



NORTH PARK COVENANT CHURCH

**JANUARY 25, 2026
+ THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY +**

JANUARY 25, 2026
+ THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY +

PRELUDE

Two Fishermen
Hymnal Selection 328, arr. Mark Hayes
Sam Parnin, Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moment for Mission

Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter
Reverend Jyotirmaya Deep,
The Hindustani Covenant Church



CHORAL INTROIT

Christ Is the World's Light
Hymnal Selection 107, verses 1 and 4
Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

* CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 27

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

One thing I asked of the Lord; this I seek:

to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the Lord,
and to inquire in his temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will set me high on a rock.

Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me!

“Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!” Your face, Lord, do I seek.

Do not hide your face from me.

Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help.

Do not cast me off;

do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

* OPENING HYMN 308

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

* 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

Old Testament Reading

Bonnie Pfeiffelman, Reader

Isaiah 9:1-4

New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

* Gospel Reading

Matthew 4:12-23

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

CHORAL ANTHEM

Come Christians, Join to Sing
Hymnal Selection 295, arr. Gordon Young

MESSAGE

Jeff Hunter

PASTORAL PRAYER

* SONG OF RESPONSE

Light the Fire
Bill Maxwell

Led by Kristen Hunter, Anders Johnson, Sam Parnin, and Brian Ward

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

The Kingdom Is Yours

Aaron Keyes, Brittney Spencer, Dee Wilson, Micah Massey

10000 Fathers (Admin. by Integrity Music)

BSpencer Publishing (Admin. by Integrity Music)

Common Hymnal Digital (Admin. by Integrity Music)

Common Hymnal Publishing (Admin. by Integrity Music)

The Wilson Songbook Publishing (Admin. by Integrity Music)

Blessed are the ones who do not bury

all the broken pieces of their heart.

Blessed are the tears of all the weary,

pouring like a sky of falling stars.

Blessed are the wounded ones in mourning,
brave enough to show the Lord their scars.

Blessed are the hurts that are not hidden,

open to the healing touch of God.

Refrain: The Kingdom is yours; the Kingdom is yours.

Hold on a little more, this is not the end.

Hope is in the Lord; keep your eyes on Him. (Repeat)

And blessed are the ones who walk in kindness,
even in the face of great abuse.

Blessed are the deeds that go unnoticed,
serving with unguarded gratitude.

And blessed are the ones who fight for justice,
longing for the coming day of peace.

Blessed is the soul that thirsts for righteousness,
welcoming the last, the lost, the least. *Refrain*

Blessed are the ones who suffer violence
and still have strength to love their enemies.

Blessed is the faith of those who persevere.
Though they fall, they'll never know defeat. *Refrain*

* Doxology 48

* Prayer of Dedication

* CLOSING HYMN 379

Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Postlude on *Old Hundredth*
Hymnal Selection 48, arr. Fred Bock

*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.*

308 Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly light,
 2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com-pa - nied by thee;
 3 Vis - it then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;

Sun of Righ - teous-ness, a - rise, tri - umph o'er the shades of night;
 joy - less is the day's re - turn till thy mer - cy's beams I see,
 fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;

Day - spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
 till they in - ward light im - part, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.
 more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

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

Light the Fire

Bill Maxwell

1986 Bloodsmith Music

4

I stand to praise You, but I fall on my knees. My

4

I stand to praise You, but I fall on my knees. My

6

spir - it is will- ing, but my flesh is so weak. Light the fire

spir - it is will- ing, but my flesh is so weak.

10

in my soul; fan the flame make me Lord, You know

Light the fire in my wear-y soul; fan the flame make my spir - it

14

where I've been, so light the fire in my heart a -

whole, Lord, You know where I've been so light the fire in my heart a -

17

gain. Light the fire in my heart a - gain. I feel Your arms a -

gain. Light the fire in my heart a - gain. I feel Your arms a -

21

round me as the power of Your healing be - gins. You

round me as the power of Your healing be - gins. You

24

breathe new life right through me like a mighty rush - ing wind. Light the fire

breathe new life right through me like a mighty rush - ing wind.

28

in my soul; fan the flame make me whole. Lord, You know

Light the fire in my weary soul. Fan the flame; make my spirit

32

where I've been so light the fire in my heart a -

whole. Lord, You know where I've been so light the fire in my heart a -

35

gain; Light the fire in my heart a - gain. Light the fire

gain Light the fire in my heart a - gain.

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 48

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures
here below; praise him above ye heav'n ly host;
praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Jesus Calls Us o'er the Tumult

379



1 Je - sus calls us o'er the tu - mult of our life's wild, rest-less sea;
2 As of old a - pos-tles heard it by the Gal - i - le - an lake,
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the vain world's gold-en store,
4 In our joys and in our sor-rows, days of toil and hours of ease,
5 Je - sus calls us: by your mer-cies, Sav-ior, may we hear your call,



day by day his voice is sound - ing say - ing, "Chris-tian, fol - low me."
turned from home and toil and kin - dred, leav - ing all for his dear sake.
from each i - dol that would keep us, say - ing, "Chris-tian, love me more."
still he calls in cares and plea - sures, "Chris-tian, love me more than these."
give our hearts to your o - be - dience, serve and love you best of all.



WORDS: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895, alt.

MUSIC: William H. Jude, 1851-1922

8.7.8.7.

GALILEE

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@np covenant.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 part one of our Congregational Annual Meeting. Items on the agenda include annual reports from boards, church co-chairs, pastors, conference, and denomination; approval of the 2026 budget; a vote on North Park Church Cooperative Preschool; a vote on Building with Faithfulness tithe options; and a vote on ECC tithing. A Zoom link for the meeting will be shared in the livestream chat. As a reminder, all are welcome to attend, but only members may vote.

Giving statements are available for pick-up in the parlors today. Any statements that aren't picked up today will be mailed out tomorrow.

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 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 ijonberber@sbcglobal.net for more details.

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.

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.

Are you a musician? A storyteller? A poet or comedian? Do you have a fun skill that would astonish and impress your fellow churchgoers? Then we want you to sign up to participate in our annual Coffeehouse. On Saturday, February 21, at 6:30 pm, performers and audience members alike are invited to the church parlors for an evening that's like no other! We'll have coffee, lemonade, and snacks to enjoy. Reach out to emcee Joel Piotrowski if you'd like to be added to the program. You won't want to miss it!

Lectionary texts for Sunday, February 1:

Micah 6:1-8

Psalm 15

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12

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.

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
- **the people of Minneapolis, MN**, as they experience ICE activity
- Michael Shawn Sanders' friend **John C.** passed away this past Saturday; he is survived by his partner and son
- **Eileen Thorpe**, recuperating after undergoing an ablation procedure this past Thursday
- **family and friends of Bud Hodgkinson**, who passed away on December 28
- **family and friends of Jewel Otten**, former regular attender here, who passed away January 7
- **Paul Wargaski**, home again after hospitalization due to learning he has small blood clots in his heart
- **John Goode**, home again after a brief hospitalization last week
- **family and friends of Adam Griswold**, who passed away earlier this month
- Janice Finney's mother, **Shirley**, making strides toward improvement as her leg heals
- **Lilly Colon**, recuperating after fracturing her foot a couple of weeks ago
- 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 a couple of weeks ago
- **Eric Hoffman**, recuperating after ankle surgery on January 15
- 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
- **Matthew**, a cousin to Dorothy Schmidt who is struggling significantly with his mental health
- **Darlene Johnson**, recovering from a badly broken arm
- Marti and Nabil Hindaleh's daughters **Kaitlin and Sofia**, displaced from their apartment by a fire
- **Tami Losey**, Marti Hindaleh'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
- 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
- **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 degenerative 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 and is updated as changes occur.

Monday, January 26

9:15 am	Women's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
10:30 am	Staff Meeting (Staff Conference Room)
4 pm	Tutoring (Parlors)
4:20 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)
6:30 pm	Geezerball (Gym)
7:30 pm	Centering Prayer (via Zoom)

Tuesday, January 27

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)
8:15 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)

Wednesday, January 28

10 am	Wednesday Women's Bible Study (Edstrom Home)
4:30 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)
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, January 29

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

Friday, January 30

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

Saturday, January 31

8 am	Geezerball (Gym)
10:15 am	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)
12:30 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)

Sunday, February 1

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)
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
jhunter@npcoovenant.org
ext. 525

Libby Piotrowski, Co-pastor
lpiotrowski@npcoovenant.org
ext. 515

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

Jeanette Mottl, Pastor for Community Connection,
with a Focus on Youth and College Students
jmottl@npcoovenant.org

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

Sam Parnin, Organist
sparnin@npcoovenant.org

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

Christian Schuetz, Custodian
cschuetz@npcoovenant.org

Ann-Marie Olson, Church Administrator
aolson@npcoovenant.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@npcoovenant.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

Peter and Anna Kim, Taiwan

Eugenio and Pia Restrepo,

Regional Coordinators for Latin America

Paul and Sheryl Noren, Congo

Chris Peterson, Regional Coordinator for Europe

James and Rachel Ventress, Alaska

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.