



JANUARY 7, 2024
+ EPIPHANY SUNDAY +

JANUARY 7, 2024
+ EPIPHANY SUNDAY +

PRELUDE

Take My Life and Let It Be (375)
arr. Donna N. Robertson
Brian Ward, Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter

* CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 72

Give your love of justice to the king, O God,
and righteousness to the king's son.

Help him judge your people in the right way;
let the poor always be treated fairly.

May the mountains yield prosperity for all,
and may the hills be fruitful.

Help him to defend the poor,
to rescue the children of the needy, and to crush their oppressors.

The western kings of Tarshish and other distant lands will bring him tribute.

The eastern kings of Sheba and Seba will bring him gifts.

All kings will bow before him,
and all nations will serve him.

He will rescue the poor when they cry to him;
he will redeem them from oppression and violence, for their lives are precious to him.

* OPENING HYMN 192

As with Gladness Men of Old

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND THE 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace and the light of the Savior Jesus be with you.
And also with you.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Guiding Star Carol
arr. O.C. Christiansen
Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Reading

* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Beau Sample, Reader

Isaiah 60:1-6

Matthew 2:1-12

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

Jeff Hunter

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

John 9:1-7

MESSAGE

Rev. Danny Martinez

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Great Are You, Lord

David Leonard, Jason Ingram, Leslie Jordan

2012 Open Hands Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)

So Essential Tunes (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)

Integrity's Praise! Music (Admin. by Integrity Music)

Little Way Creative (Admin. by Integrity Music)

Led by Anders Johnson, Sunwoo Lee, Jeanette Mottl, Brian Ward, and Ryan Wendt

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Elements

Communion Music

Meditation

Anthony Giamanco

My Refuge

Anthony Giamanco

Sunwoo Lee, Piano

Prayer of Thanksgiving

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERING

Invitation to Generosity

The Trustees will come around at this time to receive physical offerings.

Giving online at any time is also an option at www.npcovenant.org/give

Offertory

A Quiet Faith

Ben Logan

* Doxology 48

* Prayer of Dedication

* CLOSING HYMN 193

I Think of That Star Long Ago

* SUNG BENEDICTION

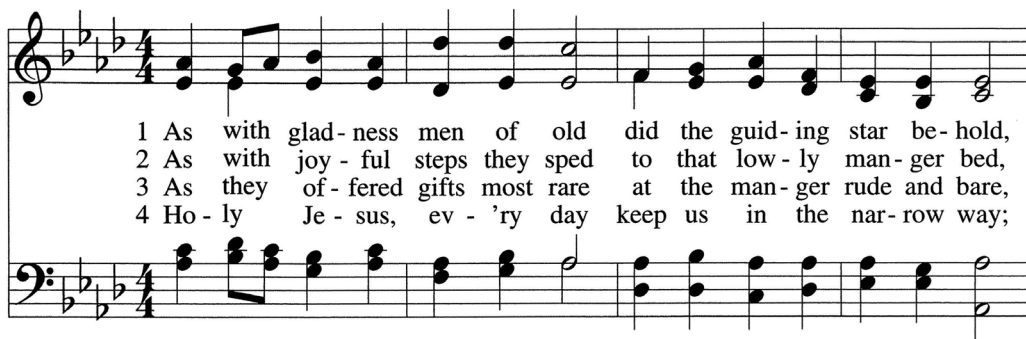
The Lord Bless You
Rick Carlson

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God (31)
arr. Claude Means

** Please rise, in body or in spirit.*

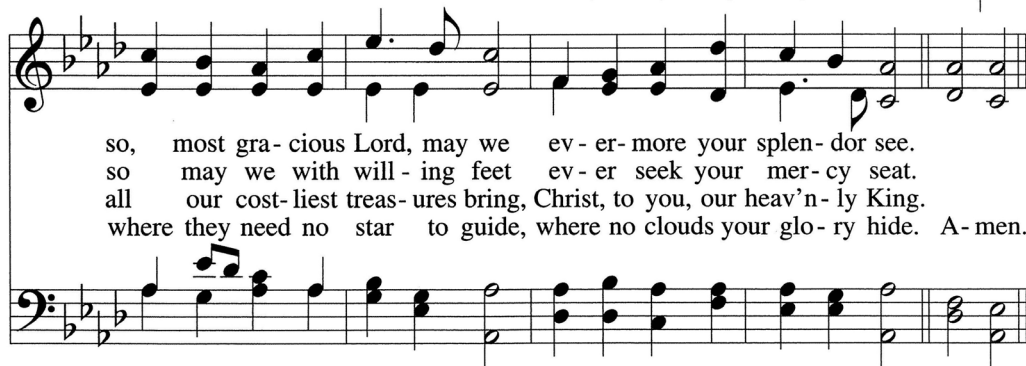
If you have prayer requests to be shared confidentially with the pastors, there is a prayer box located in the narthex, as well as slips of paper and a pen in the box's drawer.



1 As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be-hold,
 2 As with joy-ful steps they sped to that low-ly man-ger bed,
 3 As they of-fered gifts most rare at the man-ger rude and bare,
 4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-'ry day keep us in the nar-row way;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright,
 there to bend the knee be-fore him whom heav'n and earth a-dore,
 so may we with ho-ly joy, pure and free from sin's al-loy,
 and, when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last



so, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev-er-more your splen-dor see.
 so may we with will-ing feet ev-er seek your mer-cy seat.
 all our cost-liest treas-ures bring, Christ, to you, our heav'n-ly King.
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds your glo-ry hide. A-men.

WORDS: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.

MUSIC: Adapt. from a chorale by Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

7.7.7.7.7.
 DIX

A lower setting can be found at 56.

Great Are You, Lord

Jason Ingram, Leslie Jordan, and David Leonard

You give life, You are love. You bring light to the

5

dark - ness. You give hope, You re - store e - v'ry heart that is

9

brok - en. Great are You, Lord.

13

It's Your breath in our lungs so we pour out our praise, we

17

pour out our praise. It's Your breath in our lungs so we pour out our praise to You

21

1.
on - ly

25

You give

29



33



All the earth will shout Your praise; Our hearts will cry; these

37



bones will sing "Great are You Lord."

1.

42



It's Your breath in our lungs so we pour out our praise, we

46



pour out our praise. It's Your breath in our lungs so we pour out our praise to You

50



on - ly. It's your breath in our lungs so we pour out our praise, we

54



pour out our praise. It's Your breath in our lungs so we pour out our praise to You

58



on - ly Great are You, Lord.

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 48

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures

here below; praise him above ye heavenly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Yupik: *Nanrau mali Agayutvut, Nanrarlitgu pilimalriit
Nanrarlitgu qilagmeInguut, Aata, qetunraq, Anerneqllu.*

Translation by Lucy Daniels and Wassilie Mute

Spanish: *A Dios el Padre celestial, al Hijo nuestro Redentor,
y al eternal Consolador, uni dos todos alabad.*

Lingala: *E Njambe apesi bato nse, mpo mingi na Yosanjola,
Na banje mpe tosambel, tata, Mwana, Molimo mpe.*

I Think of That Star of Long Ago

1 I think of that star of long a - go that light - ed the
 2 "A child un - to us is born"—O joy! To sin - blight - ed
 3 It sheds on the world its peace - ful rays, and greets ev - 'ry

wan - der - ers' path be - low; in faith I look up, and
 earth comes high heav'n's en - voy; now o - ver my path that
 mor - tal with heav'n - ly grace; to Beth - le - hem's babe I

o'er me I see that star in its beau - ty still shin - ing for me.
 dear mem - o - ry— a star in its beau - ty is shin - ing for me.
 has - ten with thee, O star in thy beau - ty still shin - ing for me.

Refrain

O star that once shone o - ver Beth - le - hem! Thy beams yet to

EPIPHANY: LIFE

mor - tals great joy pro - claim; the Lord to a - dore, I

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is a vocal line in treble clef, featuring a melody with eighth and quarter notes. The lower staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef, primarily using chords and simple rhythmic patterns. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

has - ten with thee, O star in thy beau - ty still shin - ing for me.

The second system of music continues the composition. The vocal line in the upper staff concludes with a final note and a double bar line. The piano accompaniment in the lower staff also concludes with a final chord and a double bar line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

The Lord Bless You

Rick Carlson



The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to



shine up - on you and be gra - cious, gra - cious, gra - cious to



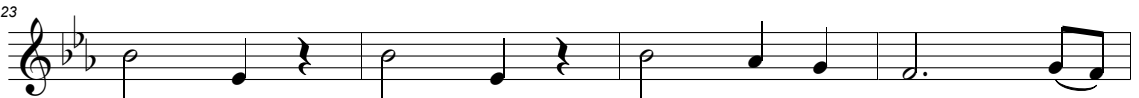
you. The Lord lift up his coun - ten-ance up - on



you and give you, give you, give you peace. The



Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine up - on you and be



gra - cious, gra - cious, gra - cious to you. The



Lord lift up his coun - ten-ance up - on you and



give you, give you, give you peace.

Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online! *We're glad you're here.*

For your prayers this week:

- **Kari Lindholm-Johnson**, recuperating at home after surgery on December 21
- **Janice Finney**, recuperating after surgery for spinal stenosis on January 4
- Janice Finney's brother-in-law, **Tim Rohr**, awaiting a bone marrow transplant
- **the family of Nancy (Vann) Dorsey**, former member here who passed away on December 4

Today we welcome to the pulpit the Rev. Dr. Danny Martinez. Pastor Danny serves as Superintendent of the Central Conference of the Evangelical Covenant Church. He has a bachelor's degree in theology from CHET, the Hispanic Center of Theological Studies, and a Master of Divinity and a Doctorate in Homiletics from Fuller Seminary.

In addition to several leadership roles, including worship leader, church planter, and youth and lead pastor, Pastor Danny has served as President of ALIPE (Association of Latino Churches of the ECC in the U.S.).

Danny is passionate about the Church, particularly youth and children's ministries, and he enjoys walking alongside churches that are ethnically, socio-economically, and generationally diverse. He loves the multicultural church and feels that every culture contributes something unique to the mosaic that is the Evangelical Covenant Church. Pastor Danny has a sense of humor and values church participation during his preaching.

An accomplished musician with CDs in a variety of genres, Danny recently released a new album, *Colores*, available on Spotify and Apple Music.

Childcare is available in the toddler room (lower level, off the hallway south of the parlors) for the full duration of the worship service for any wee ones ages 1 through 5 needing a place to wiggle and play. We always happily welcome children in the service but recognize that sometimes parents need a break so they can focus on worship.

The rosebud at the front of the sanctuary announces the birth of Lucas Khangai, born December 30, to Peter and Sayana Murakami in Washington, DC. He was three weeks early and weighed 3 lb. 10 oz. Nancy Murakami and Glenn Murakami are the proud grandparents.

The staff at North Park Covenant Church extends an enormous thank you to each and every one of you for the generous Christmas gift given to us this year. We are grateful to be a part of NPCC and to serve alongside each of you, and this generous gift is only icing on the already wonderful cake. Thank you and Happy New Year!

Bible Journaling Resumes! Starting again next Sunday, January 14, you are invited to join Kristen Hunter to journal through the Bible at 9:15 am in the art room (lower level just south of the coffee lounge). Bring a Bible and journal, or make a journal when you arrive. Art supplies will be provided.

You are all invited to join us on Sunday, January 21, following worship, for a town hall meeting to review the 2024 budget. A light lunch will be served and the proposed 2024 budget will be shared. Because this is a town hall meeting, there will be no vote taken. Instead, this is an opportunity to view the budget, ask questions, and seek clarification prior to our congregational annual meeting on February 4, at which there will be a vote on the budget.

The Friendship Center, our neighborhood food pantry, is hosting a fundraising event benefiting the pet food pantry this February. For the Love of Pets will be held at Half Acre Beer Co. on Wednesday, February 7, from 6 to 9 pm. The event will feature a silent auction, custom pet portraits, food, and a cash bar. All proceeds will help ensure Chicago families and their pets can stay together when faced with financial hardships.

Tickets start at \$25, and you can also buy a bundled ticket with a custom pet portrait! What a sweet treat to get you and your pet for Valentine's Day. For more information and tickets, please visit friendshipcenterchicago.org/flop.

Volunteers are needed on an ongoing basis for childcare and hospitality! If you're able to help out in the toddler room or by serving refreshments after Sunday worship, please sign up for a Sunday or two [using this form](#).

The text for today's choral anthem is as follows:

Guiding Star Carol
arr. O.C. Christiansen

Beautiful the sky so blue, stars above are shining through.
How they twinkle, softly beaming, how they smile and beckon, gleaming,
while they draw our hearts to heav'n.

Long ago, it was foretold by God's chosen men of old,
when at midnight such a wonder did appear in heav'n up yonder:
born should be a Savior King.

Wisemen by this star were led to the Christ child's lowly bed.
Guiding star, O may we heed thee, may we know we ever need thee.
Lead us to our heav'nly King.

Cover Art Attribution: JESUS MAFA. The Three Wise Men, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://digilib.library.vanderbilt.edu/lact-imagelink.pl?RC=48399> [retrieved January 5, 2024]. Original source: <http://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr> (contact page: <https://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr/contact>).

Permission to print and podcast/stream the music in this service partially obtained from CCLI with License #2875232.

Permission to print and podcast/stream the music in this service partially obtained from One License with license #A-730954.

Permission to reprint and stream hymns copyrighted by Covenant Publications obtained from the Evangelical Covenant Church.

All rights reserved.

The Church Calendar This Week

The calendar is available online at www.npcovenant.org/calendar and is updated as changes occur.

Monday, January 8

9:15 am	Women's Bible Study (Hybrid, Large Conference Room)
10:30 am	Staff Meeting (Staff Conference Room)
4:20 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)
6:30 pm	Geezerball (Gym)
7:30 pm	Centering Prayer (Staff Conference Room)

Tuesday, January 9

8 am	Men's Bible Study (Hybrid, Large Conference Room)
4 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)
4:30 pm	Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
5 pm	Board of Community Concern Meeting (via Zoom)
6 pm	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)
7 pm	Board of Deacons Meeting (Hybrid)
7 pm	Board of Trustees Meeting (Large Conference Room)
7:30 pm	Board of Christian Formation Meeting (Hybrid)

Wednesday, January 10

10 am	Women's Bible Study (Hybrid, Large Conference Room)
4:30 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)
6 pm	Gather Dinner (Parlors)
6:30 pm	Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Side Balcony, Sanctuary)
6:30 pm	Contemporary Music Rehearsal (Choir Room)
7 pm	Middle-school Youth Group (Youth Room near the Gym)
7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
7:30 pm	Adult Bible Study (Large Conference Room)

Thursday, January 11

4:30 pm	Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
5 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)
8:15 pm	Swanson Basketball (Gym)

Friday, January 12

1 pm	Prayer Gathering (North Room)
4:30 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)
6 pm	Sunday School Sleepover (Youth Room/Gym)

Saturday, January 13

8 am Geezerball (Gym)
10:30 am Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

Sunday, January 14 - Baptism of Our Lord Sunday

9 am Confirmation (Large Conference Room)
9:15 am Sunday School for Preschool - 6th Grade (Junior Chapel)
9:15 am Adult Formation (Parlors)
9:15 am Bible Journaling (Art Room)
10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)
12 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal (Junior Chapel)
7 pm High-school Youth Group (The Attic Youth Room)
7 pm AA Meeting (Parlors)

**North Park Covenant
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.*

Jeanette Mottl, Director of Youth Ministry
jmottl@npcovenant.org

Brian Ward, Music Ministry Coordinator/
Interim Chancel Choir Director
bward@npcovenant.org

Sunwoo Lee, Interim Organist

Linnea Olfelt, Interim Chancel Handbell Choir Director

Joline Paska, Treasurer
treasurer@npcovenant.org, ext. 505

Christian Schuetz, Custodian
cschuetz@npcovenant.org

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

**North Park Church
Cooperative Preschool**

Becky Edwards
Administrative Director

Lyndsey Wellner
Head Teacher/Educational Director

Jennifer Glazier
Assistant Teacher

(773) 463-0055, ext. 520
preschool@npcovenant.org
www.npcovenant.org/npccp

The Friendship Center

2711 West Lawrence Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60625

Justin Block
Executive Director
justin@friendshipcenterchicago.org

(773) 907-6338
info@friendshipcenterchicago.org
www.friendshipcenterchicago.org

Missionaries We Support

Letha Kerl,
Field Representative for Europe

Peter and Anna Kim, Taiwan

James and Rachel Ventress, Alaska

Paul and Sheryl Noren, Congo

Eugenio and Pia Restrepo,
Latin America

Welcome Statement

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.