuary.

Childcare | Available 8:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m. for infants through age four in the main church building ground floor, rooms 16 and 7. *Children are always welcome in worship!*

Prayers after worship | A pastor, elder or deacon, and Stephen Minister will be at the chapel (down the hall to the right as you exit the sanctuary) to pray with you privately about your concerns and celebrations.

Accessible worship | Assisted listening receivers, and large print bulletins and hymnals are available at the information table, to the right as you exit the sanctuary.

Pick up a bud vase | Available outside of Elson Parlor to take with you if you are planning to visit someone who is ill or home-bound.

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.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Year 2

December 11 – 18

Sunday

Psalms 24; 110
Isaiah 13:1-13
Hebrews 12:18-29
John 3:22-30

Monday

Psalms 122; 67
Isaiah 8:16-9:1
2 Peter 1:1-11
Luke 22:39-53

Tuesday

Psalms 33; 94
Isaiah 9:2-7
2 Peter 1:12-21
Luke 22:54-69

Wednesday

Psalms 50; 17
Isaiah 9:8-17
2 Peter 2:1-10a
Mark 1:1-8

Thursday

Psalms 18:1-20; 62
Isaiah 9:18-10:4
2 Peter 2:10b-16
Matthew 3:1-12

Friday

Psalms 102; 16
Isaiah 10:5-19
2 Peter 2:17-22
Matthew 11:2-15

Saturday

Psalms 90; 72
Isaiah 10:20-27
Jude 17-25
Luke 3:1-9

Sunday

Psalms 24; 110
Isaiah 11:1-9
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 3:16-21

PRAYERS

We mourn the death of:
Jean Hemphill

Prayer requests: nationalpres.org/prayer



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