

December 24, 2018

# Welcome to NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

CHRISTMAS EVE  
CANDLELIGHT & COMMUNION  
8 P.M.

*The Word became flesh and lived among us.*

John 1:14

*They shall name him Emmanuel,  
which means "God is with us."*

Matthew 1:23

Senior Pastor Dr. David Renwick  
Associate Pastors Dr. Quinn Fox, Rev. Donna Marsh, Dr. Joyce Emery  
Parish Associate Dr. Nancy Fox, Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus  
Music Dr. Michael Denham (*Director*), Todd Fickley (*Organist*)  
Joanna Jones (*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 30:  
11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

You are welcome every Sunday!

*Full schedule resumes on January 6:*

Worship: 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. (Sanctuary), 11:00 a.m. (Jones Hall)  
Sunday School for all ages: 9:30–10:45 a.m.



# WORSHIP

8 P.M.

## WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Fantasia on Adeste Fideles

Bruce Neswick  
Todd Fickley, organ

CHRISTMAS CHIMES AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. David Renwick

▲ 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!*  
Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!  
*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

Paul Waymack with John Henry and Stuart

CHORAL INTROIT

Now Is Born

Roger Wagner  
French Carol

*Now is born, the divine Christ Child. Play the musette, play the tuneful oboes!*  
*Now is born, the divine Christ Child. Let all sing and rejoice this day!*  
Ages long since are past and gone when the prophets foretold his coming.  
Ages long since are past and gone. Noël, Noël then let us sing!  
He was born in a stable bare. On bed of straw now he sleeps so soundly.  
He was born in a stable bare. Bow in homage to him there.

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Dr. Joyce Emery

Gracious and merciful God,  
We remember how your Son quietly entered human history  
on that first Christmas Eve.  
We come before you in wonder, adoration, and humble repentance.  
We are your children, but in need of your healing touch.  
Forgive our sins and cleanse us, we humbly pray.  
Capture our hearts and minds with the quiet splendor,  
that transformed a manger into heaven's throne.  
Were the manger a thousand times more fair,  
it would still be too poor a cradle for you, dear Jesus.  
Holy Child, make for yourself a place within our hearts,  
that each of us may keep for you a quiet, holy chamber.

Martin Luther

## 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;  
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today!  
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

### WELCOME

Dr. David Renwick

*Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Register.*

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### SCRIPTURE

John 1:1-14

Mitchell Moore

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

### SERMON

One of Us

Dr. David Renwick

Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

### ▲ HYMN 23

Angels We Have Heard on High

*Gloria*

### ▲ A CHRISTMAS 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.

### OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Glory to God in the Highest

G. B. Pergolesi

Glory to god in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

with Adel Sanchez, trumpet

### THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Rev. Donna Marsh

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation

Still, Still, Still

Norman Luboff

Still, still, still! One can hear the falling snow.

*Austrian Carol*

For all is hushed, the world is sleeping, Holy Star is vigil keeping.

with Heather Green, violin

Sleep, sleep, sleep, 'tis the eve of our Savior's birth.

The night is peaceful all around you; close your eyes, let sleep surround you.

Pray, pray, pray for the joyous day to come,

While shepherds and wise men in number see the Christ child as he slumbers. Alleluia!

PRAYER OF RESPONSE 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.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

Dr. David Renwick

*We invite everyone to join in lighting Christmas candles.*

Choir members will assist the congregation in lighting.

Please light the candle of the person closest to you, sharing the candlelight along the entire pew.

Holding the lighted candle upright will keep it from dripping.

HYMN

Silent Night

*Stille Nacht*

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright

Round yon virgin mother and child! Holy infant, so tender and mild,

Sleep in heavenly peace! Sleep in heavenly peace!

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight.

Glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, "Alleluia!

Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!"

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light

Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light.

With the angels let us sing "Alleluia" to our King.

Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

*At the conclusion of the hymn, please extinguish your candle.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Improvisation on "Stille Nacht"

Todd Fickley

▲ = *Congregation standing as able*

*The flowers throughout the church are given to the glory and praise of God by the members and friends of the National Presbyterian Church rejoicing in the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

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## “Faithful Families” Parenting Seminar

**Saturday, January 12, Stone Hall  
5–6 p.m. (talk), 6–7 p.m. (dinner)**

For most families, life is moving at breakneck speed. It is no surprise that most parents are finding it difficult to build a rhythm for spiritual conversations and practices into their families. Guest speaker **Rev. Mark DeVries**, founder of Ministry Architects, will offer a fresh and reasonable approach to building faithful families in a frantic world. *Childcare is available with RSVP by Jan. 5: [nationalpres.org/parents](http://nationalpres.org/parents).*

## Author Talk: “The Self-Driven Child”

**Tues., Jan. 15, 6:30 p.m., Jones Hall**

Bill Stixrud and Ned Johnson will lead a lively discussion of “The Self-Driven Child” and share tips to help children develop brains that are wired for resiliency and ready to take on new challenges. *This symposium is hosted by National Presbyterian School and more information may be found on [nps-dc.org](http://nps-dc.org).*

## Men’s Breakfast

**Sat., Jan. 5, 8–9:30 a.m., Stone Hall**

Enjoy a hearty breakfast and a presentation by Derek Hoffman on the theme “Foreign Service, Kingdom Service.” *Reserve your place: [men@nationalpres.org](mailto:men@nationalpres.org) or call 202.537.7527.*

## Service of Wholeness and Healing with Thanksgiving

**Sunday, January 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.

## Read “The Story” in 2019

Our preaching and teaching through June 2019 focuses on “The Story,” a condensed chronological Bible that equips all ages to better know and grow in God’s Word. We will continue reading “The Story” in January 2019 with chapter 13, but it is not too late to join in! *Learn more and catch up with “The Story” with summary videos and readings: [nationalpres.org/thestory](http://nationalpres.org/thestory).*

## Make Sandwiches for the Homeless

**Sunday, January 13, Stone Hall**

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

## Pathway Membership Class

**Saturday, January 19**

**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 by Jan. 17 to register: [krakiatu@nationalpres.org](mailto:krakiatu@nationalpres.org), 202.537.7578.*

## Prepare for Marriage Course

**Saturday, March 9, 8:45 a.m.–3 p.m.**

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 National. *Contact Kristi Teems to register: [kteems@nationalpres.org](mailto:kteems@nationalpres.org); 202.537.7527.*

## Mission Gifts for Christmas

Mission Gifts for Christmas gives you 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](http://nationalpres.org/mission-gifts)**

# 2019 AT NATIONAL

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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:

## **“The Story” for Adults, Youth, and Children resumes January 6**

Know and grow in God’s word through preaching and Sunday School opportunities following a chapter from “The Story” each week.

## **Youth**

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

## **Vacation Bible School: Save the date for July 8–12th**

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.

## **Youth Summer Trips**

A high school mission trip will travel to the Dominican Republic to serve alongside churches and orphanages. Middle school students will travel to The Great Escape conference with speakers, worship, and plenty of fun.

## **Great Day of Service**

A day of service with family-friendly, hands-on service projects here at National and in the surrounding community.

## **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.

## **Bible Reading Guides**

In addition to “The Story,” multiple guides to reading through the Bible may be found online at [nationalpres.org/Bible-guides](http://nationalpres.org/Bible-guides).

*Learn more at [www.nationalpres.org](http://www.nationalpres.org)*

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

ISAIAH 9:6

## PRAYERS

*We pray for:*

Those who are struggling with loss and loneliness.

*How can we pray for you?*

[nationalpres.org/prayer](http://nationalpres.org/prayer)



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