



Today's service is recorded. Those seated in rear remain off-camera

## NATIONAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

October 8 at 11:00 AM



### Making the Love of God Obvious!

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#### **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](http://www.nationalchurch.org) | (202) 363-4900 | [communications@nationalchurch.org](mailto:communications@nationalchurch.org)**

**Wi-Fi Password: Welcome!**

✠ Standing as you are able | **UMH:** United Methodist Hymnal | **TFWS:** Faith We Sing |  
Today's prayer of confession is adapted from a prayer by Mary J. Scifres, Ministry Matters

**PRELUDE**

*Préambule* – Louis Vierne (1870-1937)  
*When in Our Music God is Glorified* – ENGELBERG

**WORDS of WELCOME**

Ann Michel

✠ **PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

UMH 92

✠ **CALL to CONFESSION**

Ann Michel

✠ **CONFESSION**

Unison

**With hearts of sorrow, we come before you, O God,  
to confess what you already know – we have failed to keep your laws.  
Again and again, we have followed our own selfish will,  
rather than your holy and life-giving will for our lives.  
We have twisted your decrees and institutions  
to suit our preconceptions and interests rather than your own.  
Forgive us, O God, and cleanse us from hidden faults, that the words of our mouths, and the  
meditations of all our hearts, may be acceptable to you, our Rock and our Redeemer.**

✠ **SILENT CONFESSION**

✠ **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Ann Michel

Again and again, we are assured of God's compassion and mercy to all of God's children.

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.  
**All: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

✠ **EXCHANGE SIGNS of RECONCILIATION**

Ann Michel

*Remain seated and offer a sign of peace and love to a neighbor.*

**RESPONSE IN SONG**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks and sing!** (Refrain of UMH 160)

**RESPONSIVE READING**

*Psalms 67* – UMH 791

Christopher Simon

**INVITATION to OFFERING**

Christopher Simon

## OFFERTORY

Chancel Choir

*My Shepherd Is Lord* - Harrison Oxley (1933-2009)

...I have all I need, giving me rest in green and pleasant fields, reviving my soul by finding fresh water, guiding my ways with a shepherd's care. My shepherd is Lord.... Though I should walk in death's dark valley, I fear no evil with you by my side, your shepherd's staff to comfort me.... You spread my table in sight of my foes, anoint my head, my cup runs over; you tend me with love always loyal. I dwell with the Lord as long as I live....

## DEDICATION

Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow

UMH 94

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 25: 14-23

Christopher Simon

## HYMN of REFLECTION

*This Is a Day of New Beginnings*

UMH 383, stanzas 1-4

## PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER

Ann Michel

## SERMON

*Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant*

Rev. Barbara Green

## LITANY of FAREWELL

Dona Collary, Christopher Simon and Barbara Green

Christopher Simon: Bruce, you have blessed us with your great musical gifts: your wonderfully precise ear, your nimble fingers, and your passion for music. You have planned, prepared, played, sung, conducted, and taught tirelessly for longer than I have been alive! You have broadened our horizons in music, helped us build our own skills, and taught us the profound impact music can have in our worship and in our lives. We are grateful.

**Congregation: Well done, good and faithful servant.**

Dona Collary: Bruce, you have been a caring and pastoral presence in this community for even longer than I have been here! You have touched many lives in supportive and profound ways. You keep in touch with so many people who have moved on from National Church. Through your ministry of weddings and funerals, you have been present to many in their hours of deepest grief and greatest joys. You have done much to make yours such a caring ministry. We are grateful.

**Congregation: Well done, good and faithful servant.**

Barbara Green: Bruce, There are many ways you have quietly supported the life of this congregation behind the scenes in ways we will never know. And you have been the public leader of music ministry here for your whole adult life. We are humbled by the enormity of that gift, as we say farewell to you now in your role on the church's music staff. We are grateful.

**Congregation: Well done, good and faithful servant.**

Let us pray.

**All:** Gracious God, we commend to your care our friend and brother, Bruce Caviness. Be with him as he goes forward into the next chapter of his life's journey. Comfort him in times that are hard. Grant him many good times and a fulfilling life in the years to come. Feed his soul with the music he loves. Help him to know that we love him and treasure his life among us. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

✠ CLOSING HYMN

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

UMH 117

✠ BENEDICTION

Rev. Barbara Green

POSTLUDE

*Grand Chœur* – Théodore Dubois (1837 – 1924)



Artwork created by young people of the TraRon Center will be featured in the Silence the Violence Concert **Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:30-9:30pm.**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SILENCE THE VIOLENCE  
CONCERT**  
A benefit concert to support The TraRon Center



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023  
7:30 PM - 9:30 PM**

[www.nationalchurch.org/silencetheviolence](http://www.nationalchurch.org/silencetheviolence)

## Farewell Reception for Bruce Caviness

Sunday, October 15  
Noon  
Metropolitan Memorial  
Campus

Join Us for an informal  
reception and appreciation of  
46 years of dedication.



## Staff-Parish Relations Committee Clergy Evaluation Survey

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) of National United Methodist Church invites YOUR feedback for the annual evaluation of our clergy. While this vital process is the responsibility of the SPRC, we recognize that the congregation's input greatly enriches the feedback we can provide.

There are 4 ways for you to participate:

1. Complete online survey.
2. Send an email to [SPRC@nationalchurch.org](mailto:SPRC@nationalchurch.org).
3. Communicate directly with a member of SPRC via email, a written note, or phone, including:

- |                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Brian Boyle    | 2. Melisa Creamer         |
| 3. Paula Pree     | 4. Belva Newsome          |
| 5. Barbara Tate   | 6. Elizabeth Burks        |
| 7. Phil Potter    | 8. Marsha Matthews        |
| 9. Connie Sommers | 10. Carissa Moffat-Miller |

**SPRC is accepting input from the  
congregation through Wednesday, 10/25.**

**Please email [SPRC@nationalchurch.org](mailto:SPRC@nationalchurch.org) or  
contact Brian Boyle with any questions**

**[bboyle@omm.com](mailto:bboyle@omm.com)**



## Come Make Music with the NUMC Handbell Choir

Have you studied piano or another instrument? Would you be available to practice Sunday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm? Come join a multi-generational group of joyful ringers.

**Please contact Susan Staines at [HandbellsatNUMC@gmail.com](mailto:HandbellsatNUMC@gmail.com) for more information.**