

# How Can I Keep from Singing?

A Service of Music and Word

THE NATIONAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CHOIRS AND
CONGREGATION

June 11, 2017, 10:45 a.m. Washington, DC

# TODAY AT NATIONAL

# Adult Sunday School Plenary: Christine Brennan

Sunday June 11, 9:30 a.m., Stone Hall "Good Sports: Reflections of a (Presbyterian) Pioneer in Sports Journalism" Christine Brennan is a national sports columnist for USA Today, a commentator for CNN, PBS NewsHour and NPR's Morning Edition and best-selling author of Inside Edge and Best Seat in the House.

NEXT WEEK: Daniel Dreisbach, "The Bible and the Founders: How Scripture

# WEEKLY ON SUNDAYS

Shaped American Democracy" see p. 7

# Summer Sunday School 9:30–10:30 a.m.

Adults
Plenary in Stone Hall

Youth, Children, and Families Family Hour in Jones Hall

Come enjoy breakfast, and see how popular family-friendly films express truths about our faith. *There is optional childcare for ages 4 and under.* 

## June Donations: Unsweetened Cereal

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

# Summer Sandwich Making Noon, Stone Hall

All ages can help feed the hungry in our city by making sandwiches for the homeless on the  $2^{nd}$  and  $4^{th}$  Sunday of the month during the summer to be distributed through mission partner Martha's Table.

## Military Ministry 12:15 p.m., Elson Parlor

The Military Ministry will meet for a light lunch and to celebrate the 241st birthday of the U.S. Army. MSG Michael Ford from the Army Chorus (and the NPC Chancel Choir) will be our guest speaker.

# 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 and in appreciation and thanks to Dr. David Renwick, the Elders, the Deacons, the Staff and the National Presbyterian Church congregation from the National Presbyterian School Class of 2017 on the occasion of their graduation that was held on June 9, 2017.

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS June 11 – 18

## Sunday

Psalms 103; 139 Deuteronomy 6:1-15 Ephesians 4:1-16 John 1:1-18

#### Monday

Psalms 62; 9 Deuteronomy 30:1-10 2 Corinthians 10:1-18 Luke 18:31-43

### Tuesday

Psalms 12; 7 Deut. 30:11-20 2 Corinthians 11:1-21 Luke 19:1-10

#### Wednesday

Psalms 96; 134 Deut. 31:30-32:14 2 Corinthians 11:21-33 Luke 19:11-27

### Thursday

Psalms 116; 130 Song of Soloman 1:1-3, 9-11, 15-16; 2:2-3 2 Corinthians 12:1-10 Luke 19:28-40

#### Friday

Psalms 84; 40 Song of Solomon 2:8-13; 4:1-4a, 5-7, 9-11 2 Corinthians 12:11-21 Luke 19:41-48

#### Saturday

Psalms 63; 90 Song of Solomon 5:10-16; 7:1-9; 8:6-7 2 Corinthians 13:1-13 Luke 20:1-8

#### Sunday

Psalms 103; 139 Exodus 6:2-13; 7:1-6 Revelation 15:1-8 Matthew 18:1-14

## DOXOLOGY

How Can I Keep from Singing? A Service of Music and Word 10:45 A.M.

## WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

Fantasia in G Major, BWV 572

I.S. Bach

### CHIMES AND CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 9:1-2

Rev. Evangeline Taylor

One We will give thanks to you, O Lord, with our whole heart;

All we will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

One We will be glad and exult in you;

All we will sing praise to your name, O Most High!

▲ Hymn 138

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Nicaea

PRAYER OF ADORATION please be seated

#### CHORAL RESPONSE

#### I Am with You

Craig Courtney

Zephaniah 3:17

I, the Lord your God, am mighty to save. I will take great delight in you. from Three Sacred Canticles I, the Lord your God, am mighty to save. I will quiet you with my love.

I, the Lord your God, am mighty to save. I will rejoice over you with singing.

I, the Lord your God, I am with you.

#### CONFESSION OF SIN in unison

We adore you, O Lord, for you have put a new song in our hearts.

We are mindful also of your mercy, and of your steadfast love,

for they are from of old.

Do not remember the sins of our youth or our transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember us.

For your name's sake, O Lord, pardon our guilt, for it is great.

Consider all our affliction and our trouble,

and forgive all our sins.

from Psalm 25

## Silent Confession and Choral Meditation

## Softly and Tenderly

René Clausen Thompson

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling, "O sinner, come home."

"Come home, come home, you who are weary, come home."

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling, "O sinner, come home."

#### Assurance of Pardon

Believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

#### ▲ Congregational Response

Lauda anima

Angels, help us to adore him: You behold God face to face;

Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

## RECOGNITION OF 50 YEAR MEMBERS

## CHORAL RESPONSE How Can I Keep from Singing?

Taylor Davis

My life flows on in endless song amidst earth's lamentation.

How Can I Keep from Singing?

I hear the real, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation. Through all the tumult and the strife I hear its music ringing. It sounds an echo in my soul: How can I keep from singing?

While though the tempest loudly roars, I hear the truth, it liveth;

And though the darkness round me close, songs in the night it giveth. No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging, Since Christ is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?

When tyrants tremble sick with fear, and hear their death knell ringing,
When friends rejoice both far and near, how can I keep from singing?
In prison cell and dungeon vile, our thoughts to them are winging;
When friends by shame are undefiled, how can I keep from singing?

Robert Lowery

Craig Courtney

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

## A Time for Children and Youth

Youth Trip Commissioning

CHORAL RESPONSE Sing to the Lord a New Song

Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. from Three Sacred Canticles

Proclaim his salvation from day to day,

declare his glory among the nations, his wonders among all peoples.

Praise the Lord, bless his holy name.

Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with music;

break forth into joyous singing

Praise the Lord, bless his holy name.

Praise the Lord, bless his holy name. Praise the Lord, bless his holy name.

Sing a new song, for the Lord has done marvelous things.

Sing to the Lord a new song. Amen!

from Psalms 96, 98 & 100

Scripture

SERMON

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Nehemiah: Building through Prayer Nehemiah 4:1-4, 9

Nehemiah 1:4-11

Dr. David Renwick

Dr. Quinn Fox

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

#### CHORAL RESPONSE

#### Within These Walls

Stephen Caracciolo

Within these walls, the sound of praises, radiant alleluias rise.

Ceaseless prayer and hymns ascending, sweet as incense to the skies.

Holy, holy, holy God, all glory. Saints on earth and saints above join to bless the Lord of love.

Within these walls, a meal for sharing, tender alleluias rise.

Bread and wine for celebration, hymns to praise the Crucified.

Holy, holy, holy God, all glory. Saints on earth and saints above join to share this feast of love.

Within these walls, a faith confessing, joyous alleluias rise.

Songs of hope and revelation, God's own word and sign inspire.

Holy, holy, holy God, all glory. Saints on earth and saints above speak of promise, sing of love.

Within these walls, yet far beyond all, wondrous alleluias rise.

Word and song and all creation praise the Son of God Most High!

Holy, holy, holy God, all glory. Saints on earth and saints above join to bless the Lord of love.

### 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.

#### OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Partita No. 3 in E for Solo Violin

J.S. Bach

Heather Green, violin

▲ Doxology

Lasst uns erfreuen

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!* 

▲ Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Marsh

▲ Hymn 464

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Hymn to Joy

▲ BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

Dr. Renwick

Let all the world in every corner sing, "My God and King!"

Augustine

▲ Passing the Peace of Christ

▲ Postlude

Rigaudon

Andre Campra

RECEPTION

# **Celebrating 50 Year Members**

# Reception in the Court of Flags following the service

Today we honor those who have been members at National Presbyterian Church for 50 years or more. They have seen many changes, and have remained faithful to God's work in and through our church. Please join us in Court of Flags as we celebrate with gratitude and cake!

### Became members in 1967:

Caroline Van Mason Emmett Bittik Marianne McCulloch

#### Became members prior to 1967 (listed in order of date joined):

Noble McCartney Susan Meyer Shirley Fowler Anne Grosvenor Rick Gorrell Ann Bailey Irene Stadick Susan Wright Ruth McKelvie Natalie Morrison Joan Whetstone Nancy Dyment Charlene Sussel Parkash Samuel Roma Samuel Beverly Elson Irene Williams Margaret Johnson Jo Carlberg Gena Stephens Ronald Carlberg Bette Schintzel Gene Thompson Nancy Thompson

Charlotte McComas Louise Pinckernell
Sara Burgess Mary McLean

## **PROGRAM NOTES**

*Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!* was written by Anglican Bishop of Calcutta Reginald Heber for Trinity Sunday and published in 1827. The tune *Nicaea* was written for this text by John Bacchus Dykes and published in the historic British compendium, *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (1861), which also includes another 60 of his over 300 hymn tunes. Its tune is called *Nicaea* because of Trinitarian theology of the Nicaea Creed expounded in the prayerful text.

*I Am with You* and *Sing to the Lord a New Song* are two of Craig Courtney's *Three Sacred Canticles*, a cycle of anthems based on Scriptures which refer to singing (Zephaniah 3:17, Ephesians 5:19, Psalms 96, 98, and 100), In each the "singer" and the "listener" are different. In the first of these, the Old Testament prophet speaks of God rejoicing over us with singing. In the selected psalms of the third *Canticle* we sing praise to God.

**Softly and Tenderly** is a sterling example of gospel hymns from the American revival tradition. The tune name is *Thompson*, after its author, Will L. Thompson. Shortly before his death, it is reported that the great evangelist Dwight L. Moody said to Thompson, "Will, I would rather have written "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling" than anything I have been able to do in my whole life."

Also known as "My Life Flows On in Endless Song," *How Can I Keep from Singing?* was written in 1860 by American Baptist pastor Robert Lowry, though the text itself was not his. It appeared in various editions and publications in the latter 19th century, including one by Moody's song leader Ira D. Sankey. It crossed over into folk and pop culture through musicians such as Pete Seeger and Ireland's Enya. The 2010 arrangement by Taylor Davis sung this morning beautifully captures the sense of settled longing inherent in both music and words: "I hear the real, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation."

Stephen Caracciolo's *Within These Walls* is a setting of the composer's own text "celebrating the central acts of worship." A member of the University of Maryland Baltimore County faculty, Caracciolo also serves as Artistic Director and Conductor of the Lancaster Chorale, central Ohio's only professional choral ensemble. Many choral organizations have performed and recorded his published works.

*Partita No. 3 in E for Solo Violin* is the final work in the set of Six Sonatas and Partitas by J.S. Bach. Partita No. 3 has six movements (Prelude, Loure, Gavotte in Rondeau, Menuets I & II, Bourée, and Gigue). Bach himself and others (including Rachmaninoff) transcribed it for other instruments. The Prelude is probably the most well-known of the six movements. Heather Green, violinist in the National Symphony Orchestra plays this morning's offering.

**Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**, is best known as "The Doxology." It is a text by Thomas Ken, a 17th century Anglican preacher and poet. He included the words as the final verse of both "Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun," and "All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night," the morning and evening hymns in his *A Manual of Prayers for Use of the Scholars of Winchester College* (1695): The words are most often sung to *Old Hundredth* from the Genevan Psalter (1551), but this morning are sung to the joyful German tune *Lasst uns erfreuen*.

Words of our closing hymn of praise were written by Henry Van Dyke, one-time pastor of New York City's Brick Presbyterian Church, to be sung to Beethoven's *Ode to Joy*. Van Dyke wrote *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* while preaching at Williams College in the Berkshires in Massachusetts. He presented it one morning at breakfast to President James Garfield. "Here is a hymn for you," he said, "Your mountains were my inspiration." This striking melody originally set Friedrich Schiller's verse, "An die Freude," in the fourth movement of Beethoven's monumental *Ninth Symphony*. The composer never heard it as he conducted it in his final public concert in 1824. He had already become completely deaf.

Let All the World in Every Corner Sing was written by Anglican clergyman and poet George Herbert (1593-1632). His words here are set to the tune Augustine by Erik Routley. One-time faculty member of Princeton Theological Seminary and professor of Church music and dean of the chapel at Westminster Choir College, also in Princeton, New Jersey, Routley was a highly influential 20th century church musician and hymnist.

Dr. Michael Denham, Director of Music Ministries

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

# **Summer Schedule**

## June 18

Worship: 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

The summer schedule begins next Sunday and runs through Labor Day:

8:30 A.M.: Worship in Jones Hall 9:30 A.M.: Sunday school for all ages

10:45 A.M.: Worship in the Sanctuary

# Floral Workshop

Saturday, June 17, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Learn about the art of floral design in this interactive workshop, "The Language of Grace and Beauty Spoken in Flowers." A \$25 fee will cover materials and lunch. Please register in the Court of Flags, or contact Nora Szeto at noraszeto@hotmail.com.

## Adult Sunday School Plenary: Daniel Dreisbach

Sunday June 18, 9:30 a.m., Stone Hall "The Bible and the Founders: How Scripture Shaped American Democracy"

Daniel Dreisbach is a Professor in the Department of Justice, Law & Criminology at American University. Copies of his latest book, *Reading the Bible with the Founding Fathers* will be available for purchase.

#### **PRAYERS**

We pray for:
Betty Chambers Doris Watson

We pray for our missionaries, including: **Peggy McCracken,** serving at the Christian Embassy in D.C. Missionary prayer calendars are available in the information racks.

How can we pray for you? nationalpres.org/prayer

## Adult Fellowship Luncheon Monday, June 19, Noon, Stone Hall

The Outreach Singers of the Washington Chorus will close out our luncheon program for the summer with great music and fellowship. *Sign up today under the tents on the terrace or call 202.537.7529.* 

# Vacation Bible School: "Rome" July 10-14, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Vacation Bible School (for children age 4–rising 5th grade) is a week packed full of faith and fun, with service projects, games, crafts, music, and Bible stories. Registration closes today at midnight. *Register at nationalpres.org/vbs.* 

## Join the A/V Team

Bring the Gospel to others through video and audio production. Our volunteers span all ages, and training is provided!

Contact: Bill McNett, BMcNett@

NationalPres.org or 202.537.7576.

## **NPC Online**

NPC Online has been updated! It's easy and secure to update your contact information, view your giving statement, and search the password-protected congregational directory. To access NPC Online, go to www.nationalpres.org, click "NPC Online" at the top or bottom of the page, and then click "Sign Up."

# Online Giving in Summer

Set up your giving to keep going through the summer!

- Go to www.nationalpres.org/giving and click "Make a Gift" OR
- Text the letters NPC to 77977 and follow the prompts

Questions? Contact the finance office at 202.537.7495 or MSmith@NationalPres.org

