



NORTH PARK

COVENANT CHURCH

AUGUST 17, 2025
+ THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

AUGUST 17, 2025
+ THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

PRELUDE

Prelude on *Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor*
Raymond H. Haan
Sam Parnin, Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Hunter and Libby Piotrowski



* CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from the day's lectionary texts

As we come to into worship this morning,

we say yes to following Jesus.

We say yes to learning how to interpret the present time.

We say yes to leaving behind the sin that weighs us down.

For you speak the word of truth

that breaks the rocks into pieces;

you accomplish justice,

maintaining the right of the lowly and the destitute;

and you call us to be people of faith

who believe that you will pioneer and perfect our faith,

who believe that suffering is not a sign of failure,

and who believe that you are making all things new.

Rise up, O God, and judge the earth,

for all the nations belong to you!

* OPENING HYMN 337

Whosoe'er, Anywhere

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

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Psalm Reading

Charles Olson, Reader

Psalm 82

New Testament Reading

Hebrews 11:29 - 12:2

* Gospel Reading

Luke 12:49-56

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

SPECIAL MUSIC

Just a Closer Walk with Thee
arr. Gary Lanier
Jon Boyd, Soprano Saxophone
Brian Ward, Piano

MESSAGE

Jeff Hunter

* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Holiness (Take My Life)
Scott Underwood
1995 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing (Admin. by Integrity Music)
Led by Kristen Hunter, Anders Johnson,
Sam Parnin, Brian Ward, and Ryan Wendt

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Come, O Sinners, Poor and Needy (324)
arr. Mark Hayes

* Doxology 48

* Prayer of Dedication

* CLOSING HYMN 284

God, Whose Purpose Is to Kindle

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Where Only the Lord Gives Guidance
Johann Topfer

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

1 Who - so - e'er, an - y - where seeks, may find sal - va - tion.
 2 Now be - hold Christ the bold frees us from death's an - guish.
 3 Hear him call un - to all, "Give me your heart's keep - ing."
 4 Don't de - lay, come to - day to the Fa - ther lov - ing.
 5 Yes, our Lord sends the word un - to ev - 'ry na - tion:

'Tis the word of our Lord un - to ev - 'ry na - tion.
 Suf - f'ring, he e - ter - nal - ly Sa - tan's pow'r did van - quish.
 From this day and for aye both in joy and weep - ing.
 Shun de - spair, trust his care, sin and shame re - mov - ing.
 who - so - e'er, an - y - where seeks, may find sal - va - tion.

WORDS: Nils Frykman, 1842-1911, tr. Karl A. Olsson, 1913-, © 1978, 1996 Covenant Publications
 MUSIC: Nils Frykman, 1842-1911

6.6.6.6.
 OPEN DOOR

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

Holiness (Take My Life)

Scott Underwood

F B♭ 9 C9 B♭ 9



Ho - li - ness, ho - li - ness is what I long for.
Faith - ful - ness, faith - ful - ness is what I long for.
Right - eous - ness, right - eous - ness is what I long for.
Brok - en - ness, brok - en - ness is what I long for.

F B♭ 9 C9 F B♭ 9



Ho - li - ness is what I need. Ho - li - ness, ho - li - ness
Faith - ful - ness is what I need. Faith - ful - ness, faith - ful - ness
Right - eous - ness is what I need. Right - eous - ness, right - eous - ness
Brok - en - ness is what I need. Brok - en - ness, brok - en - ness

C9 B♭ 9 F A♭ maj7 1. E♭ E♭



is what You want from me. So take my
is what You want from me.
is what You want from me.
is what You want from me.

F B♭ 9 C9 B♭ 9 F B♭ 9 C9 B♭ 9



heart and form it and take my mind and trans - form it. and take my

F B♭ 9 C9 B♭ 9 F B♭ 9 C9



will and con - form it to Yours, to Yours, O Lord.

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.

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 48

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

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and the same key signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

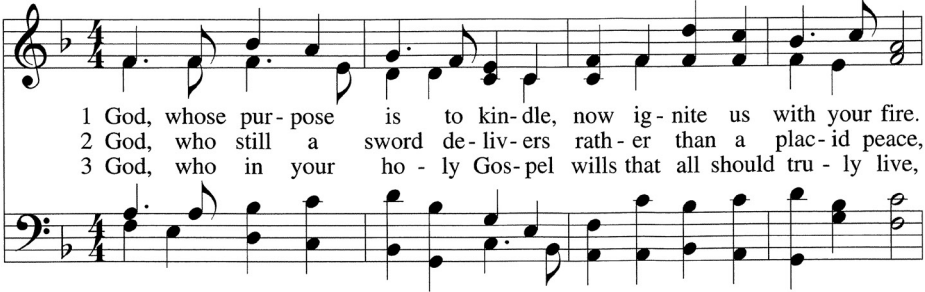
here be - low; praise him a - bove ye heav'n - ly host;

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, while the bass staff uses chords and single notes to support the harmony.


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

The third system concludes the piece. The treble staff ends with a double bar line, and the bass staff also concludes with a double bar line. The melody and accompaniment follow the same musical style as the previous systems.

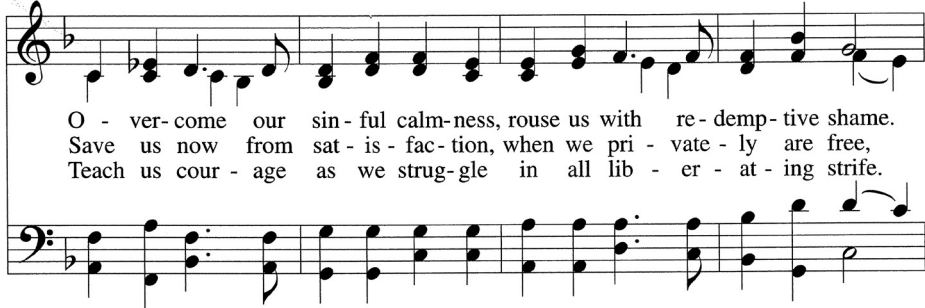
God, Whose Purpose Is to Kindle




1 God, whose pur- pose is to kin- dle, now ig- nite us with your fire.
 2 God, who still a sword de- liv- ers rath- er than a plac- id peace,
 3 God, who in your ho - ly Gos- pel wills that all should tru - ly live,



While the earth a - waits your burn- ing, with your pas- sion us in - spire.
 with your shar- pened word dis - turb us, from com - pla - cen - cy re - lease!
 make us sense our share of fail - ure, our tran - quil - li - ty for - give.



O - ver - come our sin - ful calm- ness, rouse us with re - demp - tive shame.
 Save us now from sat - is - fac - tion, when we pri - vate - ly are free,
 Teach us cour - age as we strug - gle in all lib - er - at - ing strife.



Bap - tize with your fi - ery Spir - it, crown our lives with tongues of flame.
 yet are un - dis - turb - ed in spir - it by our neigh - bor's mis - er - y.
 Lift the small - ness of our vi - sion by your own a - bun - dant life.

Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online!

We're glad you're here.

For your prayers this week:

- **our neighborhood**, specifically the west side of the 5400 block of N. Kimball; *"We pray that God would unveil within our neighbors and ourselves the unlimited riches of his glory and favor until supernatural strength floods their and our innermost beings with his divine might and explosive power."* (Ephesians 3:16)
- **Eileen Thorpe**, recuperating after Mohs surgery on her face this past Thursday
- **Pastor Dany Flores and family**, mourning the passing of her mother on August 3
- **Mary Ann Slaughter**, Rosemary's sister-in-law, struggling with serious health issues
- **Huck Johnson**, recuperating after surgery to repair a torn ACL this past Friday
- **Lynn Pearson**, hospitalized with low potassium and a possible infection
- **Pete Pearson**, hospitalized with an infection
- **Millie Lungren and family**, mourning the passing of her sister Margaret Bruland, on July 5
- **Sandy Edstrom**, still experiencing pain, even after a second epidural shot
- **Bruce Strom**, continuing to recuperate after a fall
- **Janet Olfelt**, Joel Olfelt's mother, moved to a skilled nursing facility for further recovery after a fall
- **Zeynab and her two sons**, in search of an apartment in the Chicago area as they await word about their asylum case; and for Zeynab's daughter, **Sophia**, who could potentially be released from the detention center if she can find a sponsor
- **Gunnel Brunsell**, in palliative care
- **Diane Haglund**, continuing to struggle with fatigue, which is affecting her ability to work



Welcome to North Park Covenant Church! If you're new here today, we invite you to scan the QR code to learn more about us and, perhaps, get a little more connected.

Childcare is available in the toddler room (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.

Vida Plena, a Spanish-speaking Covenant church plant that meets here, invites you to worship every Sunday at 1:30 pm. For more information, contact Pastor Dany Flores at 872-357-9080.

Visit with the Norens: Paul and Sheryl Noren, Covenant missionaries to Congo, Cameroon, and CAR, will be in town and staying with Eileen Thorpe for a few days at the end of the month. While they will not be speaking here at NPCC, the Norens would love to visit with some of you over coffee and dessert. Eileen has offered to host a gathering at her house on the evening of Friday, August 29, at 7 pm. If you would like to attend, please notify Pastor Libby at lpiotrowski@npcovenant.org by Wednesday, August 27.

It's Time Again for Outdoor Worship and a Block Party! On Sunday, September 7, we will hold our 10:30 am worship service out in the south garden (weather permitting), followed by a block party on Christiana, complete with volleyball, a dunk tank, and cotton candy. We'll provide a taco bar and ask that members and friends bring a side or a dessert to contribute to the meal. In case of inclement weather, we'll move indoors to the sanctuary and parlors. Invite your neighbors and friends! All are welcome!

**Lectionary texts for
Sunday, August 24:**

Isaiah 58:9b-14

Psalms 103:1-8

Hebrews 12:18-29

Luke 13:10-17

The Ministry Fair Returns! On Sunday, September 14, following our 10:30 am worship service, we will hold a Ministry Fair—a way to share the ministry opportunities of this church body and welcome one another into service—complete with a raffle surprise! We invite you to come to the church parlors to learn more about how you might bring your gifts to the table and serve in ways in which you are best suited, to build God's Kingdom here on earth where good can flourish in every corner, for God's glory and for neighbors' good.

The Friendship Center invites you to this year's End Hunger Games, a family-friendly fundraiser to support 70,000 neighbors facing hunger on Chicago's northwest side. Each \$40 ticket will include entry, food, two beers, and carnival-theme gameplay on Saturday, September 6. Buy your tickets today at friendshipcenterchicago.org/ehg!

You are invited to register for Church at the Crossroads. This unique gathering will bring together pastors, theologians, and peacemakers from Palestine and North America to reflect, worship, and press into the radical call of Jesus in these challenging times. The gathering will take place from September 11-13, at Parkview Community Church (Glen Ellyn, IL). If you haven't registered yet, you can use their 10% discount code—bethbc—when signing up. This is more than a conference—it's a chance to stand together for justice, peace, and hope. Let's meet at the crossroads. To learn more, [click here](#). To register, [click here](#).

Are you looking for a way to serve at NPCC? We always welcome people who are willing to hang out with the littlest in our community or help serve refreshments after the worship service! [Click here to put your name down for a Sunday or two.](#)

The Church Calendar This Week

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

Monday, August 18

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

Tuesday, August 19

- 4:30 pm Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 6 pm Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

Wednesday, August 20

- 4:30 pm Midweek Pause (Jeanette's Office)
- 7 pm Knit or Not (Location TBD)

Thursday, August 21

- 4:30 pm Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 6 pm Youth Group Picnic in the Park (Irene C. Hernandez Family Picnic Grove)

Saturday, August 23

- 8 am Geezerball (Gym)
- 10:15 am Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

Sunday, August 24

- 10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 1:30 pm Vida Plena Covenant Church Worship Service (Parlors)
- 7 pm AA Meeting (Parlors)

North Park Covenant Church Staff

Jeff Hunter, Co-pastor Libby Piotrowski, Co-pastor
jhunter@npcovenant.org lp Piotrowski@npcovenant.org
ext. 525 ext. 515

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

Jeanette Mottl, Pastor for Community Connection,
with a Focus on Youth and College Students

jmottl@npcovenant.org

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

Sam Parnin, Organist
sparnin@npcovenant.org

Linnea Olfelt, Chancel Handbell Choir Director
lolfelt@npcovenant.org

Christian Schuetz, Custodian
cschuetz@npcovenant.org

Ann-Marie Olson 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

Nadia Jiménez,
Executive Director
2711 West Lawrence Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60625
(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,
Regional Coordinators for 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