

JESUS KNEW THE BREAKING OF BODIES, PEOPLE DRIVEN OUT TO THE TOMBS, PEOPLE LIFTED ON CROSSES JESUS KNEW THE BREAKING OF TRADITIONS AND THE TURNING OF TABLES, SABBATH RE-IMAGINED AND DESECRATED TEMPLES RE-CLAIMED. JESUS KNEW THE BREAKING OF BREAD OFFERED FOR MANY, THE DROPPED PART OF THE BREAD WARM ACROSS HIS KNEE TO BREAKING, BUT JESUS KNEW THE BLESSING OF BUILDING TOO, THE HOUSE BUILT IN THE ROCKS, THE BIRDS THAT SINGED IN THE DUST, THE STONE DESTROYED BUT REASSEMBLED IN HIS BODY THE STONE ONCE REJECTED NOW THE CENTER, THE LOGS ONCE BURNEN NOW STRETCHING OUT AND LIFTING UP, AND BREATHING WITH SPIRIT THE BROKEN AND MESSY JESUS PREACHES, ONCE BURNED, NOW REBORN, THE BUILDING LED TO BELONGING WHICH LED TO BRINGING THE CHURCH BACK TOGETHER, HE IS CLOSE AT HAND, WE KNOW THE BREAKING OF BODIES AND PROMISES AND THE VERY IMAGE OF GOD HE BEARS, HE IS THE LIGHT, HE IS THE LOVE, HE IS THE HOPE, HE IS THE HEALING, HE IS THE RECONCILIATION, HE IS THE REDEMPTION OF RACISM AND SEXISM AND HOMOPHOBIA THE BREAKING OF FELLOWSHIP AND BUDGETS AND DREAMS IN THIS PANDEMIC WHEN THE LEVY IS HIGHEST ON THOSE WHO ARE

# FRIDAY, MARCH 5 SCHEDULE (CST)

10am CST

## OPENING WORSHIP

Join us for opening worship with Rev. Bertram Johnson preaching and worship leadership with Paul Vasile.



Pre-Gathering  
Music starts at  
9:30am CST

11am CST

## WELCOME AND KEYNOTE

Our NEXT Church hosts welcome you to the 2021 National Gathering, followed by a keynote by Rev. Lenny Duncan.



12pm CST

## LIVE CONVERSATION WITH LENNY DUNCAN

Rev. Lenny Duncan is joined live for a dialog and conversation with Lee Catoe and Destini Hodges.



1pm CST

## BREAKOUT CONVERSATIONS

The best part of a NEXT Church National Gathering is getting to know different people from all across the country doing amazing things in ministry. Discuss what you are hearing, and learn from someone with a different perspective from you in these breakout conversations, using the World Cafe style of group interaction.

2pm CST

## STORIES OF ACTION: DISMANTLING RACISM

Come hear why the work of dismantling racism is important to a privileged white guy like Landon Whitsitt. This will be followed by a story featuring NEXT Church leaders about the challenging journey to become a more anti-racist and anti-oppression organization.



3pm CST

## WORKSHOPS

Join us for Choose from an incredible line-up of speakers and topics. You can learn more about the workshops [here](#).

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# SATURDAY, MARCH 6 SCHEDULE (CST)

10am CST

## KEYNOTE AND Q&A WITH CHRISTINE HONG

Dr. Christine Hong offers a keynote followed by a live Q&A session with Shani McIlwain.



11am CST

## STORIES OF ACTION: FROM CHICAGO TO KANSAS

Two dramatically different contexts – two faithful stories. Chicago organizer, Tanya Watkins and renown pastor, Otis Moss III join Shawna Bowman for a conversation about the justice work of Chicago's SOUL. Then go on a journey with Catherine Neelly Burton to the Presbytery of Southern Kansas to hear the stories from rural America.



12pm CST

## WORKSHOPS

Join us for Choose from an incredible line-up of speakers and topics. You can learn more about the workshops [here](#).

1pm CST

## STORIES OF ACTION: HOUSING JUSTICE

Come learn the story of Arlington Presbyterian Church (Arlington, VA) as they went through a physical transformation to better serve their community. Then hear a live dialog from housing justice advocates from across the country about how they do their work and why it matters.



2pm CST

## BREAKOUT CONVERSATIONS

The best part of a NEXT Church National Gathering is getting to know different people from all across the country doing amazing things in ministry. Synthesize what you're learning and discern next steps for your ministry through a facilitated coaching experience with other National Gathering participants.

3pm CST

## AFTERNOON WORSHIP

Join us for opening worship with Rev. Otis Moss III preaching and worship leadership with Paul Vasile.



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# SUNDAY, MARCH 7 WORSHIP

10am CST

## CLOSING WORSHIP

Join us for opening worship with Rev. Shavon Starling-Louis preaching and worship leadership with Paul Vasile.



*The pre-recorded components of this worship service will be available ahead of time for registered participants to use in your own worship services on Sunday morning, as well as the option to watch it on the live-stream with gathering participants. For more details, check out our [FAQ](#) page.*

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7pm CST

## FRIDAY AND SATURDAY EVENING

How often do you go to denominational gatherings and feel left out, made an example of, or just made to feel invisible? We at NEXT Church know that's a real thing. As such, we offer a time and place for people of color to gather, pray, share, laugh, and enjoy our uniqueness. Join us each night for a time of gathering and games. Have your tissues ready. We laugh until our bellies hurt. This space is reserved only for People of Color, Black, and Indigenous children of God. (White siblings, please sit this one out.) The room is hosted by NEXT Church Strategy Team members who are persons of color. [Register with Zoom to attend either night.](#)