



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

Second Sunday in Lent / Black History Month
February 25, 2024 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-202-526-1730

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

PRELUDE

+ INTROIT

+ INVOCATION

+ LENTEN CALL TO WORSHIP

Today's word of Lent

is Mark 8:31-38. In some detail, Jesus predicts his death and resurrection. The disciples, especially Peter, aren't ready to hear this. Jesus tells them, saying "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." How have you prepared to follow Jesus, what tools do you have in your bag?

Let us worship God!

L: Welcome this day to the second step on our Lenten Journey.

P: We come with great hope and expectation as we walk the way of Christ.

L: Today's journey will demand much of us.

P: Lord, make us ready to offer ourselves to you.

L: Come, let us begin again the wondrous excursion.

P: Let us place our lives in God's abiding love. AMEN.

+ OPENING HYMN #192 (SOZ)

"We've Come This Far By Faith"

A PRAYER OF EMPOWERMENT (unison)

Most Loving and Merciful God,

In whose law we find our guidance, in whose love we find our healing and joy, and in whose will we find our peace, rule over our spirits in this hour that we will go from this worship with the freedom of those who trust you and need have no anxiety for themselves. Empower us, O God to be open to the seasons of life and give of our hearts Love generously to all in need. Grant us the silence of heart so that we can grow in your word.

As we go through this worship today and culminate what we call "Black History Month", help us to never forget our history and instill in us the willingness to share our history with our youth and others throughout the year.

Now Lord God, fill us with the solemnity of the faith of the great commission; but also provide us with the means and the will to stay in Loving and Joyous relationships with one another and the world. We ask a special blessing for our pastor who will bring the message by sharing historical reflections.

Lord, we praise and adore you and we thank you for the joy we have in worshiping you in spirit and in truth.

In your name we pray,

Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The Lord, is my strength and my defense; He has become my salvation." With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. Isaiah 12:2-3

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

PASSING THE PEACE

(Please warmly honor social distance.)
(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!

TIME WITH CHILDREN

ANTHEM SELECTION

BLACK HISTORY LITANY (unison)

Loving God, we thank you for calling us to you,
from all corners of the world, to come home to belong.
We appreciate your love that embraces all of us.
We thank you that we are all one in you.
We thank you for your faithfulness and justice.
When we were aliens and foreigners you welcomed us.
We thank you for calling us to your ministry,
to live and do your work with the mind of Christ.
Remind us that we are here to fulfill your calling to serve.
Help all we do be done for love.
During this year's Black History Month,
we want to draw closer to you
as we make a commitment
to go into the world as agents of your
justice, peace, and reconciliation.
Gracious God, we need your help. Amen
to do your work and fulfill this task you have given us.

We are proud to be part of the church that is serving you.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

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 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

Dearest Father, I offer these gifts to You as You have given me everything it is that I need.

You have provided me with a comfortable life with more than everything that I shall ever need. May these gifts be tools to fix every negativity we have in life – desperation, greed, prejudice. You, Father, are the provider of all things great. May these gifts we give to You be used only for good things.

Thank You, Father, for the teaching us how to be generous without expecting anything in return. Amen.

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

THE OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

I Samuel 17:23-51

²³As he talked with them, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines, and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him.

²⁴All the Israelites, when they saw the man, fled from him and were very much afraid. ²⁵The Israelites said, "Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel. The king will greatly enrich the man who kills him, and will give him his daughter and make his family free in Israel." ²⁶David said to the men who stood by him, "What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine, and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?" ²⁷The people answered him in the same way, "So shall it be done for the man who kills him."

²⁸His eldest brother Eliab heard him talking to the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David. He said, "Why have you come down? With whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your presumption and the evil of your heart; for you have come down just to see the battle." ²⁹David said, "What have I done now? It was only a question." ³⁰He turned away from him toward another and spoke in the same way; and the people answered him again as before.

³¹When the words that David spoke were heard, they repeated them before Saul; and he sent for him. ³²David said to Saul, "Let no one's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine." ³³Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are just a boy, and he has been a warrior from his youth." ³⁴But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father; and whenever a lion or a bear came, and took a lamb from the flock, ³⁵I went after it and struck it down, rescuing the lamb from its mouth; and if it turned against me, I would catch it by the jaw, strike it down, and kill it. ³⁶Your servant has killed both lions and bears; and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, since he has defied the armies of the living God." ³⁷David said, "The Lord, who saved me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, will save me from the hand of this Philistine." So Saul said to David, "Go, and may the Lord be with you!"

³⁸Saul clothed David with his armor; he put a bronze helmet on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail. ³⁹David strapped Saul's sword over the armor, and he tried in vain to walk, for he was not used to them. Then David said to Saul, "I cannot walk with these; for I am not used to them." So David removed them. ⁴⁰Then he took his staff in his hand, and chose five smooth stones from the wadi, and put them in his shepherd's bag, in the pouch; his sling was in his hand, and he drew near to the Philistine.

⁴¹The Philistine came on and drew near to David, with his shield-bearer in front of him. ⁴²When the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him, for he was only a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance. ⁴³The Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David

by his gods. ⁴⁴The Philistine said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the field." ⁴⁵But David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with sword and spear and javelin; but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. ⁴⁶This very day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head; and I will give the dead bodies of the Philistine army this very day to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the earth, so that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, ⁴⁷ and that all this assembly may know that the Lord does not save by sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's and he will give you into our hand."

⁴⁸ When the Philistine drew nearer to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. ⁴⁹ David put his hand in his bag, took out a stone, slung it, and struck the Philistine on his forehead; the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground.

⁵⁰ So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, striking down the Philistine and killing him; there was no sword in David's hand. ⁵¹ Then David ran and stood over the Philistine; he grasped his sword, drew it out of its sheath, and killed him; then he cut off his head with it. When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled.

SERMONIC SELECTION

Mrs. Amanda Sargent and Mrs. Thelma Jones

THE NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING:

Romans 12: 1-7

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. **2** Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by

the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God— what is good and acceptable and perfect.

3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. **4** For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, **5** so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. **6** We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; **7** ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; **8** the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Rev. Adriene Breckenridge

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in Unison)

Our Father which 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.

✚ CLOSING HYMN #32 (SOZ)

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”

WE GO FORTH AND SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

✚ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

FELLOWSHIP

Lectionary: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 and Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31 38
or Mark 9:2-9

Liturgist: Elder Angela Hemphill

Greeter: Elder Valerie McCray and Ava

Rev. Adriene G. Breckenridge



Rev. Adriene Breckenridge was born and raised in Tacoma, Washington and now resides in Baltimore MD.

She earned a Bachelor Degree in psychology from the University of Washington, a Masters of Divinity from Howard University, and Masters in Clinical Counseling from Johns Hopkins University where she also completed Post Masters Certificate in Organizational Counseling, Professional Communications and Human Centered Life Design.

Rev. Breckenridge has worked in higher education for over 35 years. She recently retired from The Johns Hopkins University, after serving as for 28 years of service as a Sr. Academic Advisor and Campus Minister. Rev. Breckenridge recently started working at Montgomery College in Silver Spring, as a Full-time Faculty Counselor.

Rev. Breckenridge started *AB Life Design Catalyst Coaching and Consulting* in October 2023. Through this work, Rev. Breckenridge guides small groups and individuals through a discovery process that includes activities helping them identify their spiritual gifts, strengths, values, and interests. Through this process clients discover and begin living out their purpose. Rev. Breckenridge also works with churches through a similar process of finding the spiritual gifts and skills within the congregation, while discovering ways in which the congregation can have a profound impact on the community through service.

Rev. Breckenridge is an Ordained Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. She is currently serving on the Ministerial Staff at the Empowerment Temple African Methodist Episcopal Church, in Baltimore City, where the Rev. Dr. Robert Richard Allen Turner is the pastor.

Rev. Breckenridge has been blessed with a son Mekai Sharpe Breckenridge, who is 20 years old and is the joy of her life.

Her moto is “Seek God, Know thy self and Live on Purpose”.

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 Winter 2023-24 Lessons is “Faith That Pleases God.” You are cordially invited to join in on February 25th discussion “Faith in God’s purpose.” Habakkuk 1:5-2:5. Please dial **(267) 807-960 Passcode 828-160-800** to participate in the lively conversations with church members.

CHURCH ENVELOPES are available in the Breezeway. Please pick-up as soon as possible.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: March 3 immediately following worship. The nominating committee will present Ethel Penny Thomas to be elected as a Deacon.

LITERARY BOOK CLUB - The Literary Club invites you to join our Zoom discussions of the following books at 1:30 pm on the following dates.

March 3rd -- **“They Got Daddy: One Family Reckoning with Racism and Faith”**, by Sharon Tubbs

April 7th --- **“The Girl With the Louding Voice”**: a Novel, by Abi Dare

PER CAPITA FOR 2024 is \$48.56.

PRAYING LIKE JESUS (THE PSALMS): BIBLE STUDY: This week we will be studying Psalm . Join us every Wednesday, 7 - 8 pm via zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89996811489?pwd=xksxVa008>

[PayAL61GACkx1rXN6hOgf.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89996811489?pwd=xksxVa008) Phone in: 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 899 9681 1489 Passcode: 867481

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 names of persons who should be added to the sick-and-shut-in list or if you have updates on anyone listed.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Tuesday Morning Bible Study sessions will be via Zoom at 11:00AM Eastern Time. Please join us for an interesting discussion. The Zoom meeting information is in the E-mail to the congregation, or you can call the church office or Ruby Webb for the Zoom ID and Passcode.

ZOOM MEETING ID: The **ZOOM MEETING ID** for our worship services is:
Meeting ID: **826 1188 5094**; Passcode: **728796**

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY : The Governor of North Carolina with
Mrs. Addie Hagans (*Elder Pamela Gessesse's mother*) celebrating Leaders in Public Education.



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**

OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS ARE WITH NORTHEASTERN MEMBERS & FAMILY:



REMEMBER OUR SICK & SHUT-IN

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



NORTHEASTERN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Celebrates

February
BIRTHDAYS

STAFF

Ministers

Pastor (Stated Supply)

Director, Chancel Choir/Organist

Director, Pianist, Celestial Choir

Director, Pianist, Youth/Cherub Choir

Administrative Assistant

Sexton

All the people of the church

Pastor Mark Greiner

Dr. Laddie Bell

Ms. Jennifer Allen

Kathy Cuff

Randall Timbers

Ministries of Session

Budget & Finance

Buildings & Grounds

Christian Education

Clerk of Session

Evangelism and Outreach

Interpretation & Stewardship

Personnel

Social Concerns & Peace-Making

Technology Committee

Nominating

Worship & Music

Elders

Clara Berryhill

Denise Hodges

Co-chair: Elder Pamela Gessesse

Jennifer Allen

Valerie McCray

Shawn Thomas

Cherie Becton

Angela Hemphill

Jennifer Allen

Co-chair: Cherie Becton

Shawn Thomas

Clara Berryhill

Angela Hemphill

DEACONS

Valencia Hawkins

Katrin Jones, Moderator

Bishetta Merritt, Vice Moderator

Blossom Roach

Amanda Sargent

TRUSTEES

Loretta Bowers

Nachee Miller

Theodore Powell

James Williams

Patricia Young

William Hymes, Jr.

Ernest Harris, President

SENIOR USHERS

1st, 4th Shirley Wilson – President, Wilhelmina Davis, Brenda, Kuznof, Mary Allen, Ruby Webb
2nd, 3rd, 5th Glynis Pegram-Higgs, Pam Gessesse, Jordan Gessesse

