



**"WHERE EVERYBODY IS SOMEBODY,  
AND JESUS IS LORD"  
50th Anniversary Celebration**

January 5, 2025 10:00 a.m.

**Northeastern Presbyterian Church**

2112 Varnum Street, NE, Washington, DC 20018

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**Direct office-202-526-5790**

**Pastor At Church Wednesday Afternoons and by Appointment**

Pastor Mark Greiner Email: [pastormfg@gmail.com](mailto: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**

**The Chancel Choir**

**+ INVOCATION**

**+ CALL TO WORSHIP (from Luke 1)**

**ONE** Praise be to the Lord!

From age unto age, God redeems God's people.

**ALL God brought us a mighty long way!**

**God opens the Way with us!**

**ONE** From generation to generation, God is faithful.

God redeems us from our enemies.

**ALL God brought us a mighty long way!**

**God opens the Way with us!**

**ONE** God's mercy was to our ancestors and is mercy to us.

**ALL God brought us a mighty long way!**

**God opens the Way with us!**

**ONE** By the tender mercy of our God,  
the rising sun comes to us from heaven  
to shine on those living in darkness,  
and those in the shadow of death,  
to guide our feet into the path of peace.

**ALL God brought us a mighty long way!**

**God opens the Way with us!**

## **+ OPENING HYMN #464 (Hymnal) "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"**

### **CALL TO PRAYER**

Let us pray...

### **UNISON PRAYER** (by Howard Thurman 1900-1981, adapted)

O Holy God,  
open unto us  
light for our shadows,  
courage for our fears,  
hope for our despair. *{...silent prayer...}*

O loving God,  
open unto us  
wisdom for our confusion,  
forgiveness for our sins,  
love for our hate. *{...silent prayer...}*

O God of peace,  
open unto us  
peace for our turmoil,  
joy for our sorrow,  
strength for our weakness. *{...silent prayer...}*

O generous God,  
open our hearts  
to receive all your gifts. *{...silent prayer...}*

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Jeremiah 29:11)**

**One** For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD,  
plans to prosper you and not to harm you,  
plans to give you hope and a future. In Jesus'  
redeeming mercy, we declare: God is good, all the time!

**All All the time, God is good! Amen!**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS**

### **PASSING THE PEACE**

***(Unmute 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!**

**A MOMENT IN HISTORY**

**Elder Shirley Logan**

**ANTHEM SELECTION**

**The Chancel 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](http://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!**

**+ CHURCH ANNIVERSARY THANKSGIVING**

(unison, adapted from the African Heritage Hymnal)

Holy God, we praise you as we celebrate You and the years of  
Christian fellowship you have given us.  
For such a time as this, you have called the church to be its best.  
For those who laid the foundations: we give thanks.  
For the rich inheritance of the church of Jesus Christ, we give thanks.  
For those who make common cause with us, we give thanks.  
For the emergence of the Church, solidified by shared suffering and  
deliverance, we give thanks.  
For the assurance of new opportunities to serve you better,  
We give thanks.  
Upon us ever more, Jesus, to follow You boldly.

May your kingdom come and your will be done in splendid, perfected fellowship. Continue to guide us in the future, as you have in the past. Glory, alleluia, Amen.

## **WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD**

**SERMONIC SELECTION**

**The Chancel Choir**

**THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READING**                      **Isaiah 43:18-19 (NIV)**

Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

**SERMON**

**"When God Does a New Thing"**

The Rev. Dr. Jerry Cannon

**THE APOSTLE'S CREED (unison)**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,

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

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

### **COMMUNION HYMN#20 (SOZ)**

**"It Is Well with my Soul"**



### **The Lord's Table INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

*All who seek Jesus are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also, with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Holy God, we praise you. Let the heavens be joyful, and the earth be glad.

We bless you for creating the whole world,  
for your promises to your people Israel,  
and for Jesus Christ in whom your fullness dwells.

Born of Mary, he shares our life.

**Eating with sinners, Jesus welcomes us.**

Guiding his children, he leads us.

**Visiting the sick, Jesus heals us.**

Dying on the cross, he saves us.

Risen from the dead, he gives new life.

**Living with you, Jesus prays for us.**

With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup and proclaim the death and resurrection of our Lord. Receive our sacrifice of praise.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
that this meal may be

a communion in the body and blood of our Lord. Make us one with Christ

and with all who share this feast.

Unite us in faith,

**encourage us with hope,**

inspire us to love,

**that we may serve as your faithful disciples  
until we feast at your table in glory.**

We praise you, eternal God,  
through Christ your Word made flesh,  
in the holy and life-giving Spirit,  
now and forever. Amen.

## **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Unison)**

Ever living, ever loving God, You draw us into Holy Mystery,  
To abide in You.

Holy Spirit, in sweet, sweet communion, You indwell us  
For life overflowing and abundant

Grant that we may go into the world

Trusting you ever renew all of us, your Church

To be Good News for all our neighbors.

Jesus, we rejoice in you: Alleluia, Amen.

## **+ CLOSING HYMN #192 (SOZ) "We've Come This Far By Faith"**

### **WE GO FORTH AND SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR**

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

## **FELLOWSHIP (Following worship in the Dorothy Harris Auditorium)**

**Lectionary:** Jeremiah 31:7-14 and Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians:1-14;  
John:1:(1-9) 10-18  
Luke 2:41-52

**Liturgist:** **Rev. Mark Greiner**

**Greeter:** **Mrs. Gloria Harris**



The Reverend Dr. Jerry L. Cannon serves as Vice President, Ministry Innovation at the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). His service began as the agency entered a season of rebuilding, and he is responsible for strengthening connections to ministries that represent the growing diversity of the denomination.

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Jerry leads and directs the Board's dues incentive programs, exploring solutions that will break new ground in the support of small churches and non-traditional ministries. He also manages the Board's relationship with churches and caucus groups, including the National Black Presbyterian Caucus, National Caucus of Korean Presbyterian Churches, and Hispanic/Latinx National Presbyterian Caucus.

A lifelong Presbyterian who has long been active in the national Church, Jerry served more than 30 years as pastor of C.N. Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church, a thriving congregation in Charlotte, North Carolina, and one of the largest Black congregations in the PC(USA). The congregation nearly tripled in size during his service and engaged in extensive community-based ministry and bridge-building.

Jerry has held several high-profile roles within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), including leadership within the African American Intercultural Congregational Support Office. He also served as President of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus and as a Minister of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion with the Presbyterian Foundation.

He is a former member of the Board of Pensions Board of Directors, serving on the Assistance and Pension committees, and currently serves as one of two Board representatives to the Diverse Voices Table of the PC(USA).

Jerry holds a Bachelor of Science in business administration from Virginia State University, a Master of Divinity from the Interdenominational Theological Center (Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary), and a Doctor of Ministry from the United Theological Seminary.



## **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 2024-25 Lessons is "A King Forever and Ever." You are cordially invited to join in on January 12<sup>th</sup> discussion "The Lord Is Robed in Majesty," Psalm 47:93. Please dial **(267) 807-9601 Passcode 828-160-800** to participate in the lively conversations with church members.

### **NORTHEASTERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LITERARY CLUB** **Book selections for 2024/2025**

January ---no Literary Club meeting

February 2nd ---*Dead Time*, by Eleanor Bland

March 2nd --*Never Saw Me Coming*, by Tanya Smith.

### **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>

**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.

**SIGN-UP SHEET:** Pecans: Plain- \$15.00 Light or Dark chocolate - \$20.00 are in the Narthex on the large bulletin Board.

**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.

**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.



Please fill out the information below and send it to

[NEPC50thAnniversarySteeringCommittee@groups.outlook.com](mailto:NEPC50thAnniversarySteeringCommittee@groups.outlook.com)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Glynis Pegram-Higgs or Jennifer Allen. We look forward to hearing from and working with you.

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Northeastern Presbyterian Church  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Volunteer Committee Card

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Select a committee to serve:

\_\_\_\_\_ Publicity    \_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising    \_\_\_\_\_ Events

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..

**WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT:** The 50th Anniversary committee is hard at work planning a wonderful year-long celebration for 2025. We have many exciting events planned for you to enjoy. To present these events, we will need a little help to defray the cost of some of the activities. To assist with this, we are setting up a loose-change jar in the Narthex. In it we will accept all donations of any loose change that you have in your pocket, in your car console or collecting dust on the dresser. You can donate to the jar once or as many times as you wish. Thank you so much Northeastern for your continued and valued support.

## **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:**



"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 & 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  
Brenda Kuznof  
Bishetta Merritt, Vice Moderator  
Blossom Roach  
Amanda Sargent  
Penny Thomas

## **TRUSTEES**

Loretta Bowers  
Nachee Miller  
Theodore Powell  
James Williams  
Patricia Young  
William Hymes, Jr.  
Ernest Harris, President

## **SENIOR USHERS**

1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Shirley Wilson – President, Wilhelmina Davis, Brenda, Kuznof, Mary Allen, Ruby Webb  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Glynis Pegram-Higg, Pamela Gessesse, and Jordan Gessesse  
Stephanie White