



NATIONAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Metropolitan Memorial Campus 3401 Nebraska Avenue, NW | Washington, DC

February 4 at 11:00 AM



The Threads in My Hand – by Howard Thurman

Only one end of the threads, I hold in my hand.
The threads go many ways, linking my life with other lives.
One thread comes from a life that is sick; it is taut with anguish
and always there is the lurking fear that the life will snap. I hold it
tenderly. I must not let it go...

One thread comes from a high-flying kite;
it quivers with the mighty current of fierce and holy dreaming
invading the common day with far-off places and visions bright...

One thread comes from the failing hands of an old, old friend.
Hardly aware am I of the moment when the tight line slackened
and there was nothing at all — nothing...

One thread is but a tangled mass that won't come right;
Mistakes, false starts; lost battles, angry words – a tangled mass;
I have tried so hard, but it won't come right...

One thread is a strange thread – it is my steadying thread;
When I am lost, I pull it hard and find my way.
When I am saddened, I tighten my grip and gladness glides along its
quivering path;

When the waste places of my spirit appear in arid confusion,
the thread becomes a channel of newness of life.
One thread is a strange thread – it is my steadying thread.

God's hand holds the other end...

Making the Love of God Obvious!

Our Commitment

We celebrate God's gift of diversity and value the wholeness made possible in community equally shared and shepherded by all. We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, and family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status, and so much more. We acknowledge that we live in a world of profound social, economic, and political inequities. As followers of Jesus, we commit ourselves to the pursuit of justice and pledge to stand in solidarity with all who are marginalized and oppressed.



An Invitation

As faith awakens in you and you seek to deepen your discipleship of Jesus Christ, we invite you to become a member of National United Methodist Church. Indicate your interest in membership on the welcome cards today and our Minister of Discipleship will extend an invitation to upcoming orientations and then an introduction to the faith community.

**www.nationalchurch.org | (202) 363-4900 | communications@nationalchurch.org
WiFi Password: Welcome!**

† Standing as you are able | **UMH:** United Methodist Hymnal | **TFWS:** The Faith We Sing |

VOLUNTARY

Praeambulum - Heinrich Scheidemann

Todd Beckham, Organ

CENTERING SILENCE

As chime is sounded, please observe reverent silence for a moment in preparation for worship.

CHORAL INTROIT

God Be in my Head - John Rutter

† **ENTRANCE**

† **OPENING HYMN**

Praise to the Lord the Almighty

UMH 139

† **WELCOME**

Rev. Doug Robinson-Johnson

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Janet Craswell

PSALTER

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
Cantor -Sarah Heisler

UMH 859

HEBREW TESTAMENT

Isaiah 40:21-31

Angela Pupino

CHORAL RESPONSE

All My Hope is Firmly Grounded

UMH 132, Vss. 1-2

† **GOSPEL**

Mark 1:29-39

Rev. Doug Robinson-Johnson

One: Repent, and believe the Good News!

All: God is Good!

CHORAL RESPONSE

O Christ, the Healer

UMH 265 Vss. 1-2

PRAYERS of the DAY with 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 trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
Forever
Amen**

SERMON*Fierce and Holy Dreaming*

Rev. Doug Robinson-Johnson

HOLY COMMUNION

UMH p.18, setting B

All are invited to receive gluten free wafers which can be dipped into the chalice of grape juice and then eaten. Some may wish to move to the altar for prayer or light candles in the side chapel afterward.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We support the life of this church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Ushers will receive our attendance sheets, prayer requests, and financial gifts at this time. Online gifts may be shared using this QR code.

**OFFERTORY**

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing
LYNGHAM - Thomas Jarman
(Arr. Todd Beckham)

Chancel Choir

DEDICATION*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH 95

† PRAYER of THANKSGIVING**† CLOSING HYMN***Lord of the Dance*UMH 261
VSS 1-2**† BENEDICTION**

Rev. Doug Robinson-Johnson

CHORAL BENEDICTION*The Lord Bless You and Keep You* - Peter Lutkin**VOLUNTARY***O Christ, the Healer/Erhalt Uns Herr* - Johann Pachelbel

Todd Beckham, Organ

**Charge Conference - Monday, February 5, 2024****ONLINE, 7 pm**

NUMC Members will gather online to offer final review, adoption, and dedication of our budget and leadership. All members have voice, however vote is extended only to those who were approved January 30, 2024 as Church Council Members.

Use the QR code to get started

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82788439511>

Meeting ID: 827 8843 9511



**There is still time to make your financial pledge to National UMC.
Please remain in prayer for the stewardship of our ministry resources of time,
talent, and treasure this week.**



Winter Study—*Incompatible: How the Church Cast Out LGBTQ Christians and Where We Go Next*, by Charlie Baber

Wednesdays, 7-8 PM

In the lead-up to General Conference 2024, NUMC will be exploring the origins of the current struggle over LGBTQ inclusion in the United Methodist Church. You are invited to a three-week study of *Incompatible*, a very United Methodist graphic novel (comic book, but serious history) that examines the history of Christian belief and practices around human sexuality.

Facilitated by Rev. Janet Craswell and Angela Pupino

2/7: An Open Table

(Moving Towards a Methodist Theology of the Whole Body of Christ)

On Zoom at ID: 839 5022 4224,

Passcode: 1inChrist.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Tuesday, February 13th, 2024, from 6-7:30 pm

NUMC will celebrate Shrove Tuesday with a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner at the Vestry in the Metropolitan Memorial Campus. We are inviting people of all ages to help with preparing, cooking, serving, and enjoying this meal!

Sign up to help at National United Methodist Church: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner Volunteer Signup 2024 using the QR code.



Everyone is invited to come for pancakes. Invite your friends and neighbors too!