



September 2, 2018

# Welcome to NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

COMMUNION

*Our ancestors...all passed through the Red Sea...and all drank  
the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock  
that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Now these things  
occurred as examples for us.*

I Corinthians 10:1, 3, 6

Senior Pastor	Dr. David Renwick
Associate Pastors	Dr. Quinn Fox, Rev. Donna Marsh, Dr. Joyce Emery
Parish Associate	Dr. Nancy Fox
Music	Dr. Michael Denham ( <i>Director</i> ), Todd Fickley ( <i>Organist</i> ) Joanna Jones ( <i>Interim Contemporary Music Leader</i> )
Ministry Directors	J. Theodore Anderson ( <i>Library, Archives, &amp; Older Adults</i> ) Kristin Franke ( <i>Youth</i> ), Cate McCrory ( <i>Children</i> ) Leslie Saum ( <i>Connections</i> ), John Marienau Turpin ( <i>Serve</i> )

# TODAY AT NATIONAL

## "The Story" Celebrations *After worship*

We are part of God's story—and what a joy it is that God knows us each by name in his story! After worship today, come get to know others in the church by name, share in a light brunch on the terrace, and meet characters from the Bible. When you see the Bible characters, say hello and ask them some questions! Children can win special prizes by guessing who they are.

## Pick Up a Copy of "The Story" 11:00–12:30 p.m., Court of Flags

Sign up to participate in "The Story" programming this fall and pick up your book today in the Court of Flags.

## Today's Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God by God in celebration of the life of Ruth McKelvie and her contributions to the NPC family.

# SERMON NOTES

## NOTES

1. Our family stories shape our identity, giving us a sense of “who we are.”
2. Each nation has a history—family stories that shape our identity as a people. We need to be aware of the stories we tell, or (because they may be uncomfortable) “forget” to tell.
3. The Bible assumes that the story of Israel, Jesus, and the early Church is “our family as the Christian family”—and that this story is God’s gift to shape our sense of who we are – no matter what family or nation we belong to.

## BOOKS TO FOLLOW UP

### Bible

1. Achtemeier, Paul J. Canon, *Inspiration and Authority*, 1980/99
2. Barton, John. *How The Bible Came to Be*, 1997
3. Bruce, F.F. *The New Testament. Documents: Are They Reliable?* 1943/81
4. Keller, Timothy. *The Reason for God*, Timothy Keller, 2008

### The Importance of Stories

1. Puchner, Martin. *The Written Word: The Power of Stories to Shape People, History, Civilization*. Random House, 2017
2. Coles, Robert. *The Call of Stories: Teaching and the Moral Imagination*. Houghton Mifflin, 1989.

## PRESBYTERIANS AND THE BIBLE

### Presbyterian Constitutional Vow:

*“I accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be by the Spirit the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ and God’s word to me.”*

### Confession of 1967:

The Bible is to be interpreted in the light **of its witness to God’s work of reconciliation in Christ.**

The Scriptures, given under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, are nevertheless the words of men, conditioned by the language, thought forms, and literary fashions of the places and times at which they were written. They reflect views of life, history, and the cosmos which were then current.

The church, therefore, has an obligation to approach the Scriptures with literary and historical understanding. As God has spoken his word in diverse cultural situations, the church is confident that he will continue to speak through the Scriptures in a changing world and in every form of human culture.

# 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP

*Sanctuary*

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## WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Deep River

Gerald Near  
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Joyce Emery

▲ HYMN 487

When Morning Gilds the Skies

*Laudes Domini*

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

CHORAL RESPONSE

F. W. Hawkins

Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us in this hour.  
Let the presence of the Holy Spirit now abide with us in pow'r.  
Our Father, hear now our prayer. O hear us! Hear now our prayer.

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Almighty and merciful God, fountain of all goodness,  
you know the thoughts of our hearts.

We confess that we have sinned against you,  
and have done evil in your sight.

Wash us, we pray, from the stain of our sins,  
and give us grace to put away all hurtful things.

Deliver us from bondage to sin,  
that we may bring forth fruits of repentance,  
and at last enter into your promised joy;  
through the mercy of your blessed Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Alcuin of York, 732-804

SILENT CONFESSION AND MEDITATION

*Sung first by the Choir, then the Congregation as directed*

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Ken Medema



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news of the Gospel.  
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Gloria Patri

Glorify be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

# WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

## A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Cate McCrory

*Children K-2nd grade are now invited to a special program in the Chapel.  
Children will return to the Sanctuary before the end of the service.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. David Renwick

## SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 5:12-15; 24:17, 19, 22

Elder Dianne Tingley

The Word of the Lord. *Pew Bible pp. 143; 158*

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

Finding Your Part in the Big Story

Dr. David Renwick

# WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

## RESPONSE

I Love to Tell the Story

*Hankey*

### *Choir*

I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of God's eternal glory, of God's amazing love.

I love to tell the story, for some have never heard, the message of salvation from God's own holy Word.

### *Congregation*

*I love to tell the story, 'twill be our theme in glory,  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

## ▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Dr. Quinn Fox

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;

he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father

Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;

the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

## OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Deep River

Howard Helvey

Deep river, my home is over Jordan. Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.

O don't you want to go to that gospel feast, that Promised Land and Sabbath rest?

Deep river, my home is over Jordan. Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.

## THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Rev. Donna Marsh and

Invitation to the Table

Dr. Quinn Fox

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation

Arise, My Soul, Arise

Dan Forrest

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off thy guilty fears:

*Chodan*

The bleeding sacrifice in my behalf appears.

Before God's throne my surety stands;

My name is written on his hands.

Charles Wesley

## 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.

▲ HYMN 341

## Blessed Assurance

### Assurance

## ▲ BENEDICTION

▲ CHORAL AMEN

## ▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Rev. Donna Marsh

## ▲ POSTLUDE

“The people respond - Amen!”

Dan Locklair  
from *Rubrics*

▲ Congregation standing, as able

## CELEBRATE ON THE TERRACE

*Get to know others in the church by name, enjoy a light brunch,  
and meet characters from the Bible!*

**NEXT SUNDAY:** Fall Schedule Begins (See page 6)

## "The Story" in Worship

- **9:00 & 11:00 a.m.**  
Traditional Worship  
in the Sanctuary
- **11:00 a.m.**  
Contemporary  
Worship in Jones  
Hall (school gym)

## The Rest of "The Story"

- 10:00–10:45 a.m.

## "The Story" in Depth

- 9:30–10:45 a.m.

## "The Story" for Children and Youth

- 9:30–10:45 a.m.

# NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Our fall programming and worship schedule **begins next Sunday, September 9.**

We invite you to join in our church-wide movement to know and grow in God's word through a book called "The Story"—a chronological telling of the biblical material from Genesis to Revelation using selected scripture from the Bible.

If you haven't picked up your copy of "The Story" yet, please come to the Court of Flags after worship to register and pick up your book.

## Preaching "The Story"

*Sundays, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.*

Sermons will focus on themes from the week's chapter from "The Story."

- **9:00 and 11:00 a.m.:** Traditional worship in the Sanctuary.
- **11:00 a.m.:** Contemporary worship in Jones Hall (the school gym).

## Teaching "The Story"

### **The Rest of "The Story"**

*Sundays, 10:00–10:45 a.m., Stone Hall*

Explore how the Bible holds meaning in your life today during a weekly video summary and small group discussion.

### **"The Story" In Depth**

*Sundays, 9:30–10:45 a.m., Agencies Building Room 105*

Come for a deep dive into the context and content of "The Story" led by R.V. Seep.

### **"The Story" for Children and Youth**

*Sundays, 9:30–10:45 a.m.*

Children and youth are invited to their own age-appropriate programming for "The Story." Childcare is available for children age 4 and under.

- **Youth Kickoff BBQ:** *Sunday, September 9, 5:00–7:00 p.m.:* All youth (grades 6–12) and their families are invited to join together for a barbeque to meet each other, learn about the youth programs, and kickoff the new school year.

## More Ways to Engage "The Story"

- **Small Groups**

Find friendship, grow spiritually, be cared for and serve one another in a small group! Anyone can join a group; all ages and stages gather at different times and locations in the DC area—just let us know your preferences.

**SIGN UP:** [nationalpres.org/small-groups](http://nationalpres.org/small-groups)

- **Individual or family study**

Weekly reading guides with questions for reflection and activities for families are available at [nationalpres.org/thestory](http://nationalpres.org/thestory).

A year-long daily devotional, *The Story: 365 Devotionals*, is available for purchase at the church bookstore.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Congregational Meeting: Capital Campaign Celebration & Next Steps

**Sunday, September 16**

**12:00–1:00 p.m., Sanctuary**

All members are encouraged to attend a meeting of the congregation to:

- Celebrate our Capital Campaign achievements!
- Seek congregational approval for next steps in our Campaign Project.

Thanks to your generosity, we have much to celebrate as we **Build Together for the Next 50 Years.**

## Men's Breakfast

**Saturday, September 8**

**8–9:30 a.m., Stone Hall**

Enjoy a hearty breakfast and a presentation by Keith Patman on the theme “The Myth of the Comfort Zone.” *Reserve your place: [men@nationalpres.org](mailto:men@nationalpres.org) or call 202.537.7527.*

## Adult Fellowship Luncheon

**Monday, Sept. 17, Noon, Stone Hall**

Dr. Joyce Emery, Interim Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, will share her interesting life story in the program: “My Life and Ministry in the Service of God.” *Call 202.537.7529 for reservations.*

## Faith and Politics

**Thursday, September 20**

**7 p.m., Sanctuary**

E.J. Dionne, *Washington Post* columnist, and Pete Wehner, Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center and guest columnist for the *NY Times*—who write from different “sides of the aisle,” with similar Christian conviction—will share thoughts and insights about the important upcoming midterm elections. *Free and open to the public; no tickets required.*

## Pathway Membership Class

**Saturday, September 29**

**8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.**

Learn more about the Christian faith, discipleship, and membership at National, and spend time with pastors and church leaders. *Contact Kemet Rakiatu to register: [krakiatu@nationalpres.org](mailto:krakiatu@nationalpres.org), 202.537.7578.*

## Your Giving Makes a Difference

It is easy and secure to give online!

### Make a gift from your computer or tablet

- Go to [www.nationalpres.org/giving](http://www.nationalpres.org/giving) and click “Make a Gift.”
- Fill out the amount, frequency (one time or recurring), and designation of your gift. Direct withdrawals from your bank have the lowest fees charged to the church. However, you can also use any debit or credit card.

### Make a gift from your phone

- Text the letters NPC to 77977 and follow the prompts. Once you have set up your giving account, you may text 77977 at any time with the letters NPC, a space, and then a number reflecting the dollar amount of your gift (for example: text “NPC 100” to give \$100). OR:
- Download the *PushPay app* to your phone. To download the app, text the word Pushpay to 77977. You can add a pin for an additional layer of security.

## Military Ministry: Thank You!

Thanks to your generosity, we will be able to fill over 60 care packages for the caretakers of wounded veterans. The NPC Military Ministry will assemble the care packages and donate them to the Wounded Warriors Caregiver Appreciation event this fall. Thank you!

# WELCOME TO NATIONAL!

## "THE STORY" THIS WEEK

Together this week we will read Chapter 1 of "The Story."

### Sunday

Genesis 1 (pp. 1-3)

### Monday

Genesis 2 (pp. 3-4)

### Tuesday

Genesis 3 (pp. 5-7)

### Wednesday

Genesis 4 (p. 7)

### Thursday

Genesis 6-7 (pp. 8-10)

### Friday

Genesis 8 (pp. 10-11)

### Saturday

Genesis 9 (pp. 11-12)

### For reflection:

- What strikes you most about God's creativity in the first few chapters? How does this creativity reveal God's glory to you; in what ways does it make you feel close to God? What are the implications for your life of being created "very good" in God's image?
- What do you make of the unexplained presence of the snake in the garden? What is the snake's role in the choices Adam and Eve make? How do you understand the choices that are placed before you every day?
- What do you make of God's decision to "start over," to flood the world and "begin again" with the human race? How bad are things in our world; what might it mean for you to live like Noah amidst "corrupt and violent times?"

*We are so glad you are here today.*

**If you are with us for the first time, welcome!** Our prayer is that you will find a spiritual home here—a home where the love and presence of Jesus Christ are experienced as we gather in community to worship God.

**Connections Ambassadors, wearing blue badges, are here to welcome you** and answer any questions.

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

**Young Worshipers** | Pick up a "Worshiper in Training" bag outside the Sanctuary for fun things to help children engage in worship.

**Prayers after worship** | A pastor, elder or deacon, and Stephen Minister will be available to pray with you 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** | Flowers are available outside of Elson Parlor to take with you if you are visiting 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 five pews of the sanctuary.*

## PRAYERS

*We grieve the deaths of:*

**Robert Peterson** on August 25, 2018.

A memorial service for Robert will be held on Saturday, September 8 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

**Sarah Kenkel** on August 23, 2018.

**Ruth McKelvie** on August 21, 2018.

A memorial service for Ruth will be held on Saturday, September 15 at 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

**John Ahlquist** on August 21, 2018.



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