



**“WHERE EVERYBODY IS SOMEBODY,
AND JESUS IS LORD”**

The Third Sunday In Lent

March 23, 2025 10:00 a.m.

**Northeastern Presbyterian Church
2112 Varnum Street, NE, Washington, DC 20018
Telephone: (202) 526-1730 Fax: (202) 526-5900
Email: admin@nepc-dc.org; Website: <http://nepc-dc.org>.**

Direct office-202-526-1814

**Pastor At Church Wednesday Mornings and by Appointment
Pastor Mark Greiner Email: pastormfg@gmail.com Cell 301.310.5600**



Welcome to Northeastern Presbyterian Church

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE IN PRAISE AND PRAYER

+ Please stand if able

**THE CROSS IN THE SANCTUARY MARKS THE 40 DAYS OF LENT
AS WE PREPARE FOR EASTER**

PRELUDE

+ INTROIT

The Celestial Choir

+ INVOCATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

O God, you are our God;
**our souls thirst for you,
as in a dry and weary land
where there is no water.**

We have looked upon you in the sanctuary;
we have seen your power and glory.
Our lips will praise you as long as we live;
we lift up our hearts and call on your name.
Let us worship God!

+ OPENING HYMN - #280 (Hymnal)

"Amazing Grace"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God,
though you lovingly tend us,
we have not put forth the good fruits
of your Spirit.
Our consumption poisons the earth.
Our violence threatens our neighbors.
Our greed exploits the poor.
We must seem a waste of time,
but don't give up on us yet, O God.
In your power to abundantly pardon,
forgive us for the sake of Christ,
and imbue us with love, peace,
goodness, and faithfulness. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Incline your ear and listen,
so that you may live!
God makes with us an everlasting covenant,
the sure, steadfast love
known to Moses, David, and the ancestors
and revealed in Jesus upon the cross.
Trust in the good news.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

PASSING THE PEACE

(Unmuted devices and turn on cameras to greet one another in love)

One: May the peace of Christ be with you!
Many: And also, with you! **Peace be with you!**

ANTHEM SELECTION

The Celestial Choir

TIME WITH CHILDREN

THE OFFERING

Use your bank's online bill-paying options
Mail your check to the church
2112 Varnum St., NE
Washington, DC 20018

Go to nepc-dc.org
Click on Navigate, Donate or Cash App at the bottom of the page

+ THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!**

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER (Unison, adapted from Michael D. Bassano)

Beloved Jesus, teach us to live fully each day
From the deepest center of our being
To learn from everything and everyone
Most of all, to be grateful. Amen.

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 55:1-9

¹Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your earnings for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵Now you shall call nations that you do

not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found;

call upon him while he is near;

⁷ let the wicked forsake their way

and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,

nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth,

so are my ways higher than your ways

and my thoughts than your thoughts.

SERMONIC SELECTION

The Celestial Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elder Nachee Miller

O Lord of light and salvation,
let these words of Scripture
live not only in our mouths,
but in our hearts,
that we will embody your truth
and confess with our lives
that Jesus is Lord. **Amen.**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

¹I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not

put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰And do not complain as some of them did and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹²So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Elder Nachee Miller

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in Unison)

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SEEKING A CHURCH HOME?

+ CLOSING HYMN - Insert

"Rock of Ages"

WE GO FORTH AND SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

+ BENEDICTION "DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?"

by Jorge Mario Bergoglio

Fast from hurting words and say kind words
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
Fast from worries and have trust in God.
Fast from complaints, contemplate simplicity.
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
Fast from bitterness, fill your hearts with joy.
Fast from selfishness and be Compassionate.
Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
Fast from words; be silent and listen.

POSTLUDE

Lectionary: Isaiah 55:1-9 and Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9
Liturgist: Elder Jennifer Allen
Greeter: Elder Blossom Roach

ROCK OF AGES 559

Lead me to the rock that is higher than I; for You are my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy.

Psalm 61:2-3

1. Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, Let me
 2. Could my tears for ev - er flow, Could my
 3. While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When my

hide my - self in Thee; Let the wa - ter and the
 zeal no lan - guish know, These for sin could not a -
 eyes shall close in death, When I rise to worlds un -

blood, From Thy wound - ed side which flowed, Be of
 tone— Thou must save, and Thou a - lone: In my
 known And be - hold Thee on Thy throne, Rock of

sin the dou - ble cure, Save from wrath and make me pure.
 hand no price I bring, Sim - ply to Thy cross I cling.
 A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740-1778

Tune: TOPLADY, 77 77 77; Thomas Hastings, 1784-1872

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS – The Northeastern Church Adult Sunday School Class convenes Sundays at 9:00 a.m. via conference call. The focus for Spring 2025 Lessons is "Costly Sacrifices." You are cordially invited to join in on March 30th discussion "The Day of Atonement," Leviticus 16. Please dial **(267) 807-9601 Passcode 828-160-800** to participate in the lively conversations with church members.

NORTHEASTERN'S ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT will be held on Saturday, April 19th from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. There will be egg dyeing, crafts, cupcake decorating, and an Easter Egg Hunt with prizes! Invite your family and friends.

We are asking for donations to help with purchasing eggs, candy, etc. For monetary donations, please submit them no later than April 6th. All donations of pre-filled eggs, candy, etc. need to be at the church by April 13th. If you would like to help or manage a station, please contact Jennifer Allen at jennjie@hotmail.com.

Looking forward to a glorious day!

GET INVOLVED, PCUSA OFFICE OF PUBLIC WITNESS.

Sign up here for alerts to faithfully raise our voices in key state and national actions <https://www.votervoice.net/mobile/PCUSA/home>

NORTHEASTERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LITERARY CLUB **Book selections for 2025**

Literary Club - Please join us via Zoom at 1:30 pm for the following lively book discussions.

April 6th -- ***Grown Woman Talk: Your Guide to Getting and Staying Healthy***, By Sharon Malone, M.D.

May 4th ---***Madness: Race and Insanity in a Jim Crow Asylum***, by Antonia Hylton

June 1st --- ***Good Dirt: a Novel***, by Charmaine Wilkerson

PER CAPITA FOR 2025 is \$50.15.

REMEMBER THE SICK AND SHUT IN: The list printed in the bulletin will be updated each week to reflect additions and deletions. Reach out to our sick and shut in a safe way that lets them know they are in our hearts, minds, and prayers. Please contact the church office if you know the names of persons who should be added to the sick-and-shut-in list or if you have updates on anyone listed.

40 DAYS OF PRAYER WITH THE DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET started on Ash Wednesday, March 5, everyone is encouraged to join in, we will share.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Please join us via Zoom at 11:00AM Eastern Time for Tuesday Morning Bible Study. Join us for in-depth and interesting discussions as we learn from the Bible. Call the church office for the Zoom meeting information.

STATED CLERK AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOINS OTHER NATIONAL FAITH LEADERS IN PUBLIC SUPPORT OF SANCTUARY MOVEMENT

The Rev. Jihyun Oh says PC(USA) recommits to compassion, accompaniment, safety and full dignity for migrant and immigrant siblings

Full statement here: <https://pcusa.org/news-storytelling/news/stated-clerk-and-executive-director-joins-other-national-faith-leaders-public-support-sanctuary>

ZOOM MEETING ID: The **ZOOM MEETING ID** for our worship services is: Meeting ID: **857 3194 9016**; Passcode: **140816**

NORTHEASTERN'S "TOP FOUR GOALS"

results of the 2024 Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) Survey

1. Make necessary changes to attract families with children and youth to our church.
2. Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church.
3. Work to renew and revitalize the community around the church by building coalitions with partners that share this vision and commitment.
4. Develop ministries that work toward healing those broken by life circumstances.



Calling Northeastern Players!
Seeking 4 Actors
for a short funny skit
On Palm Sunday, 4/13
during worship service
If interested, please contact Cynthia Gervais

NORTHEASTERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

As we rely on God's guidance, the vision of Northeastern Presbyterian Church is to fulfill the command of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to promote Christian faith and practice through evangelism, outreach, compassion and fellowship to our congregation and the wider community.

We commit to:

- **Worship**
- **Witness**
- **Learn**
- **Grow**
- **Nurture**
- **Serve**



1975 **NORTHEASTERN** 2025
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

50th ANNIVERSARY

JAZZ CAFE

27 SUNDAY
APRIL 2025

4:00 • 7:00 p.m.



Featuring
**Joshua "Josh" Jenkins
& Friends**

*Emerson Borg, Trumpet • Tyson Femister, Bass
Kevin Kearney, Drums • Joshua Jenkins, Piano*

★ GREAT MUSIC

★ CASH MOCKTAIL BAR

★ PRICE INCLUDES FOOD

\$25

Contact church office at 202.526.1730 or
any 50th Anniversary committee member for ticket purchase

NORTHEASTERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2112 Varnum Street, NE
Washington, DC 20018
www.nepc.dc.org

**2025 LENTEN CALENDAR
NORTHEASTERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Forty Days of Prayer

(Ash Wednesday to Easter, March 5 - April 20)

Ash Wednesday - March 5

11 am - 1 pm Drive - by Prayers and Ashes
(church parking lot)

Begin 40 days of Prayer

"Service of Anointing and Healing – March 30

Sunday morning worship service
10:00 a.m.

Palm Sunday - April 13

How about a brief 4-minute play?

4 actors, minimal props, likely just one run through.

In the play, two of the Lord's disciples are sent to fetch the donkey that will carry Jesus into the city. The problem is, the donkeys refuse to be untied - in this case, from their worries. Themes: Surrender, Worldliness, Faithfulness, God's Purposes, Worry, Trust, Palm Sunday

Maundy Thursday - April 17

6pm - Soup Potluck in Auditorium
7pm - In person and online Holy Communion Service

Holy Saturday - April 19

Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Crafts (Time TBD)

Easter Sunday- April 20

10am - Worship and Flowering the Cross

11:30 am Fellowship Hour

Elder Gervais Invites You to Celebrate her One Year Kidney Transplant.

All are Welcome



OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS ARE WITH NORTHEASTERN MEMBERS & FAMILY:

"Heal me, Lord, and I will be healed; save me, and I will be saved, for You are my praise." ([Jeremiah 17:14](#))

Staff

Ministers
Pastor (Stated Supply)
Director, Chancel Choir/Organist
Director, Pianist, Celestial Choir
Director, Pianist, Youth/Cherub Choir
Administrative Assistant
Sexton
Assistant Sexton

All the people of the Church
Pastor Mark Greiner
Dr. Laddie Bell
Mr. Joshua Jenkins
Ms. Jennifer Allen
Ms. Kathy Cuff
Mr. Randall Timbers
Mr. Kyler Spencer

Ministries of Session

Budget & Fiscal
Buildings & Grounds
Christian Education
Interpretation & Stewardship
Personnel
Worship & Music
Technology Committee
Nominating
Clerk of Session
President of Corporation
Social Concerns & Outreach

Elders

Pamela Gessesse
James Haggins/Co-chair: Charles Barber
Jennifer Allen
Cherie Becton
Charles Barber/Co-chair: James Haggins
Angela Hemphill
Shawn Thomas
Angela Hemphill
Valerie McCray
Charles Barber
Shawn Thomas/ Co-chair Patricia Young

DEACONS

Glen Grier
Valencia Hawkins
Katrin Jones, Moderator
Brenda Kuznof
Bishetta Merritt, Vice Moderator
Blossom Roach
Amanda Sargent
Penny Thomas
Randall Timbers
Charles Webb

SENIOR USHERS

1st, 4th Shirley Wilson – President, Wilhelmina Davis, Brenda, Kuznof, Mary Allen, Ruby Webb

3rd, 5th Glynis Higgs, Pamela Gessesse, and Jordan Gessesse, Stephanie White

JUNIOR USHERS

2nd, Pamela Gessesse, Jordan Gessesse, Ava Kennedy, Cecil Nixon, Chidera Uduma
Priya Young