



December 16, 2018

Welcome to NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT



*No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no heart has imagined,
what God has prepared for those who love Him.*

1 Corinthians 2:9



Senior Pastor	Dr. David Renwick
Associate Pastors	Dr. Quinn Fox, Rev. Donna Marsh, Dr. Joyce Emery
Parish Associates	Dr. Nancy Fox, Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus
Music	Dr. Michael Denham (<i>Director</i>), Todd Fickley (<i>Organist</i>) Joanna Jones (<i>Contemporary Music Leader</i>)
Ministry Directors	J. Theodore Anderson (<i>Library, Archives, & 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

Youth Christmas Party

6-8 p.m.

Come for an ugly sweater contest, sandwich making buffet, and a white elephant gift exchange. *Contact Kristin for location and potluck details: kfranke@nationalpres.org.*

Christmas Decorations

The ornaments on the Chrismon tree in the Court of Flags represent over 100 symbols of Christ and the Christian life. Pick up a brochure in the Court of Flags to learn more!

Pecan and Fruitcake Sales

Purchase your Christmas pecans and fruitcakes at the bookstore today!

WEEKLY ON SUNDAYS

Sunday School

(No Sunday School Dec. 23 & 30)

Adults

9:30 a.m.: Shop Mission Gifts for Christmas in Stone Hall

10:00-10:45 a.m.: "The Story' in Isaiah," a special class led by Dr. Renwick in the Chapel (*overflow in the Parlor*)

Youth 9:30-10:45 a.m.

- Grade 6: *Multipurpose Room*
- Grade 7: *Youth House Basement*
- Grade 8: *Multipurpose Building Basement*
- Grades 9/10: *Youth House Main Room*
- Grades 11/12: *Youth House Game Room*

Children 9:30-10:45 a.m.

- Age 2-5th grade: Children may come directly from the 9 a.m. service or be dropped off at the school building. Pick up children in the school building.

Mission Gifts for Christmas

Shop all morning in Stone Hall

Come down to Stone Hall all morning to learn more about the mission organizations you can support with your giving, and to enjoy light refreshments. *Online shopping is open through December 31 at nationalpres.org/mission-gifts.*

Say "Yes" to Living Generously

Complete your 2018 commitment and make your 2019 commitment today!

You may make your commitment by:

- Placing your commitment card (available on the information table) in the offering plate
- Filling out your commitment securely online at www.nationalpres.org/giving

Nursery (Babies–Age 4)

8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

"Across the Aisle" Young Professionals

12:15 p.m., Church Room 110/111

All young professionals are invited for weekly lunch and conversation.

Today's Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God in loving memory of The Rev. Dr. Edward L. R. Elson (Dec. 23, 1906-1993) and Helen Chittick Elson (Jan. 19, 1915-2007), whose 27 year ministry to NPC was also a gift to their children, especially during the Christmas season, from their children: Eleanor (Heginbotham), Beverly, Mary Faith (Suarez), and David.

December Food Collection:

Canned Fruit

NEXT SUNDAY: DECEMBER 23

One service at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary; the Christmas story told for all ages!

9:00 A.M. WORSHIP

Sanctuary

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE Fantasia on "Greensleeves" Ralph Vaughan Williams
String Quartet

CHIMES AND CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Donna Marsh

▲ HYMN 41 O Come, All Ye Faithful *Adeste fideles*

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

As we bow in worship before you, Lord Jesus, we acknowledge that the door of our hearts is often closed to you. Too often we are ungrateful and disobedient: our eyes are closed to your horizons and our hearts gather rust. Forgive us, Lord. And pour your anointing oil on the hinges of our heart's door. Keep on knocking and turn the key, until the door within us, swings gently and easily open, and we welcome your coming.

Prayer adapted from the Church in New Guinea

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 OF PEACE Joel and Bethany Velasco
with Lucas and Jamie

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *see p. 5* Advent Affirmation

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Dr. David Renwick

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS A Spotless Rose Ethan McGrath

▲ 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 Dr. Joyce Emery

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES Dr. David Renwick
Hymn *see insert* Child in the Manger *Bunessan*

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 11:1-10 Craig Person
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Great Vision Dr. David Renwick
Isaiah 2:1-4

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

▲ HYMN 40 Joy to the World! *Antioch*

▲ BENEDICTION AND PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

▲ POSTLUDE I Saw Three Ships Richard Elliott

11:00 A.M. WORSHIP

Sanctuary

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE Fantasia on "Greensleeves" Ralph Vaughan Williams
String Quartet

CHIMES AND CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Donna Marsh

▲ HYMN 41 O Come, All Ye Faithful *Adeste fideles*

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE Barbara and Jim Bomkamp,
Dana and Kelsey Granville

CHORAL RESPONSE Awake, Arise, and Hail the Morn Mack Wilberg

Awake, arise, and hail the morn (*Hallelujah*), for unto us a Savior's born (*Hallelujah*);
See how the angels wing their way (*Hallelujah*) to usher in the glorious day (*Hallelujah*)!
To us a Child is come from heav'n (*Hallelujah*), to us the Son of God is giv'n (*Hallelujah*);
His name the Wonderful shall be (*Hallelujah*); his wonders heav'n and earth shall see (*Hallelujah*)!
Come, join the angels in the sky (*Hallelujah*); Glory to God who reigns on high (*Hallelujah*);
Let peace and love on earth abound (*Hallelujah*), while time unfolds and years roll 'round (*Hallelujah*)!
Hark! What sweet music, what a song (*Hallelujah*), sounds from the bright celestial throng (*Hallelujah*);
Sweet song whose melting sounds impart (*Hallelujah*) joy to each raptur'd list'ning heart (*Hallelujah*)!
Our faith in grateful triumph boast (*Hallelujah*), these wonders of the Lord of Hosts (*Hallelujah*);
And trust the zeal that form'd the plan (*Hallelujah*) to perfect what zeal began (*Hallelujah*)!

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

As we bow in worship before you, Lord Jesus,
we acknowledge that the door of our hearts is often closed to you.
Too often we are ungrateful and disobedient:
our eyes are closed to your horizons and our hearts gather rust.
Forgive us, Lord. And pour your anointing oil on the hinges of our heart's door.
Keep on knocking and turn the key, until the door within us, swings gently and easily open,
and we welcome your coming. Prayer adapted from the Church in New Guinea

SILENT CONFESSION AND CHORAL MEDITATION Polish Carol

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil 'til the morning new.
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
"Christ the Child is born for you! Christ the Child is born for you!" Infant holy, infant lowly.

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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES Dr. David Renwick
Hymn *see insert* Child in the Manger *Bunessan*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 11:1-10 Elder Laurie Denham
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Great Vision Dr. David Renwick
Isaiah 2:1-4

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

CHORAL RESPONSE

A Spotless Rose

Ethan McGrath

A spotless Rose is blowing, sprung from a tender root, of ancient seers' foreshowing, of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light, amid the cold, cold winter, and in the dark midnight. The Rose which I am singing,
whereof Isaiah said, is from its sweet root springing in Mary, purest Maid; for through our God' great love and
might the blessed Babe she bears us in a cold winter's night. *Alleluia.*

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

An Advent Affirmation

Dr. Joyce Emery

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

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS The Huron Carol

*Jesous Ahathonhia, Jesous Ahathonhia, * Gloria!*

Dan Forrest
French Canadian Melody

'Twas in the moon of wintertime, when all the birds had fled,
That mighty Gitchi Manitou** sent angel choirs instead;
Before their light the stars grew dim, and wand'ring hunters heard the hymn:
"Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis Gloria!"

Within a lodge of broken bark the tender babe was found,
A ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped his beauty round;
But as the hunter braves drew nigh, the angel song rang loud and high:
"Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis Gloria!"

The earliest moon of wintertime is not so round and fair
As was the ring of glory on the helpless infant there.
The chiefs from far before him knelt, with gifts of fur and beaver pelt:
"Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis Gloria!"

O children of the forest free, O sons of Manitou,
The Holy Child of earth and heav'n is born today for you.

Come kneel before the radiant boy who brings you beauty, peace and joy:

"Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria!"

Jesous Ahathonhia, Jesous Ahathonhia, Gloria!

Jean de Brébeuf, c. 1643
translated J.E. Middleton, 1926
* Huron "Jesus is born" ** Algonquin "Almighty God"

▲ 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 AND CHORAL RESPONSE

Craig Courtney

A maiden mother's tender care, a helpless, holy child:
Wonder of wonders sleeping there, midst shepherds all beguiled;
Resting in Mary's arms behold the Savior yet to be,
a peaceful sovereign we do all adore on bended knee.

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

▲ POSTLUDE

Rigaudon
I Saw Three Ships

André Camprà
Richard Elliott

11:00 A.M. WORSHIP

Jones Hall (School Gym)

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

▲ GATHERING Angels We Have Heard on High Traditional

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Quinn Fox

CALL TO WORSHIP

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE

Jonathan and Alison Dickey
with Josh, Caroline, and Lauren

▲ SONG OF PRAISE O Come All Ye Faithful Traditional

CONFESSION OF SIN

As we bow in worship before you, Lord Jesus, we acknowledge that the door of our hearts is often closed to you. Too often we are ungrateful and disobedient: our eyes are closed to your horizons and our hearts gather rust. Forgive us, Lord. And pour your anointing oil on the hinges of our heart's door. Keep on knocking and turn the key, until the door within us, swings gently and easily open, and we welcome your coming.

Prayer adapted from the Church in New Guinea

SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

▲ RESPONSE OF PRAISE Great Light of the World Bebo Norman

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SOLO

"Messiah"

Francesca Batistelli, sung by Kevin Rose

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SERMON

Candle Crèche and Carols

Dr. Quinn Fox

Joseph and Mary Journey to Bethlehem

Hymn 25, *verse 1* Away in A Manger

Angels and Shepherds Visit the Manger Hymn 31, *verse 1* Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Wise Men Follow the Star

Hymn 56, *verses 1 & 5* The First Nowell

The Sanctuary sermon will be on nationalpres.org/sermons this afternoon.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH An Advent Affirmation Cate McCrory

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

CLOSING SONG *offering received*

Light of the Stable

Steve and Elizabeth Rhymer

▲ CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION (Extinguishing of Candles)

Dr. Quinn Fox

UPCOMING EVENTS

Adult Fellowship Christmas Luncheon

Monday, Dec. 17, Noon, Stone Hall

Sister/Doctor/Colonel Deidre Mary Byrne will share her extraordinary background of being a Roman Catholic nun, a surgeon, and an Army officer. She has served as a missionary surgeon responding to crises in Kenya, Sudan, Afghanistan, Haiti, and Iraq. *Call 202.537.7529 for reservations.*

Your December Giving Makes a Difference

Thank you! Because of your financial generosity, National continues to bear powerful witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ through:

- worship that comforts, inspires, and challenges;
- programs for all ages that help us to love God with our minds and that keep us growing in faith;
- pastoral care that is always present in times of illness, difficulty, or grief; and
- service to those in our city in need of food, shelter, and support, and to those in the world who need to know Christ.

Make a gift from your computer or tablet

- Go to www.nationalpres.org/giving and click "Make a Gift."

Make a gift from your phone

- Text the letters NPC to 77977 and follow the prompts.

Submit Christmas Floral Dedications

Honor a loved one while beautifying our church through a floral dedication! Donations may be made payable to "NPC Flower Ministry." *Envelopes for donations are at the information table.*

Worship in Advent

- **Next Sunday, December 23**

The Christmas story told for all ages in one worship service at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

- **Sunday, December 30**

Dr. Quinn Fox will preach at one worship service at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Christmas Eve at National

- **5:00 p.m. // Family Nativity Service**

Kids, teens, and adults bring the Bible's nativity story to life in this music-filled narrated reenactment. Families of all ages are invited!

Childcare is also available during the service for children age 4 and under.

- **8:00 p.m. // Candlelight & Communion Worship**

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

- **10:00 p.m. // Candlelight Worship**

This beautiful evening candlelight service reverently ushers in Jesus' birth.

Service of Wholeness and Healing with Thanksgiving

**Sunday, Jan. 6, Service: 1 p.m., Chapel
Light lunch: 12:15 p.m., Chapel Narthex**

Come and praise God for many answers to prayer as the new year begins. Testimonies will be shared and we will pray for others in need. The Revs. Dr. Nancy Fox and Dr. Joyce Emery will co-preside.

Pathway Membership Class

Saturday, Jan. 19, 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 to register: krakiatu@nationalpres.org, 202.537.7578.*

WELCOME TO NATIONAL!

ADVENT READING GUIDE

*Preparing for the fourth
week of Advent.*

Sunday

Isaiah 11:1-9
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 3:16-21

Monday

Isaiah 11:10-16
Revelation 20:1-10
John 5:30-47

Tuesday

Isaiah 28:9-22
Revelation 20:11-21:8
Luke 1:5-25

Wednesday

Isaiah 29:9-24
Revelation 21:9-21
Luke 1:26-38

Thursday

Isaiah 31:1-9
Revelation 21:22-22:5
Luke 1:26-38

Friday

Isaiah 33:17-22
Revelation 22:6-11, 18-20
Luke 1:57-66

Saturday

Isaiah 35:1-10
Revelation 22:12-17, 21
Luke 1:67-80

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. If you are a college student, welcome! We would love to be your church home.

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.

Young Worshipers | Pick up a "Worshiper in Training" bag outside the Sanctuary for fun things to help children engage in worship. Please return the bags after the service.

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 pray for:

For all those who have been affected by natural disasters and are now preparing for Christmas.

We pray for our mission partners including:

The International Justice Mission, a global Christian human rights mission seeking to prove that with God's help, the poor can get justice.

How can we pray for you?

nationalpres.org/prayer



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



/nationalpres



@nationalpres