



ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 26, 2020
+ ASH WEDNESDAY +

PRELUDE

Hark! A Voice Saith, All Are Mortal
J.S. Bach
Brian Ward, Organ

CHORAL INTROIT

Christ, We Do All Adore Thee (297)
Chancel Choir, Dominic German, Director

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.

Why are you cast down, O my soul,
And why are you disquieted within me?

Hope in God; for we shall praise him, our help and our God.

AN INVITATION TO A HOLY LENT

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

O, God, when we pause to look back at our lives on this Ash Wednesday, we realize that we have been weighed in the balance and found wanting. We have neglected to do good when it was in our power to do so. We, like believers of old, have pulled down your altars and erected idols crafted in our own image. We have turned our backs on the poor, choosing instead to criminalize poverty.

We have ignored the cries of the motherless, the fatherless, the widow, and the widower, choosing instead to turn children and the elderly into the new poor. We have bankrupted the country with our greed and consumed more than our share of the world's riches. We have not dealt honorably with our enemies or our friends, and we have feigned a place in the company of the righteous.

Forgive us, O God, for turning sackcloth and ashes into a fashion statement by pursuing form without substance. Forgive us, O God, for the times we have neglected to provide our children and our world an authentic example of Christianity. As we begin the journey of these 40 days, wash us, O God, and we shall be clean. Cleanse us, O Lord, and we shall be made whole. Amen.

Hear the Good News. The LORD, our God, is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. God hears the earnest cries of the repentant and forgives our sins.

SONG OF RESPONSE (Insert)

Create in Me a Clean Heart
Keith Green
Led by Dominic German, Jeff Hunter,
Brian Ward, and Catherine Werner

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Reading

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 (p. 740)

* Gospel Reading

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 (p. 787)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Call to Remembrance
Richard Farrant

MEDITATION

Libby Piotrowski

SPECIAL MUSIC

Dust We Are and Shall Return
The Brilliance

COMING TO THE TABLE

*Come to the table, kneeling as you are able at the railings. Take your time; there is no hurry.
Ashes may be received after you have received communion.*

* DEPARTING HYMN 214

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Voluntary
William Croft

** Please rise in body or in spirit.*

As we journey through Lent, we invite you to join us for an evening Lenten service each week. In addition to our regular Sunday morning worship services at 10:30 and our Wednesday night gatherings at 6 pm, we will gather for a series of contemplative Lenten worship services each Sunday in Lent beginning at 6 pm. The short, 45-minute services will take place in the south chapel (unless we outgrow that space) and will be held on the following dates: March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29.

*Join us for a time of quiet prayer, music, singing, and communion.
Come and worship as we make the journey together toward Golgatha.*

We welcome all people to begin or deepen their relationship with Christ through worship and study. We invite all believers to fully participate in the life and ministry of our church as members, leaders, and lay staff. We celebrate the gifts and presence of diverse Christians among us—whether those differences be race, ethnicity, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, or socioeconomic status. We are blessed by our diversity and are unified in Christ.

Church Staff

Jeff Hunter, Co-pastor
jhunter@npcovenant.org, ext. 525

Libby Piotrowski, Co-pastor
lp Piotrowski@npcovenant.org, ext. 515

To reach both Jeff and Libby, please use copastors@npcovenant.org or ext. 510.

Ann-Marie O. Frisk, Church Administrator
afrisk@npcovenant.org, ext. 500

Brian Ward, Music Ministry Coordinator/Organist
bward@npcovenant.org

Fran Fostey, Bookkeeper
operations@npcovenant.org, ext. 505

Dominic German, Chancel Choir Director
dgerman@npcovenant.org

Cody Taylor, Youth Pastor
ctaylor@npcovenant.org, ext. 535

Carol Olfelt, Chancel Handbell Choir Director
colfelt@npcovenant.org

Christian Schuetz, Custodian
cschuetz@npcovenant.org

North Park Church Cooperative Preschool

www.nppreschool.com • (773) 463-0055, ext. 520 • preschool@npcovenant.org

Jennifer Lazik, Director/Lead Teacher
Lyndsey Wellner, Teacher/Assistant Teacher
Jenny Glazier, Assistant Teacher

The North Park Friendship Center

3448 West Foster Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60625

www.friendshipcenterchicago.org • (773) 267-8395 • npfc@friendshipcenterchicago.org

Dean Morris, Director of Pantry Operations

NORTH PARK COVENANT CHURCH
5250 NORTH CHRISTIANA AVENUE • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60625
NPCC@NPCOVENANT.ORG • (773) 463-0055 • WWW.NPCOVENANT.ORG