



NORTH PARK
COVENANT CHURCH

APRIL 28, 2024
+ THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER +

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PRELUDE

I Am Thine, O Lord (383)
Joseph Prentiss
Sunwoo Lee, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Moment for Mission

Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter
James Edstrom for the Missions Committee

CHORAL INTROIT

Revelation 19
Jeffrey LaValley
NPCC Children's Vocal Ensemble, Brian Ward, Director

Hallelujah!
Salvation and glory,
honor and power unto the Lord our God.
For the Lord our God is almighty,
yes, the Lord our God is omnipotent.
The Lord our God, He is wonderful!

All praises be to the King of Kings
and the Lord of Lords!
He is wonderful!

* CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 22:25-31

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

**The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the Lord.**

All of the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;
and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

**Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord.**

They will proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it!

Indeed! He has done it!

* OPENING HYMN 107

Christ Is the World's Light

* INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER 887 (Using *sins*)

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Risen Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Easter Season Acts Reading

New Testament Reading

* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Brad Thompson, Reader

Acts 8:26-40

1 John 4:7-21

John 15:1-8

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

CHORAL ANTHEM

Love One Another

C. Harry Causey

Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

Ann Boyd, Soprano

Refrain: Love one another, as I have loved you.
And care for each other, as I have cared for you.
And bear one another's burdens, and share each other's joys.
And love one another, and bring each other joy.

Forgive each other here, as I've forgiven you.
Be friend to each one here, as I've been friend to you. *Refrain*

Pray together here, as I have prayed with you.
Serve together here, as I have served you.

Love one another, as I have loved you.
Love one another, and bring each other joy.

MESSAGE

Libby Piotrowski

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Living Hope

Brian Johnson, Phil Wickham

2017 Phil Wickham Music (Fair Trade Music Publishing [c/o Essential Music Publishing LLC])

Simply Global Songs (Fair Trade Music Publishing [c/o Essential Music Publishing LLC])

Sing My Songs (Fair Trade Music Publishing [c/o Essential Music Publishing LLC])

Bethel Music Publishing

Led by Emma Hunter, Kristen Hunter,
Sunwoo Lee, Brian Ward, and Ryan Wendt

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

Rise Up, O Saints of God (720)

William H. Walter, arr. Jacques M. Kearns

Chancel Handbell Choir, Linnea Olfelt, Director

He Lives

* Responsive Hymn 253, verse 3

* Prayer of Dedication

* CLOSING HYMN 71

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

O Worship the King

arr. William Gardiner

Brian Ward, Piano

** 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.

Christ Is the World's Light

107

In unison

1 Christ is the world's light, Christ and none
 2 Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none
 3 Christ is the world's life, Christ and none
 4 Give God the glo - ry, God and none

oth - er; born in our dark - ness, he be - came our
 oth - er; no one can serve him and de - spise an -
 oth - er; sold once for sil - ver, mur - dered here, our
 oth - er; give God the glo - ry, Spir - it, Son, and

broth - er. If we have seen him we have seen the
 oth - er. Who else u - nites us one in God the
 broth - er. He who re - deems us reigns with God the
 Fa - ther. Give God the glo - ry, God with us our

Fa - ther:
 Fa - ther?
 Fa - ther.
 broth - er; Glo - ry to God on high!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Living Hope

Phil Wickham and Brian Johnson

Allegro (♩ = 120)



How great the chas - m that lay be -
Who could i - mag - ine so great a



tween us How high the moun - tain I could not climb. In des - per - a - tion, I turned to
mer - cy? What heart can fa - thom such bound - less grace? The God of a - ges stepped down from



hea - ven and spoke your name in - to the night. Then through the dark - ness Your loving
glo - ry to wear my sin and bear my shame. The cross has spo - ken, I am for -



kind - ness tore through the sha - dows of my soul. The work is fin - ished, the end is
giv - en. The King of Kings calls me His own. Beau - ti - ful Sa - vior, I'm yours for -



writ - ten Je - sus Christ, my liv - ing hope. Hal - le -
e - ver Je - sus Christ, my liv - ing hope. hope. Hal - le -



lu - jah, praise the one who set me free. Hal - le - lu - jah, death has lost its grip on me. You have



bro - ken e - very chain; there's sal - va - tion in Your name; Je - sus Christ my li - ving hope. Hal - le -



lu - jah, praise the one who set me free; Hal-le - lu - jah, death has lost its grip on me; You have



bro-ken e-very chain; there's sal - va-tion in Your name; Je-sus Christ my liv - ing hope.



Then came the morn-ing that sealed the pro - mise; Your bur-ied bo - dy be-gan to



breath. Out of the sil - ence, the roar-ing li - on de-clared the grave has no claim on



me. Then came the morn-ing that sealed the pro - mise; Your bur-ied bo - dy be - gan to



breathe. Out of the sil - ence, the roar-ing li - on de-clared the grave has no claim on



me. Je-sus, yours is the vic - to - ry Hal - le

He Lives

1 I serve a ris - en Sav - ior, he's in the world to - day;
 2 In all the world a - round me I see his lov - ing care,
 3 Re - joice, re - joice, O Chris - tian, lift up your voice and sing

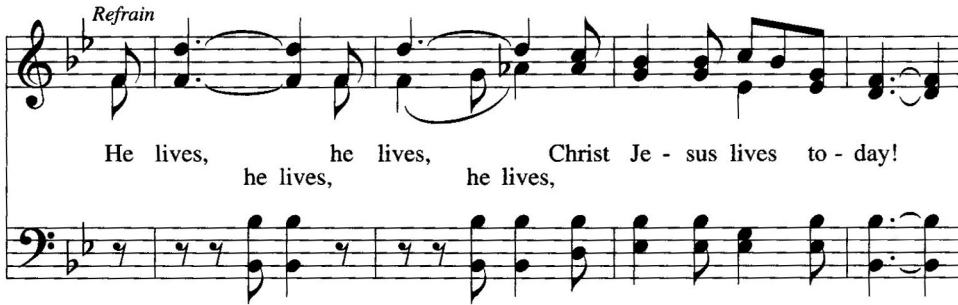
I know that he is liv - ing, what - ev - er some may say;
 and though my heart grows wea - ry, I nev - er will de - spair;
 e - ter - nal hal - le - lu - jahs to Je - sus Christ the King!

I see his hand of mer - cy, I hear his voice of cheer,
 I know that he is lead - ing through all the storm - y blast,
 The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find,

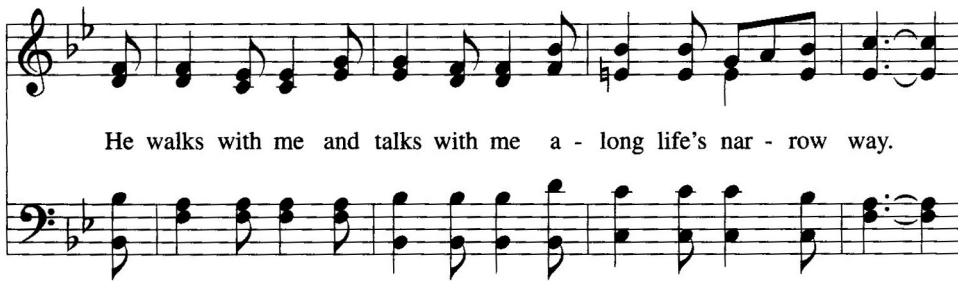
and just the time I need him he's al - ways near.
 the day of his ap - pear - ing will come at last.
 none oth - er is so lov - ing, so good and kind.

EASTER: RESURRECTION

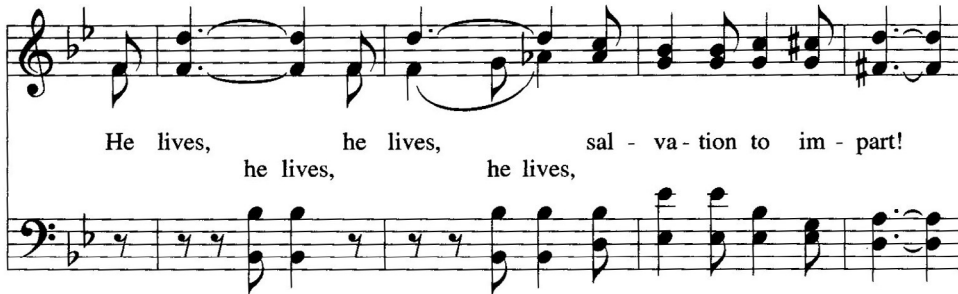
Refrain



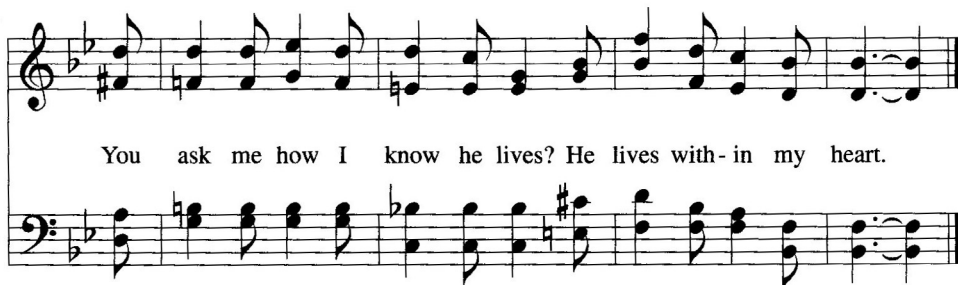
He lives, he lives, Christ Je - sus lives to - day!
he lives, he lives,



He walks with me and talks with me a - long life's nar - row way.



He lives, he lives, sal - va - tion to im - part!
he lives, he lives,



You ask me how I know he lives? He lives with - in my heart.

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

71

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy like the wide-ness of the sea;
2 There is wel-come for the sin-ner and more grac-es for the good;
3 For the love of God is broad-er than the meas-ure of our mind;
4 If our love were but more sim-ple, we would take him at his Word,

there's a kind-ness in his jus-tice which is more than lib-er-ty.
there is mer-cy with the Sav-ior; there is heal-ing in his blood.
and the heart of the E-ter-nal is most won-der-ful-ly kind.
and our lives would be il-lu-mined by the pres-ence of our Lord.

WORDS: Fredrick W. Faber, 1814-1863
MUSIC: Lizzie S. Tourjée, 1858-1913

8.7.8.7.
WELLESLEY

Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online!

We're glad you're here.

For your prayers this week:

- **Tim, Gabe, and Chloe Johnson**, mourning the passing of Kari on April 20
- **Craig Johnson**, Pastor Libby's dad, out of the ICU but still hospitalized due to a collapsed lung
- **Janice Kelly**, as Tom continues to decline
- **Heather and Katie Parker**, mourning the passing of their mother, Marla, on April 7
- Dorothy Schmidt's nephew **Jeff Kohn**, diagnosed with leukemia
- **Eloise Nelson**, moved to the memory unit at Covenant Living of Northbrook
- **Don Olson and family**, mourning the passing of his nephew Merrill Milson on April 4

Childcare is available in the toddler room (lower level, off the hallway south of the parlors) for the 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.

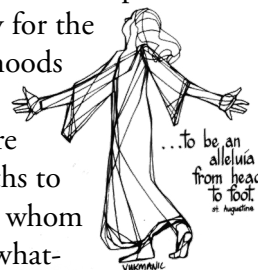
The May issue of *The Narthex*, our monthly newsletter, was emailed out this past Friday, and paper copies are available for pickup in the narthex and the parlors today.

We will hold the second part of this year's Annual Congregational Meeting today after worship. Items on the agenda will be: 1) the ballot of church leaders for 2024-2025, 2) a recommendation to make our 2024-2025 Youth Minister position full-time, 3) a recommendation to hire our new Chancel Choir Director, and 4) the description of a sabbatical plan for our pastors. Please join in this important work of discerning our next steps!

From the Church Treasurer: Through March 31, 2024, General Fund offering is \$120,517 compared to \$162,500 year-to-date budget and compared to General Fund offering of \$140,058 through March 31, 2023. Year-to-date expenses of \$191,784 exceed year-to-date income of \$148,506. The \$43,278 shortfall has been covered by undesignated reserves as we have paid our staff, utility bills, and other ministry expenses. Your generous gifts are so important as, together, we do the work of the church.

Neighborhood Prayer in 2024

We continue in the month of April to use our whole selves to pray for the people in the neighborhoods in which we live. In this Easter season, we are invited to use our mouths to pray for the people with whom we live in community, whatever their situation, whatever their beliefs, whatever their stories. Let us use our mouths to pray that all will come to know the Good News of Christ's resurrection and the sure hope of all creation!



Psalm 89:1 - I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

Wedding Coordinator Needed: Paula Schuetz is stepping down as our wedding coordinator after 22 years, and we are grateful to her for her years of service! However, this means that we need someone to serve as coordinator for the wedding of Emma Manning and Christian Ochoa on Saturday, July 13, as the church staff works to determine the future of this position. Responsibilities include meeting with the couple ahead of time to discuss wedding details and arranging and attending the scheduled rehearsal and wedding ceremony, at which this person would be available to the couple and the bridal party during preparations and throughout the service. If you have questions about this and/or are interested, please reach out to Ann-Marie in the church office.

Registration for our two Central Conference summer camps, Covenant Point (Iron River, MI) and Covenant Harbor (Lake Geneva, WI), is well underway, and many of our young people are registered. If you or someone you know has a child who would love to go to summer camp, but finances are tight, please reach out to Pastor Libby. The church has funds to send our kids to camp, and we'd love to use them!

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-age young adults! Nearly 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 lmolfelt@gmail.com or 773-397-3468 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 at <https://tinyurl.com/volunteer-sunday>.

Mayfestiversary returns over Memorial Day Weekend 2024! Begyle Brewing and Dovetail Brewery are hosting their annual spring party on May 25 and 26 to welcome back Chicago's best season and the 9th anniversary of Dovetail Brewery—join in to help reach 2 million meals donated to The Friendship Center! A suggested \$5 gate donation helps provide 40 meals to neighbors facing hunger. More details about event location and times, food vendors, and bands at mayfestiversary.com

Additionally, The Friendship Center is looking for volunteers to help run the gates. To sign up, [please click here](#).

The Church Calendar This Week

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

Monday, April 29

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

Tuesday, April 30

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	Adult Bible Study (Art Room)

Wednesday, May 1

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)

Thursday, May 2

4:30 pm	Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
8 pm	East Wall Pre-construction Meeting (Large Conference Room)

Friday, May 3

1 pm	Prayer Gathering (South Chapel Prayer Corner)
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Saturday, May 4

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

Sunday, May 5

9 am	Confirmation (Large Conference Room)
9:15 am	Sunday School for Preschool - 6th Grade (Junior Chapel) Adult Formation (Parlors) Bible Journaling (Art Room)
10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
12 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal (Junior Chapel)
2 pm	Grant Piano Recital (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/npccp

The Friendship Center

2711 West Lawrence Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60625

Justin Block
Executive Director
justin@friendshipcenterchicago.org

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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.

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