



# **NORTH PARK**

## **COVENANT CHURCH**

FEBRUARY 8, 2026  
+ THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY +

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PRELUDE

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing  
Music from the Sacred Harp Tradition  
Brian Ward, Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Libby Piotrowski and Emily Cody



CHORAL INTROIT

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light  
Hymnal Selection 367, verses 1 and 2  
Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Isaiah 58 and Psalm 112

We gather to worship God.  
Let our worship not be empty of meaning or sincerity.  
For the Lord says: Is not this the fast that I choose:

**to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free?**

Is it not to share bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house?

**It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.**

For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever.

**They shall call, and the Lord will answer. Amen.**

\* OPENING SONG

The Kingdom Is Yours  
Led by Andrew Berg, Kristen Hunter,  
Anders Johnson, Sam Parnin, and Brian Ward

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

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Reading

New Testament Reading

\* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Dave Holmes, Reader

Isaiah 58:1-9a

1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Matthew 5:13-20

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

Linnea Applequist

CHORAL ANTHEM

Praise You

Elizabeth Goodine, arr. Carol Cymbala

Jordan Pfeiffelman, Soprano

Lord, I come to You today with a simple prayer to pray:

“In everything I do, let my life, O Lord, praise You.”

*Refrain:*

Praise You, let my life praise You.

Lord, You formed me out of clay, and for Your glory I was made.

Use this vessel as You choose. Let my life, O Lord, praise You.

*Refrain*

MESSAGE

Libby Piotrowski

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

\* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Lord Most High, Be Magnified

Don Harris, Gary Sadler

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

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

arr. Healy Willan

Sam Parnin, Organ

\* Doxology 48

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* CLOSING HYMN 725

You are Salt for the Earth

\* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Arise, Your Light Has Come

Hymnal Selection 194, arr. Wayne H. Dietterick

*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.*

# The Kingdom Is Yours

Aaron Keyes, Brittney Spencer, Micah Massey, Terrell Wilson

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)



Bles - sed are the ones who do not bur - y  
Bles - sed are the woun - ded ones in mour - ning,  
Bles - sed are the ones who walk in kind - ness  
Bles - sed are the ones who fight for jus - tice



all the bro - ken pie - ces of their heart.  
brave e - nough to show the Lord their scars.  
e - ven in the face of great a - buse.  
long - ing for the com - ing day of peace.



Bles - sed are the tears of all the wear - y,  
Bles - sed are the hurts that are not hid - den  
Bles - sed are the deeds that go un - no - ticed  
Bles - sed is the soul that thirsts for right - teous - ness,



pour - ing like a star of fall - ing stars.  
o - pen to the heal - ing touch of God.  
serv - ing with un - guar - ded gra - ti - tude.  
wel - com - ing the last, the lost, the least.



The King - dom is yours      The King - dom is yours.      Hold on a lit - tle



more, this is not the end.      Hope is in the Lord, keep your eyes on Him.

2.

18 Lord, keep your eyes on Him. Oh Oh Oh

24 Oh Bles-sed are the ones who suf-fer

29 vio-lence and still have strength to love their en-e-mies.

32 Bles-sed is the faith of those who per-se-vere, though they fall, they'll ne-ver know de-feat.

35 The King-dom is yours The King-dom is yours.

39 Hold on a lit-tle more, this is not the end. Hope is in the

42 Lord, keep your eyes on Him. The King-dom is

1. 2.

## 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*

# Lord Most High

Don Harris and Gary Sadler

1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Admin. by Integrity Music)

From the ends of the earth, from the  
From the ends of the earth,  
4 depths of the sea, from the heights of the hea - vens,  
from the depths of the sea, from the  
7 Your name be praised! From the hearts of the weak,  
heights of the hea - vens, Your name be praised! From the  
11 from the shouts of the strong, from the  
hearts of the weak, from the shouts of the strong,  
14 lips of all peo - ple, this song we raise, Lord:  
from the lips of all peo - ple, this song we raise, Lord:  
18 Through - out the end-less a - ges, You will be crowned with prais-es, Lord Most  
Through - out the end-less a - ges, You will be crowned with prais-es, Lord Most  
23 High! Ex-alt-ed in e - very na - tion, Sov-ereign of all cre-a - tion  
High! Ex-alt-ed in e - very na - tion, Sov-ereign of all cre-a - tion  
28 Lord Most High, be mag - ni - fied.  
Lord Most High, be mag - ni - fied.

## 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 melodic line with some dotted rhythms, 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 concluding accompaniment. The piece ends with a double bar line.



## You Are Salt for the Earth

*Leader*

D G/D D

1 You are salt for the earth, O peo - ple,  
 2 You are a light on the hill, O peo - ple,  
 3 You are a seed of the Word, O peo - ple,  
 4 We are a blessed and a pil - grim peo - ple,

*All* G D/A A D *Leader* G D/F#

salt for the king - dom of God! Share the fla - vor of  
 light for the cit - y of God! Shine so ho - ly and  
 bring forth the king - dom of God! Seeds of mer - cy and  
 bound for the king - dom of God! Love our jour - ney and

A D *All* G D A D

life, O peo - ple: life in the king - dom of God!  
 bright, O peo - ple: shine for the king - dom of God!  
 seeds of jus - tice, grow in the king - dom of God!  
 love our home - land: love is the king - dom of God!

*Refrain (optional trio)* G D/A A D G D/A

Bring forth the king - dom of mer - cy, bring forth the  
 Bring forth the king - dom of mer - cy, bring forth the

# JUSTICE AND PEACE

king - dom of peace. Bring forth the king - dom of jus - tice,

king - dom of peace. Bring forth the king - dom of jus - tice,

bring forth the cit - y of God!

bring forth the cit - y of God!

Chords: A, D, G, D/A, A, D, G, D, A, D

The musical score is written for three systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The first system includes guitar chords A, D, G, and D/A. The lyrics are 'king - dom of peace. Bring forth the king - dom of jus - tice,'. The second system continues the lyrics 'king - dom of peace. Bring forth the king - dom of jus - tice,'. The third system includes guitar chords G, D, A, D, G, D, A, and D. The lyrics are 'bring forth the cit - y of God!'. The score ends with a double bar line.

# ***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.

**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 an area of our community inspired 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.

### **Lectionary texts for Sunday, February 15:**

Exodus 24:12-18

Psalm 99

2 Peter 1:16-21

Matthew 17:1-9

**We are looking to fill** a regular, paid childcare position in our Sunday morning toddler room. This position is in coordination with the Christian Formation Board and pays \$20 per hour, for two hours each Sunday (average need is two Sundays per month). If you love being with children, sharing Jesus' love, and are interested in this position, please [reach out to Pastor Libby](#) for more information.

**Exodus World Service Update February 11:** Related to today's community prayer, found on the next page, we invite you to join us for Gather dinner at 6 pm on Wednesday, February 11, followed by a time when we will get to hear from a representative from Exodus World Service and receive an update on their work and the state of refugee resettlement.

**Join us for an Ash Wednesday worship service.** On Wednesday, February 18, at 7 pm, all are invited to an Ash Wednesday service. We will share in the Lord's Supper, and the imposition of ashes will be offered.

**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 at our annual Coffeehouse. On Saturday, February 21, at 6:30 pm, performers and audience members alike are invited to come to the church parlors for an evening that's like no other! We'll have coffee, lemonade, and lots of snacks to enjoy. You won't want to miss it! [Reach out to emcee Joel Piotrowski](#) if you'd like to be added to the program.

**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.](#) Thank you!

## *for your prayers this week*

- **Community prayer:** With ICE activity continuing in our city, state, and country, we invite you to pray for our immigrant and refugee sisters and brothers. We pray for peace, safety, and an end to harmful practices and policies.
- **the people of Minneapolis, MN**, as they experience ICE activity
- **our middle schoolers and leaders**, returning today from a retreat at Covenant Harbor
- **Ruthanne Werner and family**, mourning the passing of her sister, Debbie Gustafson, on February 4
- our high-school youth ministry intern, **Jayvaughn Rice and family**, mourning the passing of his grandmother on February 1
- **Emily Cody**, grateful to God for the unexpected gifts of her and Jacob's dog, Mavis, and of finding and becoming part of the NPCC and NPU communities
- **family and friends of Fran Fostey**, who passed away January 27 after a brief battle with cancer
- Pastor Libby's dad, **Craig Johnson**, who has been diagnosed with T cell lymphoma
- **Jane Swanson-Nystrom**, recuperating after a lumpectomy procedure this past Thursday
- **Eileen Thorpe**, at Brandel Care Center for rehab
- **Lilly Colon**, home again after a brief time in the hospital due to abdominal pain
- **Paul Wargaski**, recuperating at home but retaining fluid and having difficulty breathing
- **John Goode**, receiving physical and occupational therapy for muscle weakness and being monitored for low heart rate
- **family and friends of Adam Griswold**, who passed away in early January
- Janice Finney's mother, **Shirley**, making strides toward improvement as her leg heals
- Julie and David Bromley's long-time friend **Tim Dixon**, grateful for a dramatic reduction in the cancer, extending his life expectancy
- **Darlene Johnson**, recovering from a badly broken arm
- **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
- Pastor Libby's four-year-old nephew, **Mo Johnson-Collins**, being monitored for a few months related to two benign masses on his liver
- **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**, nine-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, February 9*

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 (Staff Conference Room)

### *Tuesday, February 10*

8 am	Men's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
4 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)
4:30 pm	Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
5 pm	Board of Community Concern Meeting (via Zoom)
6 pm	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)
7 pm	Board of Christian Formation Meeting (Hybrid/Parlors)
	Board of Deacons Meeting (Hybrid/Staff Conference Room)
	Board of Trustees Meeting (Large Conference Room)
8:15 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)

### *Wednesday, February 11*

10 am	Wednesday Women's Bible Study (Edstrom Home)
4:30 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)
6 pm	Gather Dinner (Parlors)
6:30 pm	Exodus World Service Update (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 near the Gym)
7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

### *Thursday, February 12*

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

*Friday, February 13*

10:30 am	NPCCP Caterpillars Valentine's Day Party (Gym)
1 pm	Prayer Group Gathering (Edstrom Home)
2:15 pm	NPCCP Butterflies Valentine's Day Party (Gym)
4 pm	OneLife Retreat Departure (South Garden)
4:30 pm	3rd- through 6th-grade Retreat Departure (South Garden)
4:30 pm	George Soccer Practice (Gym)

*Saturday, February 14*

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

*Sunday, February 15*

9 am	Confirmation (Staff Conference Room)
9:15 am	Adult Formation (Parlors)
	Art 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)

## North Park Covenant Church Staff

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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

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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

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Nadia Jiménez,  
Executive Director  
2711 West Lawrence Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60625  
(773) 907-6338

info@friendshipcenterchicago.org  
www.friendshipcenterchicago.org

## Missionaries We Support

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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

## Welcome Statement

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*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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