



NATIONAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

January 7 at 11:00 AM



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 attendance registry 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!

PRELUDE

A New Year Carol- Benjamin Britten

Todd Beckham, organ

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Doug Robinson-Johnson

ENTRANCE

✠ **PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

Praise and Thanksgiving be to God

UMH 604

✠ **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Angela Pupino

ONE: There are some days
when I need the reminder
that I belong to God.
Do you ever feel that way?

**ALL: Yes. We do.
The world can be a harsh place;
we often need that reminder.**

ONE: Well then, let us care for one another.
Let us speak the truth we each need to hear.
Church, you belong to God.
You are God's beloved.
Friend, you belong to God.
You are God's beloved.

**ALL: Let us worship the God who knows our names.
Let us worship the God who calls us beloved. Amen.**

HYMN of PRAISE

Shall We Gather at the River?

UMH 723

CALL to CONFESSION

Angela Pupino

CONFESSION

Unison:
Loving God,

From the very beginning, you breathed life into us and called us good. However, somewhere along the way we replaced "good" with "not enough." Somewhere along the way we turned the volume up on that phrase and began to doubt our own self-worth. Forgive us, for this is not what you have taught us. For when the world tells us we are not enough, you call us beloved. Show us how to return to that truth. Show us how to let go of our weariness and rest in that good news. Amen.

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

† EXCHANGING SIGNS of RECONCILIATION

One: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven

All: In the Name of Jesus Christ, You are forgiven

† RESPONSE IN SONG

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place, I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face.
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Doug Robinson-Johnson

HYMN of ILLUMINATION

Now the Silence

UMH 619

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 3: 21-22

RESPONSE IN SONG

Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life!

SERMON

Trusting our Belovedness

Rev. Doug Robinson-Johnson

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.



ANTHEM

Down to the River to Pray - Southern Traditional

Chancel Choir

DEDICATION

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

HOLY COMMUNION

† WESLEY COVENANT PRAYER

I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you, Praised for you or criticized for you. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service. And now, O wonderful and holy God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, you are mine, and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, Let it also be made in heaven. Amen.

† HYMN of RESPONSE

When Jesus Came to Jordan

UMH 252

POSTLUDE

Jesus Went to Jordan's Stream - Johann Pachelbel

Todd Beckham, organ



New Members Class: All Newcomers Welcome!

On Sunday, TODAY, 12:30-2 PM, there will be a class for those who wish to join National UMC. The class will be in-person only. We'll meet in the library at the Metropolitan Memorial campus. The class will cover what it means to be United Methodist, what it means to be part of National UMC, and ways you can connect with the life of the church. Lunch will be provided.



Finding God in Scripture 2024, starting January 9

Online Beginners Bible Study - Tuesdays, 6 to 7 pm via Zoom

Glimpses of God's Future
Tues. Jan. 9 – Tues. Jan. 30

The Gospel of Mark
Tues. Feb. 6 – Tues. March 19



United Methodist Women Recognition Brunch

Join National Church's UMW on 13 January at 11:00 am in Wesley's fellowship hall for the annual **Recognition Brunch**. During the brunch, we will celebrate the significant contributions of individuals whose work during 2023 has improved lives within our Church and broader community. Additionally, we will welcome babies born or adopted within our Church family and remember with gratitude those who died this past year. One doesn't have to be a UMW member to attend. All are welcome!



Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday Features NUMC Author Debbie Hines

*Sunday, January 15th, 9am | Metropolitan Memorial Campus, 11AM | Wesley Campus
10AM Dialogue with author in Metropolitan Great Hall*

In *Get Off My Neck*, Debbie Hines draws on her unique perspective as a trial lawyer, former Baltimore prosecutor, and assistant attorney general for the State of Maryland to argue that US prosecutors, as the most powerful players in the criminal justice system, systematically target and criminalize Black people. Hines describes her disillusionment as a young Black woman who initially entered the profession with the goal of helping victims of crimes, only to discover herself aiding and abetting a system that prizes plea bargaining, speedy conviction, and excessive punishment above all else. In this book, she offers concrete, specific, and hopeful solutions for just how we can come together in a common purpose for criminal justice and racial justice reform.

(from MIT Press review)



NUMC Leadership Retreat: Newly Nominated Leaders Encouraged to Attend!

Saturday, January 20th 10am to 2pm (Lunch provided)

Metropolitan Memorial Campus Vestry

Part One: Orientation for new and returning leaders

Part Two: 2024 Budget Review

Please RSVP: 202-363-4900 In-person only