

# THIRD SUNDAY *in Lent*



MARCH 3, 2024  
+ THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT +

MARCH 3, 2024  
+ THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT +

PRELUDE

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross (382)  
James Southbridge  
Sunwoo Lee, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 19

Come into this sacred space to worship God,  
**whose teaching is perfect; whose directions are sure.**

Come into this holy place to worship God,

**whose standards are right;**

**whose commandment is clear;**

**whose judgements are true.**

Come with holy fear—

to be given life and made wise,

to have your heart stirred and your eyes opened wide.

Come—let us worship God.

**Let the words of our mouths and the whispering of our hearts  
be according to your will, O God. Amen.**

\* OPENING HYMN 56

For the Beauty of the Earth

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Your glory, O God, is declared in the holy silence of the heavens  
and told in the silent succession of day and night.

**No speech or word or voice is heard; yet they speak to all the world,  
and their words reach to the ends of the earth.**

The sun joyfully leaps across the sky, from one end of the heavens to the farthest reaches,  
and nothing is hidden from its heat or light.

**So nothing that we do or say or whisper in our hearts is hidden from you, Lord God.**

Release us from the darkness we hide deep within our lives.

**Let our lives be radiant with holy fear; delighting in your teaching,  
receiving insight from your commandments and wisdom from your encouraging.**

Enliven our desire for your everlasting judgements over wealth or fame:

**to enjoy the sweet drippings of the honeycomb that are to be found  
in right relationship with those around us, and with you. Amen.**

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Reading

New Testament Reading

\* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Krista Dawson, Reader

Exodus 20:1-17

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

John 2:13-22

CHORAL ANTHEM

The Heavens Are Telling

from *The Creation*

Joseph Haydn

Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

*Ann Boyd, Soprano; Dominic German, Baritone; Robert Johnson, Bass*

*Chorus:* The heavens are telling the glory of God.

The wonder of his work displays the firmament.

The day that is coming speaks to the day, the night that is gone to following night. *Chorus*

In all the lands resounds the word, never unperceived, ever understood. *Chorus*

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

MESSAGE

Gordon Battles

\* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Indescribable

Jesse Reeves and Laura Story

2004 Laura Stories (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Led by Emma Hunter, Anders Johnson, Sunwoo Lee,

Jeanette Mottl, Brian Ward, and Ryan Wendt

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution

Sharing in the Elements

Communion Music

Oh, How I Love Jesus

David Paxton

The Light of the World Is Jesus

Michael Cox

Prayer of Thanksgiving

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

Amazing Grace  
arr. Gordon Young  
Brian Ward, Organ

\* Doxology 48

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* CLOSING HYMN 224

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

\* WORDS OF SENDING

CHORAL BENEDICTION

The Lord Bless You and Keep You  
Peter C. Lutkin

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

God, Renew Us By Your Spirit! (604)  
Dale Wood

*\* 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 for your use.*

## For the Beauty of the Earth

56

*Descant*

5 For your-self, best gift di-vine to the world so free-ly giv'n;

1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the glo-ry of the skies,  
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
 3 For the worth of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de-light,  
 4 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,  
 5 For your-self, best gift di-vine to the world so free-ly giv'n;

for your love be-yond all time, peace on earth and joy in heav'n:

for the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies:  
 hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:  
 for the mys-tic har-mo-ny link-ing sense to sound and sight:  
 friends on earth and friends a-bove; for all gen-tle thoughts and mild:  
 for your love be-yond all time, peace on earth and joy in heav'n:

*Refrain*

Lord of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise. A-men.

Lord of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise. A-men.

WORDS: Folliot S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.  
 MUSIC: Adapt. 1861 from a chorale by Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872; desc. Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875-1947  
 © Hope Publishing Company

7.7.7.7.7.  
 DIX

# Indescribable

Jesse Reeves and Laura Story



From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea Cre - a - tion's revealing Your ma - je -  
Who has told every lightning bolt where it should go Or seen heaven - ly store - houses laden with



sty  
snow

From the co - lours of fall to the fra - grance of spring  
Who i - mag - ined the sun and gives source to its light



E - very crea - ture u - nique in the song that it sings All ex - claim - ing: In - de - scrib - a - ble Un - con - tain - a - ble  
Yet con - ceals it to bring us the cool - ness of night None can fa - thom:



You placed the stars in the sky and You know them by name. You are a - maz - ing God



All po - wer - ful, un - tame - a - ble, Awe - struck, we fall to our knees as we humbly pro - claim: You are a - maz - ing



God In - des - crib - a - ble, un - con - tain - a - ble, You placed the stars in the sky and You know them by



name. You are a - maz - ing God In - comp' - ra - ble, un - change - a - ble You see the depths of my



heart and You love me the same. You are a - maz - ing God You are a - maz - ing God

## Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 48

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.'

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him all crea-tures

here be-low; praise him a-bove ye heav'n-ly host;

praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

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

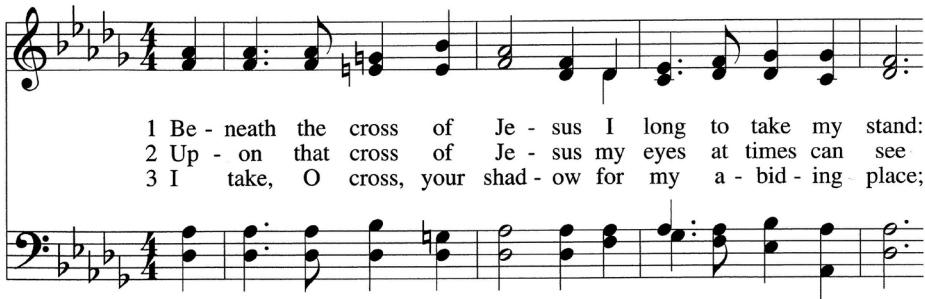
Translation by Lucy Daniels and Wassilie Mute

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

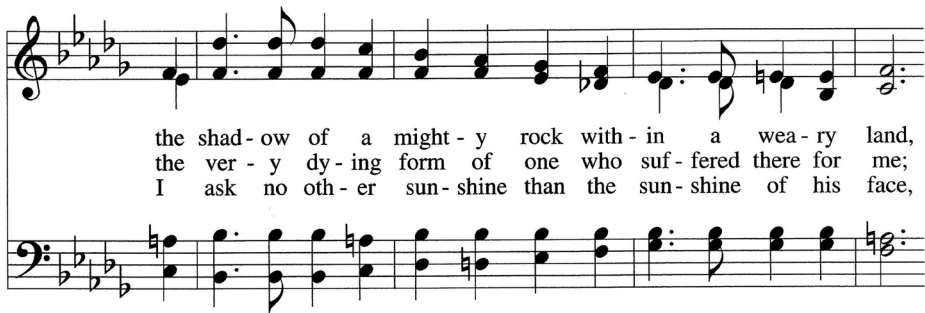
Lingala: *E Njambe apesi bato nse, mpo mingi na Yosanjola,  
Na banje mpe tosambel, tata, Mwana, Molimo mpe.*

## Beneath the Cross of Jesus

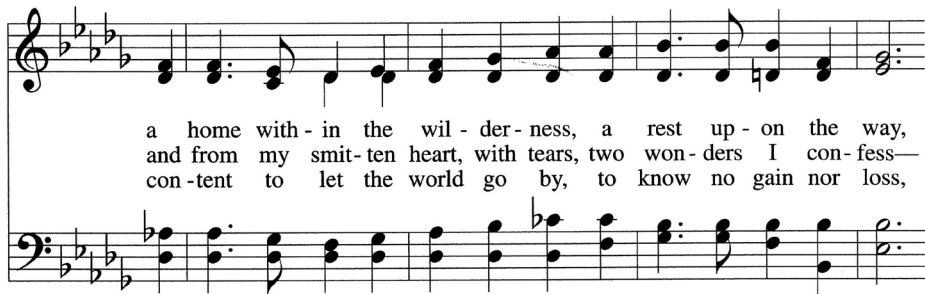
224



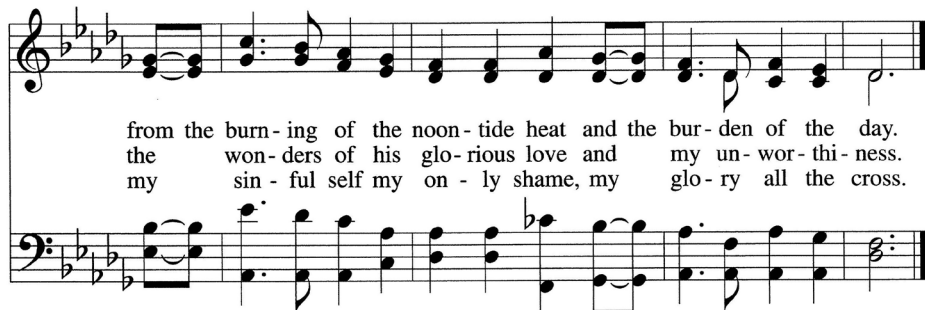
1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand:  
 2 Up - on that cross of Je - sus my eyes at times can see  
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,  
 the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me;  
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face,



a home with - in the wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,  
 and from my smit - ten heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess—  
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and the bur - den of the day.  
 the won - ders of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.  
 my sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all the cross.



# *Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online!*

## *We're glad you're here.*

### *For your prayers this week:*

- **Maria Ward and family**, mourning the passing of her uncle Bill Safstrom, last Sunday
- **Michael Shawn Sanders**, recuperating after undergoing an appendectomy last Wednesday
- **those who have been moved** from the North Park Village shelter and adjust to new environs
- **Kari Lindholm-Johnson**, continuing chemo treatments with the assistance of new meds
- Sarah Hillabrant's dad, **Bob**, recuperating after a fall in which he injured his arm
- Rosemary Slaughter's friend **Barbara Towes**, who may need to have a foot amputated
- Janice Finney's brother-in-law, **Tim Rohr**, anticipating a stem cell transplant on March 20

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

**Today is a Benevolence Sunday.** Members of the Deacon Board will be at the doors after the service to receive any donatinos to our benevolence fund, which is used to help those in need in our community.

**We will hold a brief congregational business meeting** following the morning service on Sunday, March 17, to vote on funding for the east wall reconstruction project. It is expected to be brief so will be held in the sanctuary, after which those who signed up for the Corned Beef and Cabbage Lunch (see next announcement) may make their way to the parlors.

**All are invited to join us on Sunday, March 17, for a Corned Beef and Cabbage Lunch** following the 10:30 am worship service. Come for a time of fellowship and great food! *All are welcome, but RSVPs are absolutely necessary.* [Please RSVP using this link](#) or by contacting the church office by Monday, March 11, to reserve your spot!

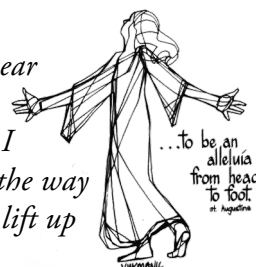
**On Saturday, March 23, we will hold a Lenten Virtual Prayer Vigil.** Between the hours of 7 am and 7 pm, we invite you to sign up for a half hour (or more) to be in prayer for our church, our community, and our world. Prayer materials will be made available for those who sign up as the day draws near.

[You can sign up here.](#)

## Neighborhood Prayer in 2024

As we continue in prayer for our neighborhood throughout the month of March, and recognizing that our hope comes from God and God alone, we pray from the depths of our souls for the peace and comfort that only God can bring to the people and places in our neighborhood.

*Psalm 143:8 - Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning, for in you I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.*



**After the worship service on Sunday, April 14, the youth group will be hosting a special coffee hour and silent auction** to help raise money for the students and leaders who will attend UNITE 2024 in July. Currently, we are in need of donations for that morning! Some ideas for items include baked goods, a self-care basket, a movie night basket, dog walking, babysitting, etc. If you're willing to donate something, please let Jeanette Mottl know by Monday, April 1. Please put this on your calendar and be ready to bid on some amazing items!

**Welcome to the Prayer Corner!** This new occupant in the south chapel is prepared to uphold prayer—this age-old necessity for our church! As a foundational tool of our church, this gift of God's grace offers us the privilege of praying together for our needs and for those of our world. We know that the more we pray, the greater will be our ability to count on God to make our fellowship together the best it can be. Come pray with us after worship on Sundays and on Fridays at 1 pm, or at any other time you wish to pray in the Prayer Corner!

**Early registration is going on now** for the 2024-2025 NPCCP school year! Current NPCCP and NPCC families can apply, [using this link](#), to secure a spot for next school year. Hard copies of the 24/25 application can be found in the preschool hallway. Also, on Saturday, March 16, from 10 am to 12 pm, NPCCP will be hosting an open house, and registration will be open for all. Informational open house flyers can also be found in the preschool hallway.

**Bible Journaling each Sunday:** Join Kristen Hunter to journal through the Bible on Sunday mornings 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.

**Hey, college students!** Every Sunday after church, lunch is available for you in the large conference room (lower level, down the hall from the parlors). Let us know if you want to come for some non-cafeteria food and community! Reach out to Linnea Olfelt at 773-397-3468 or [lmolfelt@gmail.com](mailto:lmolfelt@gmail.com) with questions or to let her know you want to come!

**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 Friendship Center is looking for more volunteers!** The deeper the pool of people willing and available to help, the easier it is to fill the volunteer holes and keep things running smoothly! If you are interested in and able to help at The Friendship Center, [please fill out this form](#). Once your application is approved, you can simply log in to see when a volunteer is needed and what the tasks would be.

*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](http://www.npcovenant.org/calendar) and is updated as changes occur.

### *Monday, March 4*

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

### *Tuesday, March 5*

8 am	Men's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
4 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)
4:30 pm	Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
6 pm	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

### *Wednesday, March 6*

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) 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 (Art Room)

### *Thursday, March 7*

4:30 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym) Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
---------	--

### *Friday, March 8*

1 pm	Prayer Gathering (North Room)
4:30 pm	George Soccer Practice(Gym)

### *Saturday, March 9*

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

### *Sunday, March 10 - The Fourth Sunday in Lent*

9:15 am	Intergenerational Sunday School and Breakfast (Parlors)
10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
6 pm	Evening Lenten Worship Service (South Chapel)
7 pm	High-school Youth Group (The Attic Youth Room) 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,  
Regional Co-coordinator 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.*

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