

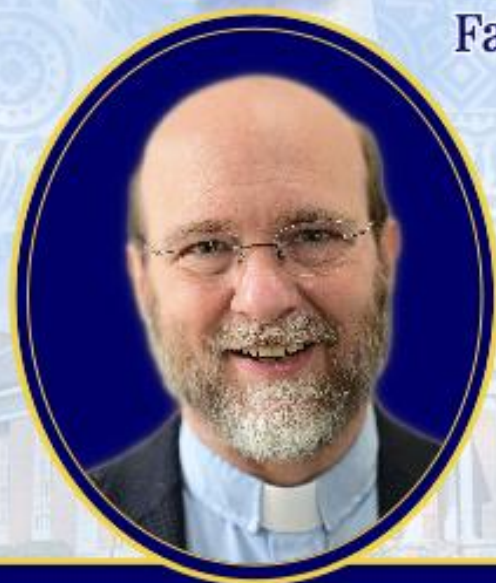


"WHERE EVERYBODY IS SOMEBODY,
AND JESUS IS LORD"



Pastor Mark Greiner Farewell

Farewell Sermon and Reception



October 4

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY



NORTHEASTERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Welcome to Northeastern Presbyterian Church

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE IN PRAISE AND PRAYER

+ *Please stand if able*

QUOTE OF THE DAY (St. Serapion)

Holy One, we beg you, make us truly alive.

PRELUDE

+ INTROIT

The Combined Choir

+ INVOCATION

+ CALL TO WORSHIP

Priya Young

One Like Elijah, who listened after the hurricane,

All **We will listen for You, O God.**

One Like Mary, surprised by the Angel,

All **We will listen for You, O God.**

One Now and tomorrow, in God's grace,

All **We will listen for You, O God.**

One When we hear music, the tears of children, the sighs of elders,

All **We will listen for You, O God.**

One When our own lives are in trouble,

All **We will listen for You, O God.**

One When our hearts fill with happiness,

All **We will listen for You, O God.**

One When a friend needs a helping hand,

All **We will listen for You, O God.**

One As we worship and pray, every now and today:

All We will listen for You, O God.

+ OPENING HYMN "O, When The Saints Go Marching In"

African American Heritage Hymnal #595

O, when the saints go marching in,
O, when the saints go marching in.
Lord, I want to be in that number
when the saints go marching in.

O when they crown Him Lord of all,
O when they crown Him Lord of all,
Lord, I want to be in that number
when they crown Him Lord of all.

And on that hallelujah day,
And on that hallelujah day,
Lord, I want to be in that number
on that hallelujah day.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION (from I John 1:8-9) **Chidera Uduma**

If we claim that we're free of sin, that's nonsense.
We'd only be fooling ourselves. On the other hand, if we admit
our sins - seeking to live free of them -
God won't let us down;
with living waters, God will cleanse us: forgiving us.
Let us pray...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison - from Romans 7) **Chidera Uduma**

God our judge, God our healer, God our helper:
We come offering the burdens of our hearts.
We seek mercy,
And yet, are slow to show it.
We desire to do good, and yet, do not do it.
We leave unlive the fullness of life you offer.
From the sin we bear, forgive us. {....*Silent Prayer*....}
Jesus, from the resentments we hold, release us. {... *Silent Prayer*...}

Holy Spirit, from the desire to return to our old ways and hurtful habits, deliver us. And fulfill in us who You made us to be, through Jesus Christ...

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (II Corinthians 5:19-20) **Chidera Uduma**

In Christ, God reconciles the world to God,
not counting our trespasses against us.

God entrusts us with this message of reconciliation.

All: We are ambassadors for Christ; thanks be to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ava Kennedy

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

Ava Kennedy

PASSING THE PEACE

Ava Kennedy

(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

"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"
The Combined Choir

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Ava Kennedy

As we have been fully loved, let us love fully in return.

Let us worship God through the sharing of our lives and gifts.

You are welcome to give online.

Or, come forward at this time and place your offering in the basket.

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 (unison) Ava Kennedy

O God, Creator, Savior and Friend, we thank you for bringing us together to hear your word of life and hope.
We are all equal before you. You made us in love and for love. You remember us always.
In Jesus, you took our shadows and fear upon yourself to bring us new lives of love and joy.
Let our lives and these gifts always be to praise you and love our neighbors. Thanks be to God, Amen

LITURGICAL DANCE

TIME WITH CHILDREN

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

THE PSALM READING Psalm 1:1-3 Pastor Greiner

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;
but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on God's law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.

SERMONIC SELECTION

The Combined Choir

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor Greiner

THE GOSPEL READING John 15:1,4, 5, 7, 8, 16

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become* my disciples. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"One True Thing"

Pastor Mark Greiner

PRAYERS & The Lord's Prayer (Unison, Liberation theology version)

Our Father and Mother who is in us here on earth,
Holy is your name in the hungry who share their bread and their song. Your Kingdom come, which is a generous land flowing with milk and honey.

Let us do your will, standing up when all are sitting down,
and raising our voice when all are silent.

You are giving us our daily bread in the song of the bird and the miracle of the corn.

Forgive us for keeping silent in the face of injustice,
and for burying our dreams; for not sharing bread and wine,
love and the land, among us, now.

Don't let us fall into the temptation of shutting the door through fear, of resigning ourselves to hunger and injustice,

of taking up the same arms as the enemy.
But deliver us from evil.

Give us perseverance and the solidarity to look for love,
even if the path has not yet been trodden, even if we fail;
so we shall have known your Kingdom which is being built
forever and ever. Amen.

+ COMMUNION HYMN #404 (Hymnal) "Precious Lord"



INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

All who seek Jesus are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

One Christ is risen!

All Christ is risen indeed!

One Because we are all warmly welcome to this feast:
Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them up to the Lord.

One Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One We declare the mystery of our faith.

All Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BLESSING AND FAREWELL

Elder Nachee Miller

(From Psalms 90; 103; Jeremiah 29)

ONE Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

**ALL Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and
The earth were born, from age to age you are God.**

ONE Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me,
Bless God's holy name.

**ALL Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all God's
Benefits, who forgives all our sins and heals all our infirmities;**

ONE Who redeems our lives from the grave and crowns us with mercy
and loving kindness;

**ALL who satisfies us with good things,
and our youth is renewed like an eagle's.**

ONE Pastor Mark Greiner, you have completed your active service as
a minister of the Word and Sacrament, the Stated Supply Pastor
of Northeastern Presbyterian Church.

We, your sisters and brothers, rejoice with you in the evidence of
the Holy Spirit in your work. We thank God for your dedicated
ministry in the church of Jesus Christ. We praise God for the
grace that has allowed your ministry to touch many lives,
including ours.

ALL Amen!

ONE Go in hope: together with the whole church,
you will find new opportunities to fulfill your baptismal calling,
as one marked by the Holy Spirit. You truly are a disciple of
Jesus Christ. May God continue to bring joy and peace to you.

ALL Amen!

ONE Pastor Mark Greiner, four years ago this week, in October 2022,
you began as our pastor: to proclaim the Good News of God's
reconciling peace and justice in Christ Jesus; to announce God's
forgiveness to us; to preside at our celebration of the Lord's
Supper, and to invite persons into new lives of discipleship
through Baptism.

ALL Amen!

ONE You have encouraged us, rejoicing with us when we rejoice and
weeping with us when we weep. With you, we've celebrated the
lives of many saints in Homegoing services.

With the Gospel, you have comforted us in loss and pain.
Sharing our joys and sorrows, you have blessed our lives
together in the Church of Jesus Christ. Today we gather in both
grief and gratitude.

ALL Amen!

Pastor I thank the members of Northeastern Presbyterian Church
for all of your prayers and encouragement. I will carry with
me all the Good News I have learned from and with you.

Please pray for me, still.
ONE Church, let us say together:

CHURCH We receive your thankfulness.

We bless your heart for walking with us.

**God's work in and through you, your witness,
remains with us. We will pray for you.**

ONE Beloved, encourage one another with these words from
First Thessalonians, praying for the pastor and the
whole church.

**ALL "Be at peace among yourselves, admonish the idlers,
encourage the faint hearted, help the weak,**

One be patient with all of them.

**ALL See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always
seek to do good to one another and to all.**

ONE Rejoice always, pray without ceasing,
give thanks in all circumstances;

**ALL Do not quench the Spirit.
Do not despise the words of prophets,
but test everything; hold fast to what is good;
abstain from every form of evil."**

SILENT PRAYER

ONE In Jesus' name we pray: Amen.
Do we, Northeastern Presbyterian Church,
release Pastor Greiner from the duties as our pastor?

CHURCH We do, with God's help.

ONE Do you, Pastor Mark Greiner, release Northeastern Presbyterian
Church from turning to you as their pastor, and urge them
always to turn to God - who never fails us?

PASTOR I do, with God's help.

ONE We will hold you in our prayers as you continue your
ministry. As we remember you, we will pray God's blessing.
As Pastor Mark enters a season of deep communion in God
for praying, studying the Word and seeking God's will -
We are all welcome to come forward, for the laying on of

hands in prayer for Pastor Mark Greiner.

CHURCH { Walking forward }

ONE Please pray as you are moved by the Holy Spirit:

CHURCH {....prayers....}

ONE Pastor Mark:

You have served our congregation faithfully since 2022.

You are now leaving our midst to continue in healing ministry. As your fellow disciples, we encourage you in Christ Jesus - who calls us not servants but friends.

We honor your ministry among us and pray you farewell and Godspeed as you enter a sabbatical season.

Amen. Let us bless the Lord.

ALL Thanks be to God.

SEEKING A CHURCH HOME

+ CLOSING HYMN #183 (SOZ)

"I'll Fly Away"

WE GO FORTH AND SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

+ BENEDICTION

The Rev. Eleanora Giddings Ivory

POSTLUDE

Lectionary: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 and Psalm 19; Complementary:
Isaiah 5:1-7 and Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b-14;
Matthew 21:33-46

Liturgists: Youth Ushers

Greeter: Mrs. Gloria Harris

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Committee continues its focus on two major replacement/repair projects. Currently we're asking for price proposals to replace the 38-year-old HVAC unit that supplies cool and heated air for most of the sanctuary building spaces. Proposals are due mid-October 2026. The Committee plans to make a recommendation at Session's regular meeting that month. Proposers have said manufacturing and installation will take 6-8 weeks once a proposal is accepted (late November – mid-December).

The Committee has investigated alternate ways to cool/heat the sanctuary using portal cooling/heating equipment but found it cost prohibited due to added expenses for temporary equipment and upgrades to the building's existing electrical system to power.

The other project is to repair our 25-year-old Education Building elevator. A recent service inspection has found three (3) major repairs are needed to improve elevator service. Price proposals have been requested for these repairs. Our elevator service company has said proposals will be available within the next few days for to allow Session to make a decision.

The Committee will continue to keep you updated on these major replacement/repair projects in the weeks ahead.

PASTOR GREINER FAREWELL WORSHIP. Today, October 4, 2026, is the Farewell Worship Service for Pastor Mark Greiner. Reception to follow.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LITERARY CLUB Please join us via Zoom at 1:30 pm every first Sunday for the book discussion of the month. Book Selection for November 2026 is:

November --- Let Us March On, by Shara Moon

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

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**

THOUGHTS AND

PRAYERS

ARE WITH

Northeastern
Members & Friends





Today, October 4, 2026

**Pastor Greiner's Farewell
Worship
Reception to Follow**





The Nominating Committee is Seeking Church Leaders for the Class of 2027?

The Nominating Committee has begun its search for the offices of Elder, Deacon, and Trustee, as well as positions on the Nominating Committee. Please consider nominating yourself or other members who are willing to serve Northeastern and who have agreed to have their names submitted. The nomination period closes on October 25, 2026, at 1 pm. If you have any questions, please contact any of the Nominating Committee members listed below.

Nomination Form

Name _____

Phone _____

Nominee _____

Phone _____

Leadership Position _____

If not a self-nomination, has the nominee agreed to serve? _____

Thank You

Nominating Committee Members

THOUGHTS & PRAYERS ARE WITH NORTHEASTERN MEMBERS & FAMILY:

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

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

Foundry Task Force

Elders

Pamela Gessesse
James Haggins, Chair,
Nachee Miller, Co-chair
Jennifer Allen
William Hymes, Jr., Chair
Charles Barber, Chair
James Haggins, Co-chair
Angela Hemphill
Nachee Miller, Chair
Deacon Katrin Jones, Co-chair
Cherie Becton, Chair
Angela Hemphill, Co-chair
Valerie McCray (non-Session member)
Charles Barber
William Hymes, Jr., Chair
Patricia Young, Co-chair
James Haggins

DEACONS

Karen Cooper, **Vice Moderator**
Glen Grier, **Moderator**
Valencia Hawkins
Bishetta Merritt
Thomas Midgette
Amanda Sargent
Penny Thomas, **Corresponding Secretary**
Randall Timbers
Charles Webb, **Treasurer**

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