











Welcome to National Presbyterian Church

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

> **CHRISTMAS EVE** FAMILY NATIVITY SERVICE 5 P.M.

"...and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." Matthew 1:23

Associate Pastors Dr. Quinn Fox, Rev. Donna Marsh, Rev. Evangeline Taylor Parish Associate Dr. Nancy Fox

Senior Pastor Dr. David Renwick

Music Dr. Michael Denham (Director), William Neil (Organist) Hilda Labrada Gore (Contemporary Music Leader) Ministry Directors J. Theodore Anderson (Library, Archives, & Older Adults)

Kristin Franke (Youth), Cate McCrory (Children) Leslie Saum (Connections), John Marienau Turpin (Serve) We are delighted that you have joined us to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ this Christmas Eve.

Please join us for worship next Sunday, December 31:

11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

You are welcome every Sunday!

Full schedule resumes on January 7:

Worship: 9:00, 10:50, 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School for all ages: 9:30-10:30 a.m.















CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY

5 P.M.

Please move to center of pews to allow for maximum seating.

Story of the Birth of Our Savior

Prelude Noel in D Major Louis Claude Daquin William Neil, organ

Welcome Dr. Quinn Fox

Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Register.

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: When the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son,

born of a woman, born under the law.

All: Born to redeem those that were under the law so that we might receive adoption as children of God.

Galatians 4:4-5

▲ Congregational Hymn O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fideles

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,

Jesus, to thee be all glory given;

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Norment Family

Isaiah Foretells the Coming of Christ

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

THE PROPHECY

Angels Visit Mary and Joseph

Gabriel to Mary

Angel to Joseph

Mary and Joseph Travel to Bethlehem

A Baby Will Come

Bill Wolf Molly Moore

The Birth of Jesus

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN please remain seated

O Little Town of Bethlehem

St. Louis

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.

Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!

So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.

No ear may hear His coming but in this world of sin,

where meek souls will receive Him still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray!

Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell.

O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Angels Visit the Shepherds

Angel to Shepherds

HEAVENIV HOST

Choirs

Angels We Have Heard on High

Grace Notes Choir

Gloria

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Glo----ria in excelsis Deo; Glo----ria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?
Glo----ria in excelsis Deo; Glo----ria in excelsis Deo.

The Friendly Beasts

Joyful Noisemakers

Jesus our brother, kind and good was humbly born in a stable rude.

And the friendly beasts around Him stood. Jesus our brother, kind and good.

"I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown, "I carried His mother up hill and down; I carried her safely to Bethlehem town.""I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown.

"I," said the cow, all white and red"I gave Him my manger for a bed; I gave Him my hay to pillow His head.""I," said the cow, all white and red.

"I," said the sheep with curly horn, "I gave Him my wool for His blanket warm; He wore my coat on Christmas morn." "I," said the sheep with curly horn.

"I," said the dove from the rafters high, "Cooed Him to sleep that He should not cry; We cooed Him to sleep, my mate and I." "I," said the dove from the rafters high.

"I," said the camel, yellow and black, "Over the desert, upon my back,
I brought Him a gift in the Wise Men's pack." "I," said the camel, yellow and black.

Thus every beast by some good spell in the stable dark was glad to tell Of the gift he gave Emmanuel, the gift he gave Emmanuel.

Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow

Joyful Noisemakers

There's a star in the east on Christmas morn,

Rise up, shepherd, and follow, it will lead you to the place

Where the Christ was born, rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Follow, follow, rise up shepherd, and follow, follow the star of Bethlehem, rise up, shepherd, and follow.

If you take good heed to angel's words,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow, you'll forget your flocks,
You'll forget your herds, rise up, shepherd and follow.
Follow, follow, rise up shepherd, and follow, follow the star of Bethlehem, rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Congregational Hymn please remain seated

The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay keeping their sheep on a cold winter's night that was so deep. *Noel, noel, noel, noel, born is the king of Israel!*

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light and so it continued both day and night
Noel, noel, noel, noel, born is the king of Israel! (repeat)

Three Wise Men Follow the Star

ARRIVAL OF THE WISE MEN

HEROD QUESTIONS PRIEST AND WISE MEN

Wise Men Find Jesus

HYMN We Three Kings Three Kings of Orient

Solo: The Kings, three verses

Congregation: Joins in the final refrain

O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

We Present Our Gifts

Invitation to Share Our Gifts

Dr. Quinn Fox

Like the magi, we present our own gifts. Your gifts support the ministries and mission of NPC.

Offertory

Ding Dong Merrily on High

NPC Youth Choir

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Antioch

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her king!

Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,

and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and heaven and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Blessing and Invitation to The Manger

Dr. Quinn Fox

Postlude

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

God Rest You Merry

Contemporary Worship Band

▲ = Congregation standing as able

CAST

Narrators

Glenn and Katherine Schmitt

Isaiah

Michael Denham

Holy Family

Dana and Kelsey Granville with

Claire Granville

Angel to Mary

Molly Moore

Angel to Joseph

Isabelle Rakow

Angel to Shepherds

Felicia Bailey

Sophie Wagner

Wise Men

Will Muoio (Myrrh)

Allyn Abbott (Frankincense)

Charlie Thompson (Gold)

King Herod

Josh Dickey

Priest

Peter Crumley

Shepherds

Joyful Noisemakers Choir

Heavenly Host

Grace Notes Choir

CHOIRS

Grace Notes (Grades K-1st)

Anabel Bailey, Leah Bailey, Nyla Ann Gawel, Eli Hafemeister, Anna Kendall, Caroline Lenhard, Charlie Pippert, Winnie Pippert, Celia Schestopol, Bryan Sherrard, Mary Kate Saltzman, Samantha

Saltzman, Sofiya Wynnycky, Christina Yale, Marissa Yale

Helpers: Susan Kozel, Katherine Pippert,

Marissa Murphy

Youth Choir (Grades 6-12)

Felicia Bailey, Peter Crumley, Thomas Crumley, Caroline Dickey, Susannah Gordon, Lauren Levinson, Samantha

McNett

Joyful Noisemakers (Grades 2-5)

Grace Hafemeister, Maggie Kendall, Isabella Iordache, Jamie Levinson, Sasha May, Daniel Piho, Bram Schestopol, Eli Schmitt, Christopher Sweeney, Carter Sweeney

Helpers: Darci Vetter, Nancy Piho, Ann May

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Choir Directors

Joanna Jones (Youth Choir)

Mandy Brown (Joyful Noisemakers)

Dede Sweeney (Grace Notes)

Pianist

Joanna Jones

Contemporary Worship Band

David Bridgeman (piano)

Hilda Labrada Gore (vocals/guitar)

Karen Greisdorf (vocals)

Ben Holman (guitar)

Mitchell Moore (percussion)

David Thompson (vocals)

Butch White (bass guitar)

Organ

William Neil

Advent Wreath Family

Mary Elisa and Clarence Norment with Elena, Charlotte, and Clarence Norment Rehearsal Director

Cate McCrory

Costumes

Gerri Hall Nickels

Audio and Lighting

Bill McNett and team

Livestream Operator

Robert Payne

Pastor

Dr. Quinn Fox

Set

Bill McNett and ABLE staff

Set Decorator

Amy Thompson

Head Usher

Walter Hampton

Room Reservations

Kristi Teems

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parent Gatherings: Milestones in Life and Worship

Sundays in January, 10–10:30 a.m. Elson Parlor

Join other parents for coffee, conversation, and a brief study.

- Jan. 7: "Talking to our Children about God's Gift of Sexuality," Kristin Franke
- Jan. 14: "The Bible," Magruder Dent
- Jan. 21: "Communion," Alison Dickey
- Jan. 28: "The Reformation," Betty Elliott

Last Minute Gifts that Change the World

Our annual **Mission Gifts for Christmas** program provides the opportunity to give to charities in honor of a friend, family member, teacher, or coworker. **Shop online** through Dec. 31: nationalpres.org/mission-gifts

Men's Breakfast Saturday, Jan. 6, 8–9:30 a.m. Stone Hall

Enjoy a hearty breakfast and a presentation by Dr. Quinn Fox on the theme "Becoming What We Love." Reserve your place: Men@NationalPres.org or call 202.537,7527.

"January Term" Classes for Adults

Sundays, Jan. 7-28, 9:30 a.m.

Three week courses will take place in January, with a closing plenary session with Karen Wright Marsh. *Class descriptions are available at nationalpres.org/adults*

Make Sandwiches for the Homeless

Sunday, Jan. 14, Stone Hall

All ages can help feed the hungry in our city by making sandwiches for the homeless.

Parenting Seminar with Mark DeVries, Ministry Architects

Saturday, January 27, Jones Hall 5–6 p.m. (talk), 6–7 p.m. (dinner)

Drawing on the imagery of an athletic event where the crowd can influence the outcome of the game, Mark DeVries' "Stacking the Stands" seminar will provide parents an opportunity to learn the power of weaving a web of life-giving, intergenerational relationships for their children. Parents will walk away from this seminar equipped with the tools and community to "stack the stands" for their children. *RSVP: nationalpres.org/parents*

Pathway Membership Class Saturday, Jan. 27, 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Learn more about the Christian faith, discipleship, and membership at NPC, and spend time with pastors and church leaders. Contact Kemet Rakiatu by Jan. 17 to register: krakiatu@nationalpres.org, 202.537.7578.

Prepare for Marriage Course Saturday, March 3, 8:45 a.m.-3 p.m.

Preparing for a marriage takes a lot more than planning a wedding. Learn the skills you need to thrive in your marriage during this one-day course. This class is offered once per year and is required for all couples whose weddings will be held at NPC. Contact Kristi Teems to register: kteems@nationalpres.org; 202.537.7527.

Bible Reading for 2018

- Read the Bible's "Top 100" greatest passages in 20 weeks
- Read through the New Testament in a year
- Read through the entire Bible in a year Free reading guides and Bibles are available on the info table (to the right as you exit the Sanctuary) or online: nationalpres.org

2018 AT NATIONAL

Sundays at National are full of inspirational preaching and joyful traditional and contemporary music, Christian education classes for all ages and stages, and time to connect with one another. There are many ways we gather to deepen our relationship with Christ.

A sampling of events and programming for the upcoming year:

Sunday Classes for Adults, Youth, and Children resume January 7 Bible-based opportunities for spiritual growth for all ages and stages.

Youth

Middle and high school students gather regularly for fun games, meaningful conversation, and Bible study.

Vacation Bible School

A week long half-day Bible camp in July for kids age 4 through 5th grade. Each day includes Bible teaching, music, crafts, games and service projects.

Second Sunday Sandwich Making

A monthly family-friendly service project making sandwiches for the homeless in our city.

Summer Trips

High School and middle school students each travel to conferences with speakers, worship, and plenty of fun. An intergenerational mission trip travels to the Dominican Republic to serve alongside churches and orphanages.

Great Day of Service and 50 Hour Challenge

A day of service with family-friendly, hands-on service projects here at NPC and in the surrounding community as part of our "50 Hour Challenge," encouraging everyone in the congregation serve 50 hours this year.

Care and Support

Those going through a difficult time can receive a listening ear, prayer, and sustained spiritual support in times of transition or grief.

Small Groups

Groups gather throughout the week for Bible study, book discussion, prayer, support, and time with each other.

New Sermon Series beginning January 7: Roots of the Church

Dr. Renwick will lead us in an exploration of the Book of Acts.

Learn more at www.nationalpres.org



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