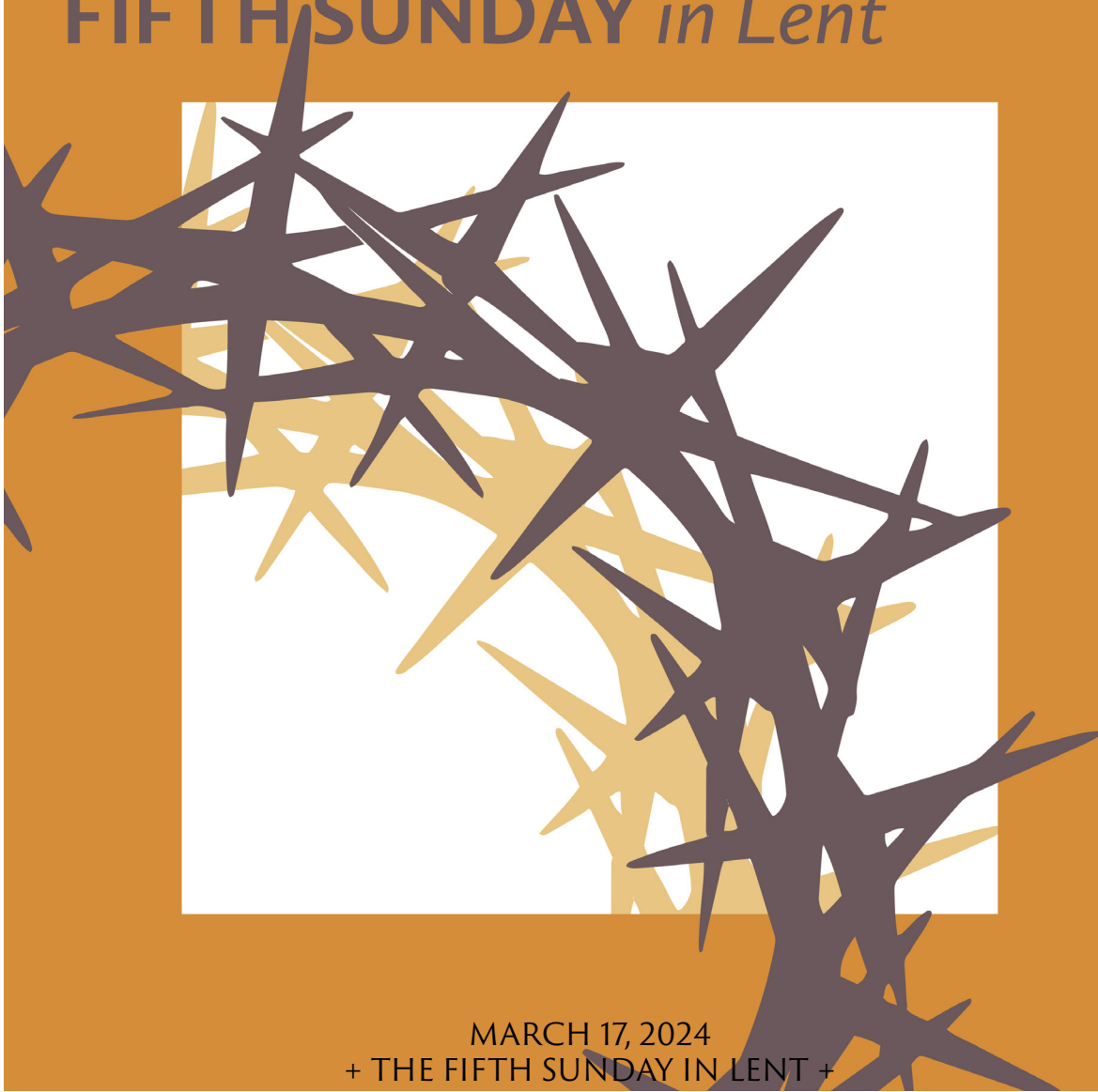


# FIFTH SUNDAY *in Lent*



MARCH 17, 2024  
+ THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT +

MARCH 17, 2024  
+ THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT +

PRELUDE

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (325)  
arr. Fernando Ortega  
Linnea Applequist, Cello  
Brian Ward, Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter

CHORAL INTROIT

Lent  
Healy Willan  
Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 119:9-16

How can a young person stay pure?

**By obeying your word.**

I have tried hard to find you—

**don't let me wander from your commands.**

I have hidden your word in my heart,

**that I might not sin against you.**

I praise you, O Lord;

**teach me your decrees.**

I have recited aloud all the regulations you have given us.

**I have rejoiced in your laws as much as in riches.**

I will study your commandments and reflect on your ways.

**I will delight in your decrees and not forget your word.**

\* OPENING HYMN 437

How Firm a Foundation

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

I ask you to join me in an act of courage as we silently confess our sins and invite the searchlight of God's love to reveal the truth about ourselves and our world.

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you.

**And also with you.**

CHORAL ANTHEM

Jesu, Grant Me This, I Pray  
C.H. Kitson

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Reading

New Testament Reading

\* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Lori Johnson, Reader

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Hebrews 5:5-10

John 12:20-33

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

MESSAGE

Jeff Hunter

\* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

He Will Hold Me Fast

Ada Ruth Habershon, Matthew Merker

2013 Getty Music Publishing (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

Matthew Merker Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

Led by Jeanette Mottl, Brian Ward, Lauren Wargaski, and Paul Wargaski

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER 887 (Using *sins*)

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended (234)

Helmut Walcha

Sunwoo Lee, Organ

\* Doxology 48

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* CLOSING HYMN 596

When Christ Was Lifted from the Earth

\* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated (375)

Robert Hebble

*\* 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.*

## How Firm a Foundation

*In unison*

1 How firm a founda - tion, you saints of the Lord,  
 2 "Fear not, I am with you; O be not dis - mayed,  
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,  
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose

is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent Word!  
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow,  
 my grace all - suf - fi - cient shall be your sup - ply;  
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can he say than to you he has said,  
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
 for I will be with you in trou - ble to bless,  
 the flame shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign,  
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

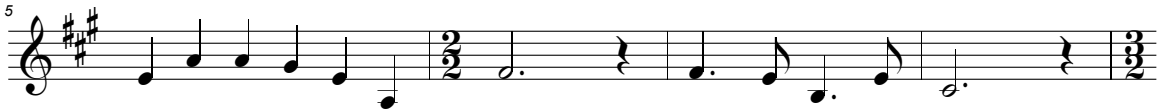
to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 up - held by my gra - cious om - nip - o - tent hand.  
 and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.  
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.  
 I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!"

# He Will Hold Me Fast

Ada Ruth Havershon

Matthew Merker

*Allegro* (♩ = 120)



When I fear my faith will fail Christ will hold me fast  
Those He saves are His de - light Christ will hold me fast  
For my life He bled and died Christ will hold me fast



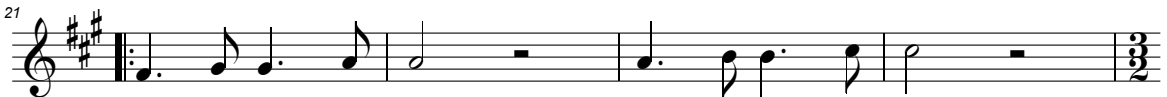
When the temp - ter would pre - vail He will hold me fast  
Pre - cious in His ho - ly sight He will hold me fast  
Jus - tice has been sat - is - fied He will hold me fast



I could ne - ver keep my hold through life's fear - ful path  
He'll not let my soul be lost His pro - mis - es shall last  
Raised with Him to end-less life He will hold me fast



For my love is of - ten cold He must hold me fast  
Bought by Him at such a cost He will hold me fast  
Till our faith is turned to sight when He comes at last



He will hold me fast He will hold me fast



For my Sa - viour loves me so He will hold me fast.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

887

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
 Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread.  
 And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.  
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Traditional*

ADORATION AND PRAISE

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 48

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.

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711  
 MUSIC: attrib. Louis Bourgeois, c.1510-c.1561; arr. Genevan Psalter, 1551

L.M.  
 OLD 100th (alt. rhythm)

# When Christ Was Lifted from the Earth 596

*In unison*

1 When Christ was lift - ed from the earth, his  
 2 Still east and west his love ex - tends, and  
 3 Where gen - er - a - tion, class, or race di -  
 4 Thus free - ly loved, though ful - ly known, may

arms stretched out a - bove through ev - 'ry cul - ture,  
 al - ways, near or far, he calls and claims us  
 vides us to our shame, he sees not la - bels  
 I in Christ be free to wel - come and ac -

ev - 'ry birth, to draw an an - swer - ing love.  
 as his friends and loves us as we are.  
 but a face, a per - son and a name.  
 cept his own as Christ ac - cept - ed me.

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1936-, © 1980 Hope Publishing Company  
 MUSIC: African- American spiritual; arr. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949

C.M.  
 McKEE

# *Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online!*

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

### *For your prayers this week:*

- **Eric Pfeiffelman**, to undergo surgery tomorrow
- Paul Wargaski's parents: **Rosalie**, who fell and broke her arm, and **Ronald**, struggling with a chronic lung condition
- **Cheyenne Johnson and family**, mourning the recent passing of her grandmother
- **Kari Lindholm-Johnson**, requesting prayers for resolve, as her final chemo treatment was postponed
- Janice Finney's brother-in-law, **Tim Rohr**, to undergo a stem cell transplant on March 20
- **the family of Konrad Dahlstrom**, a child of this church remembered by some here, who passed away in November

**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 0 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.

**We will hold a brief congregational business meeting** following the service today to vote on funding for the east wall reconstruction project. It is expected to be brief so please remain in the sanctuary. Afterward, those who signed up for the corned beef lunch may make their way to the parlors.

**The church library will have a table in the parlors after the church service today** to display the 2023 memorial books, seasonal titles, and other recent additions. Take a break from the corned beef and cabbage lunch to browse the selection. The books will be available for check-out. Also, if you have a library book that you would like to return, you may do so at this table.

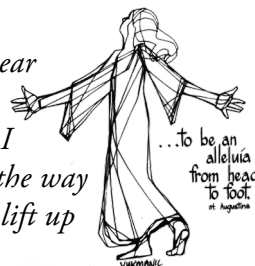
**On Saturday, March 23, we will hold a Lenten Virtual Prayer Vigil.** Between the hours of 7 am and 7 pm, we invite you to sign up for a half hour (or more) to be in prayer for our church, our community, and our world. Prayer materials will be made available for those who sign up as the day draws near. You may sign up using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/2024-lenten-prayer-vigil>

**Bible Journaling and College-age Young Adult Lunch are on hold** for the next couple of weeks, but will resume on Sunday, April 7.

## 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.*





**The nominating committee is looking for church members interested in representing the church** at the ECC Annual Meeting, Gather 2024, which will be held in Cincinnati, OH, from June 27-29. If you have an interest or any questions, please contact [Susan Dawson](#). The church will pay for transportation and housing/meals.

**On Saturday, April 13, at 10 am, the women of NPCC are invited** to a women's brunch in the parlors. Come for a time of fellowship, a delicious meal, and an opportunity to hear Rev. Andrea Spicer, pastor at JPUSA, share her heart with us. To RSVP, [please click here](#). Bring a friend!

**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!

**The texts for today's introit and choral anthem** are as follows:

### **Lent**

*Healy Willan*

If thou, O Lord, wilt be extreme to mark iniquities, Lord, who may abide it?

For unto thee belongeth mercy, O God of Israel.

Out of the deep have I called until thee, O Lord: Lord, hear my voice.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

### **Jesu, Grant Me This, I Pray**

*C.H. Kitson*

Jesu, grant me this, I pray, ever in Thy heart to stay:

Let me evermore abide hidden in Thy wounded side.

If the evil one prepare, or the world, a tempting snare,

I am safe when I abide in Thy heart and wounded side.

If the flesh, more dangerous still, tempt my soul to deeds of ill,

naught I fear when I abide in Thy heart and wounded side.

Death will come one day to me; Jesu, cast me not from Thee:

Dying let me still abide in Thy heart and wounded side.

# *We invite you to our Lenten and Holy Week services*

*Each Sunday in Lent, we have offered evening services at 6 pm in the south chapel. Tonight is the last service in that series:*

**Sunday, March 17, 6 pm:** The Fifth Sunday in Lent Evening Service

*As we make our way toward the cross, we invite you to join us for our Holy Week services:*

**Sunday, March 24, 10:30 am:** Palm Sunday

Come to the south garden at 9:15 am for a palm procession through the neighborhood, followed by a light breakfast in the parlors before our 10:30 am service, in which we will share in a liturgy of the palms and a liturgy of the passion.

**Thursday, March 28, 7 pm:** Maundy Thursday Worship Service

Join us at 7 pm for a service of communion and foot washing.

**Friday, March 29, 7 pm:** Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Return on Friday at 7 pm for a Good Friday service of shadows.

**Sunday, March 31, 10:30 am:** Easter Sunday

Join us at 9:15 am for a light breakfast in the parlors before our 10:30 am worship service, in which we will celebrate Jesus' resurrection.

*In addition to our Holy Week worship services, we invite you to engage with two temporary installations.*

- NPCC has been gifted the use of the North Park Seminary School of Spiritual Direction's indoor prayer labyrinth. A prayer labyrinth is a winding path for prayer that helps people draw near to God. The Prayer Labyrinth will be available in the parlors from March 25-30 during office hours and before and after our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday worship services.

- And from March 24-31, the Stations of the Cross journey returns to church. Come to the church yard and join in this journey of reflection and prayer as we walk together toward the good news of Easter Sunday.



## 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 18*

- 9:15 am Women's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
- 9:30 am Central Conference Interim Ministers Training (Staff Conf Rm)
- 10:30 am Staff Meeting (Co-pastors' Office)
- 4 pm Tutoring (Parlors)
- 6:30 pm Geezerball (Gym)
- 7:30 pm Centering Prayer (Staff Conference Room)

### *Tuesday, March 19*

- 6 am-7 pm Polling (Parlors)
- 8 am Men's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
- 4:30 pm Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 6 pm Cudahy Basketball (Gym)
- 7 pm Executive Council Meeting (Large Conference Room)

### *Wednesday, March 20*

- 10 am Women's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
- 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 21*

- 4:30 pm Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### *Friday, March 22*

- 1 pm Prayer Gathering (South Chapel Prayer Corner)

### *Saturday, March 23*

- 7 am-7 pm Virtual Prayer Vigil
- 8 am Geezerball (Gym)
- 10:30 am Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

### *Sunday, March 24 - Palm Sunday*

- 9:15 am Palm Procession through the Neighborhood (Meet in South Garden)
- 9:45 am All-church Breakfast (Parlors)
- 10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 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/npcpp

### **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