

# **NORTH PARK**

## **COVENANT CHURCH**

JANUARY 18, 2026  
+ THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY +

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PRELUDE

Prelude on the Introit of the Epiphany  
Maurice Duruflé  
Sam Parnin, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Hunter and Libby Piotrowski



CHORAL INTROIT

It Is Your Name  
Gregory Norbet

Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

It is your name we bear in our hearts,  
and we know it through Jesus' words of life.  
All the love you have given to him:  
in this we share, in this we live.

May we all be one in God's life  
and see his presence so longing to be known.  
And the path that we are free to choose  
will lead us on in search for what is real.

True to his name we hope to live forever,  
seeking peace that comes from deep within.  
When we search for meaning beyond words,  
we'll see a new day dawning in our world.

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Jeanette Mottl  
from Psalm 40

Happy are those who make the Lord their trust.

**I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.**

Wait patiently for the Lord, for the Lord will incline his ear to you and hear your cry.

**He will draw me up from the desolate pit and set my feet upon a rock,  
making my steps secure.**

He will put a new song in your mouth, a song of praise to our God.

**Do not, O Lord, withhold your mercy from me;**

**let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever.**

\* OPENING HYMN 299

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

\* UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER 887

**Steadfast and faithful God, we gather together this morning to seek after you. In this world both beautiful and broken, we come to worship with so much in our hearts. Some of us come with joyfilled hearts, others of us feel weighed down by worry, anxiety, illness, and doubt. All of us come needing the strength that only you can provide. Meet us here and fill us with your Spirit so that we might be your faithful servants, today and every day, and found blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. These things we pray in the name of He who was, who is, and who is to come, and who taught us all to pray, saying...**

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

PRAYER FOR THE JOURNEY

Emily Cody

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Jan Huber, Reader

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 49:1-7

New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

\* Gospel Reading

John 1:29-42

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

CHORAL ANTHEM

Sing Out a Song

Don Besig and Nancy Price

Sing out a song unto the Lord.

Let the people rejoice, lift up your voice.

Let joyful anthems resound.

Sing out a song unto the Lord, our God!

Let all nations be glad this day,  
and give thanks to God for all of His love.

Let all peoples arise and say,  
“He is marvelous, He is wonderful,  
He is ruler of earth and heaven above!”

Sing out a song unto the Lord.  
Let the people rejoice, lift up your voice.  
Let joyful anthems resound.  
Sing out a song unto the Lord, our God!  
Come rejoice, lift your voice.  
Sing out a song!

MESSAGE

Libby Piotrowski

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

\* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

I Give You My Heart

Reuben Morgan

Led by Andrew Berg, Kristen Hunter,  
Anders Johnson, Sam Parnin, 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](http://www.npcovenant.org/give).*

Offertory

Lead, Kindly Light, Amid the Encircling Gloom

arr. Dale Wood

\* Doxology 48

\* Prayer of Dedication

PRAYER OF SENDING FOR SARA AND RYAN WENDT

\* CLOSING HYMN 696

This Little Light of Mine

\* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

arr. Mary McDonald

Brian Ward, Organ

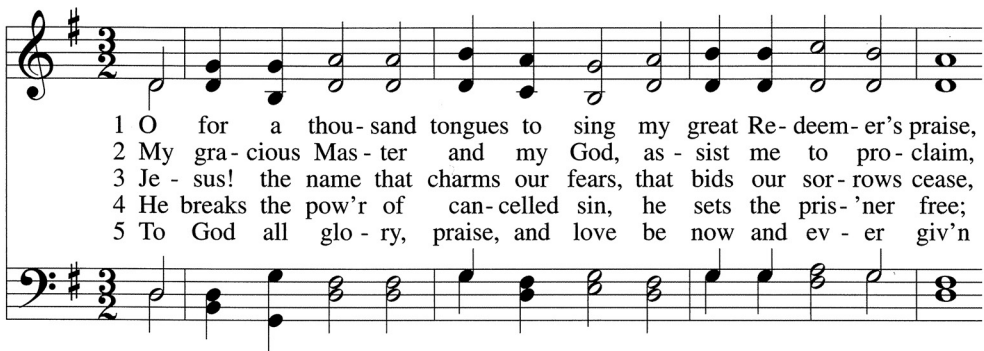
*Please remain seated for the postlude, pausing as the light of Christ is carried out  
and imagining how you might carry that light into the world this week.*

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

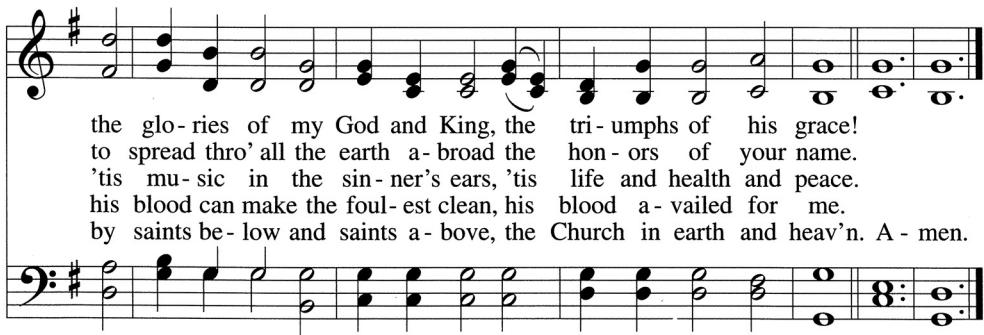
*Prayer is offered in the south chapel after the service.  
In addition, if you have prayer requests to be shared confidentially with the pastors,  
there is a prayer box located in the narthex, as well as slips of paper and a pen  
in the box's drawer for your use.*

# O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

299



1 O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,  
 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,  
 3 Je-sus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sor-rows cease,  
 4 He breaks the pow'r of can-celled sin, he sets the pris-'ner free;  
 5 To God all glo-ry, praise, and love be now and ev-er giv'n



the glo-ries of my God and King, the tri-umphs of his grace!  
 to spread thro' all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.  
 'tis mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.  
 his blood can make the foul-est clean, his blood a-vailed for me.  
 by saints be-low and saints a-bove, the Church in earth and heav'n. A-men.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.  
 MUSIC: Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

C.M.  
 AZMON

# I Give You My Heart

Reuben Morgan

1995 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)



This is my de - sire: to ho - nor You.



Lord, with all my heart, I wor - ship You.



All I have with - in me, I give You praise.



All that I a - dore is in You.



Lord, I give You my heart, I give You my soul. I live for You a-lone.



E-very breath that I take, e-very mo-ment I'm a - wake, Lord,



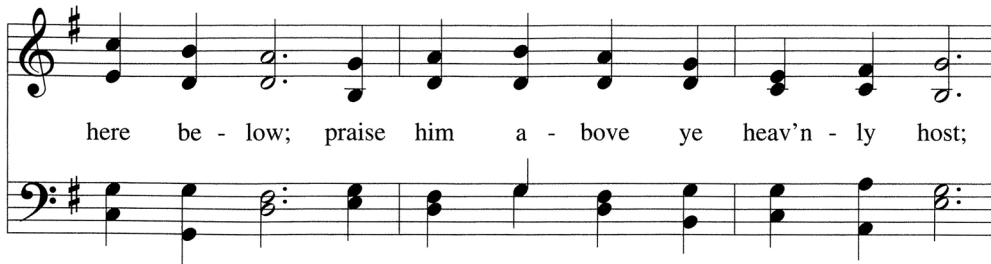
have Your way in me.

# 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 two staves. 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 melody.



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. The bass staff also concludes with a double bar line. The melody for 'A - men' is short and simple, ending on a half note.

# This Little Light of Mine

696

1 This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine,

this lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine, let it

shine, let it shine, let it shine.

2. Everywhere I go today  
3. All around my neighborhood

4. Let it shine 'til Jesus comes

WORDS: African-American spiritual

MUSIC: African-American spiritual; arr. A. Royce Eckhardt, 1937-, © 1996 A. Royce Eckhardt



# ***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](mailto: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.

**Join us following worship today** for a town hall conversation on the proposed budget for 2026, which we will vote on at our **Congregational Annual Meeting Part I on Sunday, January 25**. An update on North Park Church Cooperative Preschool will also be shared. A snack lunch will be provided.

**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.

**The church office will be closed** tomorrow, Monday, January 19, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr., Day.

**The North Park Readers will resume** meeting for 2026 on Tuesday, January 27, at 7 pm. We will be reading *A Piece of the World* by Christina Baker Kline. We will meet at Helen Arkema's house. If you have any questions, please contact Helen at [helen.arkema@gmail.com](mailto:helen.arkema@gmail.com).

**Members and friends are invited** to be a part of a Saturday-morning trash brigade, working to clean up an area of our community, guided by this month's community prayer. Please reach out to Janette and Roderick Smith at [rjonberber@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rjonberber@sbcglobal.net) for more details.

**January is National Hobby Month**, the perfect time of year to pick up a new hobby or get back into an old one you haven't thought about in a while! On display are books about cooking, gardening, sewing, art, reading, and travel.

**It's time again to clear out** our Lost & Found. If you think you've left something at church, please come to the office during the week or call Ann-Marie to ask about any particular items. Anything not claimed by the end of January will either be donated or tossed. Thank you!

**If you requested offering envelopes** for 2026, they are now available for pick-up in the parlors. If you need someone to bring yours to you, please let Ann-Marie know, and she will coordinate that for you.

**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.

### **Lectionary texts for Sunday, January 25:**

Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalms 27:1, 4-9

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 4:12-23

## *for your prayers this week*

- **Community prayer:** As we begin this new year, pray that God would help our eyes be open to the people around us, those we know and don't know. May we be a people of invitation and hospitality.
- **our immigrant brothers and sisters**, as ICE activity continues in the area
- **Paul Wargaski**, hospitalized after an abnormal EKG revealed he has small blood clots in his heart
- **John Goode**, home again after a brief hospitalization this past week
- **family and friends of Adam Griswold**, who passed away last week
- **Lilly Colon**, who fractured her foot this past Wednesday and is praying she won't need surgery
- Ruthanne Werner's sister, **Debbie Gustafson**, for whom we have prayed in the past during her battle with metastatic breast cancer, now on hospice care; and Debbie's husband, **Don**, recuperating following triple bypass surgery this past Tuesday
- **Eric Hoffman**, recuperating after ankle surgery this past Thursday
- Julie and David Bromley's long-time friend **Tim Dixon**, rejoicing that doctors have seen a dramatic reduction in the cancer, extending his life expectancy
- **Bruce Strom**, doing well after doctors were able to right his dislocated hip without surgery
- **Matthew**, a cousin to Dorothy Schmidt who is struggling significantly with his mental health
- Rosemary Slaughter's cousin **Judy Wiley**, who fell recently, bruising her collarbone and injuring her leg
- **Darlene Johnson**, recovering from a badly broken arm
- Marti and Nabil Hindaileh's daughters **Kaitlin and Sofia**, displaced from their apartment by a fire
- **Tami Losey**, Marti Hindaileh's sister, in need of bloodwork and a PET scan to determine if a lesion on her spleen is cancerous, but it's not covered by Medicaid
- Janice Finney's mother, **Shirley**, recovering after a fall in which she broke her leg
- Pastor Libby's four-year-old nephew, **Mo Johnson-Collins**, and his parents, awaiting next steps related to two masses on his liver, which have been determined to be benign
- **Twyla Horten and son Ryan**, mourning the passing of husband and father Lee on December 10
- Michael Shawn Sanders' friend **John C.**, on hospice after being diagnosed with an untreatable tumor
- **Lynn Pearson**, continuing to recuperate at home
- **Andrea Feijoo**, Janice Kelly's niece, diagnosed with an aggressive liver cancer
- Joline and Steve Paska's friend **Maggie**, diagnosed with stage 3 endometrial cancer
- **Melanie Jones**, for strength to live with chronic pain
- **Steve Brown**, who has been dealing with pancreatic cancer
- **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
- **Silas**, 12-year old son of Rachel and James Ventress, diagnosed with a bone disease
- **Mercedes**, 9-year-old daughter of Rachel and James Ventress, diagnosed with a form of epilepsy

## **The Church Calendar This Week**

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

### *Monday, January 19 - Office Closed - Martin Luther King, Jr., Day*

4:20 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)
6:30 pm	Geezerball (Gym)
7:30 pm	Centering Prayer (Staff Conference Room)

### *Tuesday, January 20*

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)
7 pm	Executive Council Meeting (Large Conference Room)
8:15 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)

### *Wednesday, January 21*

11 am	Wednesday Women's Bible Study Christmas Party (Edstrom Home)
4:30 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)
6 pm	Gather Dinner (Parlors)
6:30 pm	Hygiene Pack Assembly (Parlors)
	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)
7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

### *Thursday, January 22*

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

### *Friday, January 23*

1 pm	Prayer Group Gathering (Edstrom Home)
4:30 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)

### *Saturday, January 24*

8 am	Geezerball (Gym)
10:15 am	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)
12:30 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)
5 pm	HP/NP Community Support Review (Parlors)

*Sunday, January 25*

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)
11:45 am	Congregational Annual Meeting - Part I (Parlors)
1:30 pm	Vida Plena Covenant Church Worship Service (Parlors)
7 pm	AA Meeting (Parlors)
	High-school Youth Group (Attic Youth Room)

Jeff Hunter, Co-pastor jhunter@npcovenant.org ext. 525	Libby Piotrowski, Co-pastor lp Piotrowski@npcovenant.org ext. 515
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Jeanette Mottl, Pastor for Community Connection,  
with a Focus on Youth and College Students

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

Becky Edwards,  
Administrative Director

Lyndsey Wellner,  
Head Teacher/Educational Director

Jennifer Glazier,  
Assistant Teacher

(773) 463-0055, ext. 520

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Nadia Jiménez,  
Executive Director

2711 West Lawrence Avenue  
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Peter and Anna Kim, Taiwan

Paul and Sheryl Noren, Congo

Chris Peterson, Regional Coordinator for Europe

Eugenio and Pia Restrepo,

Regional Coordinators for Latin America

James and Rachel Ventress, Alaska

*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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