



NORTH PARK

COVENANT CHURCH

OCTOBER 19, 2025
+ THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

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PRELUDE

Come, Ye Disconsolate
arr. Dale Wood
Sam Parnin, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Hunter and Libby Piotrowski



INTROIT

Lift Up Your Heads to the Coming King
Hymnal Selection 33
Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 121

I lift my eyes to the hills — from where does my help come?

My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber

He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

**The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.**

* OPENING HYMN 7

I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath

* 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.

PRAYER FOR THE JOURNEY

JP DeNeui

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Reading

Garry Arkema, Reader

New Testament Reading

Genesis 32:22-31

* Gospel Reading

2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:5

The Word of the Lord.

Luke 18:1-8

Thanks be to God.

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

Emily Cody

CHORAL ANTHEM

He, Watching Over Israel
from *Elijah*
Felix Mendelssohn

He, watching over Israel, slumbers not nor sleeps;
should'st thou, walking in grief, languish,
He will quicken thee.

MESSAGE

Jeanette Mottl

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Lord, You Have My Heart
Martin Smith
Led by Kristen Hunter, Anders Johnson,
Brian Ward, Lauren Wargaski, 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

For the Beauty of the Earth
Hymnal Selection 56, arr. Douglas E. Wagner
Chancel Handbell Choir, Linnea Olfelt, Director

* Doxology 48

* Prayer of Dedication

* CLOSING HYMN 399

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

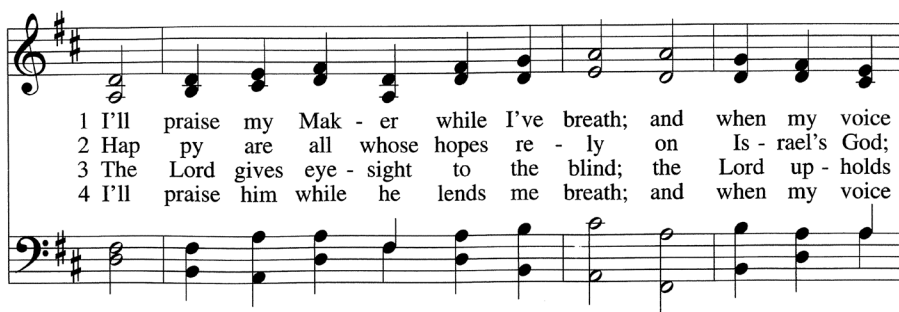
Sing Praise to God
Edward Broughton
Brian Ward, Organ

*Please remain seated for the postlude, pausing as the light of Christ is carried out
and imagining how you might carry that light into the world this week.*

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

I'll Praise My Maker While I've Breath

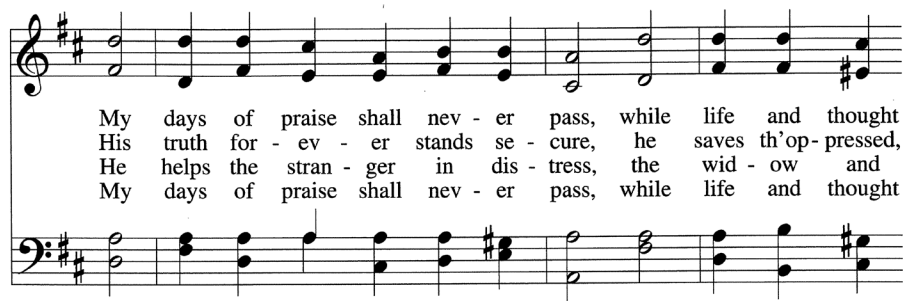
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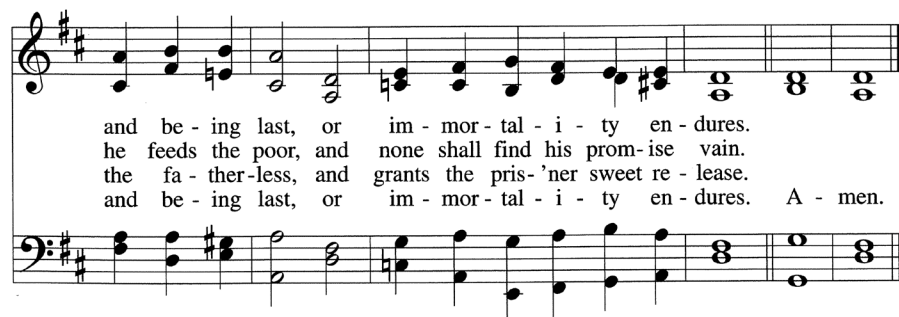
1 I'll praise my Mak - er while I've breath; and when my voice
2 Hap py are all whose hopes re - ly on Is - rael's God;
3 The Lord gives eye - sight to the blind; the Lord up - holds
4 I'll praise him while he lends me breath; and when my voice



is lost in death, praise shall em - ploy my no - bler pow'rs.
he made the sky and earth and seas, with all their train.
the faint - ing mind; he sends the bur - dened con - science peace.
is lost in death, praise shall em - ploy my no - bler pow'rs.



My days of praise shall nev - er pass, while life and thought
His truth for - ev - er stands se - cure, he saves th'op - pressed,
He helps the stran - ger in dis - tress, the wid - ow and
My days of praise shall nev - er pass, while life and thought



and be - ing last, or im - mor - tal - i - ty en - dures.
he feeds the poor, and none shall find his prom - ise vain.
the fa - ther - less, and grants the pris - 'ner sweet re - lease.
and be - ing last, or im - mor - tal - i - ty en - dures. A - men.

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

1992 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

7. 1.

on.
fice.

This musical score is for the vocal part of the piece. It consists of two staves, a treble staff and a bass staff, both in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps: F# and C#). The time signature is 4/4. The melody begins on the treble staff with a quarter note D5, followed by a half rest, and then a whole rest. The bass staff begins with a quarter note D4, followed by a half rest, and then a whole rest. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots on both staves. The lyrics 'on. fice.' are written below the first measure of the treble staff.

9

I will praise you Lord

and I will praise you Lord and I will

15

I will sing of love come down show your

sing of love come down and as you show your face,

21

face, we'll see your glo - ry here

we'll see your glo - ry here

Words and music by Martin Smith

CCLI # 1108735

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 48

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

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The treble staff features a melody of eighth and quarter notes, while the bass staff provides 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 has a more varied melodic line with some dotted notes, and the bass staff continues with a steady accompaniment.

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

The third system concludes the piece. The treble staff ends with a final cadence, and the bass staff provides a solid foundation for the concluding notes. The piece ends with a double bar line.

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

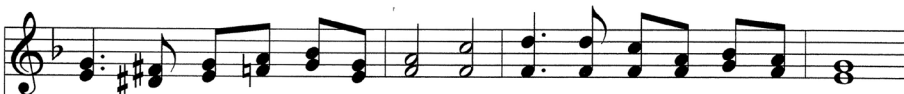
399



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
 3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer!
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our re - fuge—take it to the Lord in prayer!



O what peace we of - ten for - feit, O what need - less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful, who will all our sor - rows share?
 Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer.
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer!
 In his arms he'll take and shield you— you will find a sol - ace there.

WORDS: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886
 MUSIC: Charles C. Converse, 1832-1918

8.7.8.7.D.
 ERIE

Alternate tune: BLAENWERN, 279

Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online!

We're glad you're here.

If you're new here today, we invite you to email the co-pastors at copastors@npcovenant.org to learn more about us and, perhaps, get a little more connected.

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

For your prayers this week:

- **our neighborhood**, specifically the east side of the 5500 block of N. Christiana, the south side of the 3300 block of W. Catalpa, and the north side of the 3300 block of W. Bryn Mawr; *"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)
- **our immigrant brothers and sisters**, as ICE are present and active and the National Guard has arrived
- **Sally Engebretson**, recuperating after her second knee-replacement surgery last Wednesday
- **Melanie Jones**, for strength to live with chronic pain
- **Diane Haglund**, experiencing hip pain
- **Matt Johnson**, Pastor Libby's brother, recuperating after surgery last Thursday to repair a severed tendon in his ankle
- **Lynn Pearson**, at Brandel Care Center for continuing care
- **Bonnie Borgeson**, Cheryl Borgeson's sister, undergoing chemo treatments through mid-November
- **Gunnel Brunsell**, on hospice care and declining
- **Jan Huber**, recuperating well after successful shoulder surgery
- **Steve Brown**, who has been dealing with pancreatic cancer
- **Sandy Edstrom**, still experiencing sciatic pain
- **Janet Olfelt**, Joel Olfelt's mother, in skilled nursing for further recovery after a fall
- **Zeynab and her two sons**, awaiting word about their asylum case; and for Zeynab's daughter, **Soofia**, who remains in a detention center in California

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.

Members and friends are invited to be a part of a Saturday-morning trash brigade, working to clean up the block mentioned in today's neighborhood prayer. Please reach out to Janette and Roderick Smith at rjonberber@sbcglobal.net for more details.

It's almost Christmas...! And that means it's time for our annual Christmas Greens fundraiser to support our youth ministries! We'll have Christmas greens available for order between October 12 and November 9, [using this link](#). They'll be available for pick-up after the service in the alley parking lot on Sunday, November 23. Please reach out to Jeanette if you have any questions or problems ordering!



Let's Talk Albany Park Arts & Culture: All are welcome to attend a community-building and brainstorming session on how to support neighborhood arts and culture. Come to Movement on Montrose (2951 W. Montrose) on Thursday, October 23, from 6 to 8:30 pm for this family-friendly event. You're also invited to take a survey on what you think of arts and culture in Albany Park using the QR code at the left.

Join us for a blood drive! On Saturday, October 25, we will hold a blood drive from 10 am to 2 pm in the parlors, through Versiti Blood Centers. Come do your part to increase the supply of blood for those in need. Did you know? More than 75% of Americans reaching age 72 will need donated blood within their lifetime. To sign up, please [click here](#).

North Park Readers' Next Meeting The next meeting for the North Park Readers will be on Tuesday, October 28, at 7 pm, at Karen Darelius' house. We will be reading *One Hundred Saturdays* by Michael Frank. This is the story of Stella Levi, a 99-year-old survivor of Auschwitz, who shares her life in conversations with writer Michael Frank over the course of six years. Please contact Helen Arkema at helen.arkema@gmail.com if you have any questions.

**Lectionary texts for
Sunday, October 26:**

Jeremiah 23:16-29

Psalm 46

1 Peter 4:12-19

John 2:13-22

Night of the Walking Taco returns! Come to the corner of Christiana and Berwyn between 5 and 7:30 pm on Halloween night for free hot cocoa and walking tacos . . . if you dare! We can't wait to see all of the costume creativity we know our neighbors possess! And, if you're willing and able to help with set-up, serving, and/or clean-up, please [reach out to Pastor Jeff](#).

Support Our Biking for Congo Participants: The following church members have signed up to participate in Biking for Congo this month. To support them, you can visit their respective fundraising pages:

- [Wally Ebner](#)

- [Joline Paska](#)

- [Sue Vandervoort](#)

New Members Class Planned for November 15 Have you been wondering about membership at North Park Covenant Church and what it might mean? Do you have questions about the church and/or the Covenant denomination? Would you like to learn more without an obligation to join the church? We'd love to have you join us at our next new members class, which will be offered on Saturday, November 15, from 9 am to 1 pm. Breakfast and lunch will be included! Please let Pastor Libby or Pastor Jeff know of your interest, and we'll add your name to the list and be in touch!

Do you need offering envelopes for 2026? Each year, we order offering envelopes for those members and friends who wish to use them for their weekly giving. If you received envelopes last year and wish to receive them again this year, you do not need to do anything. However, if you received them last year and *do not* wish to continue receiving them, or if you did not receive them last year and *do* want to receive them for next year, please reach out to Ann-Marie in the church office by Thursday, October 30, to let her know. Thank you!

Library Books to Support Sunday School: Did you know that the church library has books to support the goals and themes of our church's Sunday School curriculum this fall? In the library you will find handouts listing books that can be used at home to further explore these goals and themes. If you prefer to have a list emailed to you, contact Lori Johnson at lorifjohnson9@gmail.com. While you are in the library, be sure to check out the October book display celebrating Arts and Humanities Month.

Donations Needed! More than 300 people are currently living in the shelter on Foster Avenue in our neighborhood. Families at the shelter include those who are very recent arrivals from other countries as well as native-born families experiencing homelessness. Many adult residents have jobs; their kids attend local schools. They are hoping to find stability and permanent housing. The need for assistance is great. Since October 2023, our neighborhood has risen to the challenge of supporting families living in the shelter; please join us as we continue to meet the needs of this community.

The Hollywood-North Park Community Association is committed to supporting the dignity, safety, and health of the families who reside at the shelters. Items purchased from the [Amazon Wish List](#) should be shipped to the gift registry address. This will ensure shipment directly to the shelter. This is a great way to support families quickly and directly with little effort on your part. Thank you for your help!

Refugee Support Always Welcomed: If you would like to contribute to refugee support to help those in our community, you may do so by going to www.npcovenant.org/give and selecting "Refugee Family/Immigrant Support Fund" from the drop-down menu.

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. *Please note: this is a new link.*

The Church Calendar This Week

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

Monday, October 20

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, October 21

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, October 22

10 am	Wednesday Women's Bible Study (Edstrom Home)
6 pm	Gather Dinner (Parlors)
6:30 pm	Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Side Balcony, Sanctuary)
	Contemporary Music Rehearsal (Choir Room)
7 pm	Knit or Not (Coffee Lounge)
	Middle-school Youth Group (Youth Room near the Gym)
7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, October 23

4:30 pm	Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
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Friday, October 24

1 pm	Prayer Group Gathering (Edstrom Home)
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Saturday, October 25

8 am	Geezerball (Gym)
10 am	Versiti Blood Drive (Parlors)
10:15 am	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

Sunday, October 26 - Reformation Sunday

9 am	Confirmation (Staff Conference Room)
9:15 am	Adult Formation (Parlors)
	Bible Journaling (Art Room)
	Sunday School for Preschool - 6th Grade (Junior Chapel)
10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
12 pm	Youth Choir Rehearsal (Junior Chapel)
1:30 pm	Vida Plena Covenant Church Worship Service (Parlors)
7 pm	AA Meeting (Parlors)
	High-school Youth Group (Attic Youth Room)

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, Church Administrator
aolson@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

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.

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