



MARCH 1, 2026
+ THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT +
YOUTH SUNDAY

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PRELUDE

Sarabande
Arcangelo Correlli
Annalisa Ward, Oboe

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter



* CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 121, Genesis 12, and John 3
Sebastian Berg

Come, all who need help!

**Our help comes from God,
the one who made heaven and earth.**

Come, all who desire blessing!

**Our blessing comes from God,
the God of Abraham, the God of the ages.**

Come, all who long for salvation!

**Our Salvation comes from Jesus Christ,
the one sent by God to save the world.**

* OPENING HYMN 72

To God Be the Glory

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

written by Beth Merrill Neel
Lucy Davis and Helen Trinter

The act of confessing our sin is not simply a recitation of our faults and wrongs, but also an opportunity to receive God's mercy and share in that abundant grace. Confident in God's love for us, let us offer our prayers.

Holy Lord, God of life, hear our prayer:

**forgive us when we follow those paths that do not lead to life;
that lead instead to violence, or hate, or fear,
paths that lead to dread and death.**

**Forgive us when we forget that you offer us life,
life that is abundant and eternal,
life that began at the creation of all things.**

**Forgive us, turn us to the right path,
and let your love and grace flow over us and the world.**

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Friends, hear the Good News: God so loved the world that God sent Jesus to us, not to condemn the world but in order that we might be saved, healed, and forgiven through him. Thanks be to God!

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

And also with you.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Revelation 19

arr. Jeffrey LaValley

Youth Choir, Brian Ward, Director

Hallelujah!

Salvation and glory, honor and power
unto the Lord, our God.

For the Lord, our God, is almighty.
Yes, the Lord, our God, is omnipotent.
The Lord, our God, He is wonderful!

All praises be to the King of Kings
and the Lord of Lords.
He is wonderful!

Hallelujah, He is wonderful!

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Students will be reading from the New Living Translation.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 12:1-4 - Cadence Foster

New Testament Reading

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 - Sienna Berg

* Gospel Reading

John 3:1-17 - Linnea Applequist

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

In Christ Alone

Stuart Townend and Keith Getty

Led by Rosie Boyd, Johanna Frisk, Anders Johnson, Jeanette Mottl,
Teg Piotrowski, Alexei Rodriguez, Suelexia Rodriguez, and Erik Ward

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

Aleena Pope

MESSAGE

De'ajah Morris, Jeanette Mottl, and Jayvaughn Rice

* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Great Are You, Lord

David Leonard, Jason Ingram, Leslie Jordan

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

All who believe in Christ and desire to live a life directed by the Holy Spirit are invited to come forward to participate in this sacrament. Gluten-free elements are available.

Words of Institution

Sharing in the Elements

Lilly Colon, Xander Crozier, Felix Fernandez,

Bjorn Johnson, and Weslee Johnson

Le Banquet Celeste (The Heavenly Feast)

Communion Music

Olivier Messiaen

Sam Parnin, Organ

Sebastian Fernandez

Prayer of Thanksgiving

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Generosity

Keegan Lee

Physical offerings will be received at this time.

Giving online at any time is also an option at www.npcovenant.org/give.

Offertory

There Is a Redeemer

arr. Brian Ward

Annalisa Ward, Oboe

Erik Ward, French Horn

Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

Ezra Birney

* Sung Response 225, verse 3

* Prayer of Dedication

WORDS OF SENDING

Youth Ministry Leaders

* SUNG BENEDICTION

The Blessing

Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe, Steven Furtick

POSTLUDE

To God Be the Glory

arr. Don Hustad, Tedd Smith, and Brian Ward

Dillan Rizzo, Trumpet

Erik Ward, French Horn

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.

To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glo-ry—great things he has done! So loved he the
 2 O per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood, to ev - 'ry be-
 3 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done, and great our re-

world that he gave us his Son, who yield - ed his life an a -
 liev - er the prom - ise of God; the vil - est of - fen - der who
 joic - ing through Je - sus the Son; but pur - er, and high - er, and

tone - ment for sin, and o - pen'd the life - gate that all may go in.
 tru - ly be - lieves, that mo - ment from Je - sus a par - don re - ceives.
 great - er will be our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

Refrain

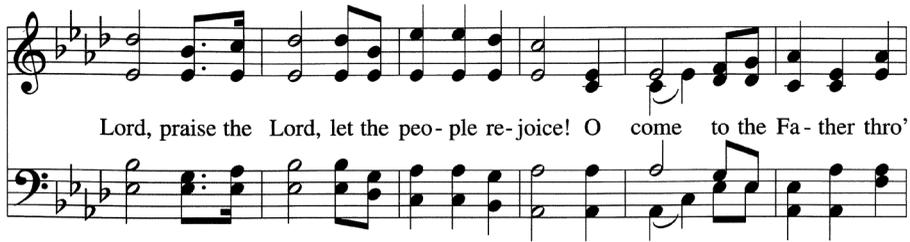
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915
 MUSIC: William H. Doane, 1832-1915

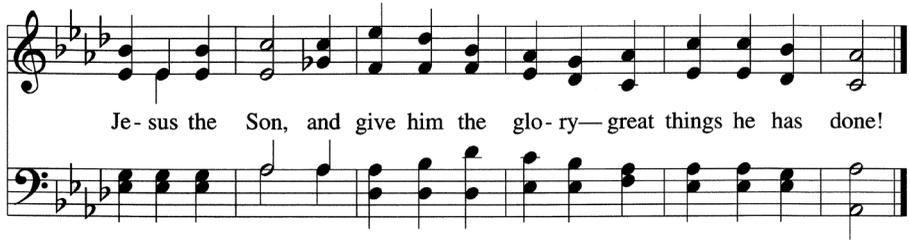
11.11.11. with Refrain
 TO GOD BE THE GLORY

A lower setting can be found at 108.

GOD THE REDEEMER



Lord, praise the Lord, let the peo- ple re-joice! O come to the Fa- ther thro'



Je- sus the Son, and give him the glo- ry—great things he has done!

In Christ Alone

Stuart Townend and Keith Getty

2001 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my
2. In Christ a - lone who took on flesh, Ful-ness of
3. There in the ground His bo - dy lay: light of the
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the



light, my strength, my song. This cor - ner - stone, this so - lid
 God in help - less babe! This gift of love and right-eous -
 world by dark - ness slain. Then burst - ing forth in glor - ious
 power of Christ in me; From life's first cry to fi - nal



ground, firm through the fier - cest drought and
 ness scorned by the ones He came to
 day, up from the grave He rose a -
 breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti -



storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are
 save: Till on that cross as Je - sus died, the love of
 gain! And as He stands in vic - to - ry sin's curse has
 ny. No power of hell, no scheme of man can e - ver



stilled, when stri - vings cease! My com - for - ter, my All in
 God was mag - ni - fied, for e - very sin on Him was
 lost its grip on me, for I am His and He is
 pluck me from His hand, 'till He re - turns or calls me



All, here in the love of Christ I stand.
 laid; here in the death of Christ I live.
 mine: bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
 home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Great Are You, Lord

Jason Ingram, Leslie Jordan, and David Leonard

2012 Open Hands Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)
So Essential Tunes (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)
Integrity's Praise! Music (Admin. by Integrity Music)
Little Way Creative (Admin. by Integrity Music)



You give life, You are love. You bring light to the

5



dark - ness. You give hope, You re - store e - v'ry heart that is

9



brok - en. Great are You, Lord.

13



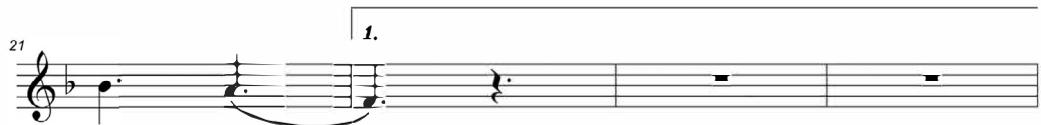
It's Your breath in our lungs so we pour out our praise, we

17



pour out our praise. It's Your breath in our lungs so we pour out our praise to You

21



on - ly

25



You give

CCLI # 6460220

29



33



All the earth will shout Your praise; Our hearts will cry; these

37



bones will sing "Great are You Lord."

42



It's Your breath in our lungs so we pour out our praise, we

46



pour out our praise. It's Your breath in our lungs so we pour out our praise to You

50



on - ly. It's your breath in our lungs so we pour out our praise, we

54



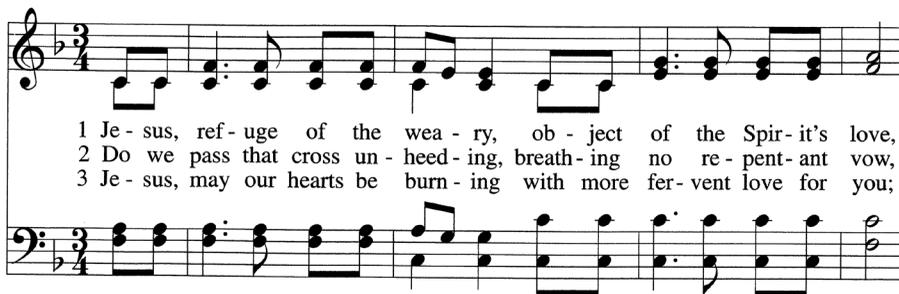
pour out our praise. It's Your breath in our lungs so we pour out our praise to You

58

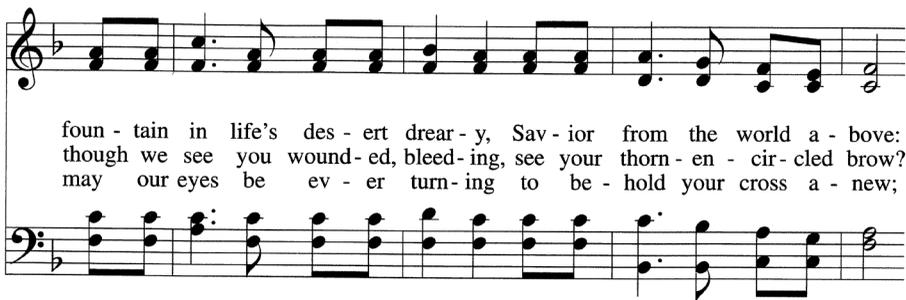


on - ly Great are You, Lord.

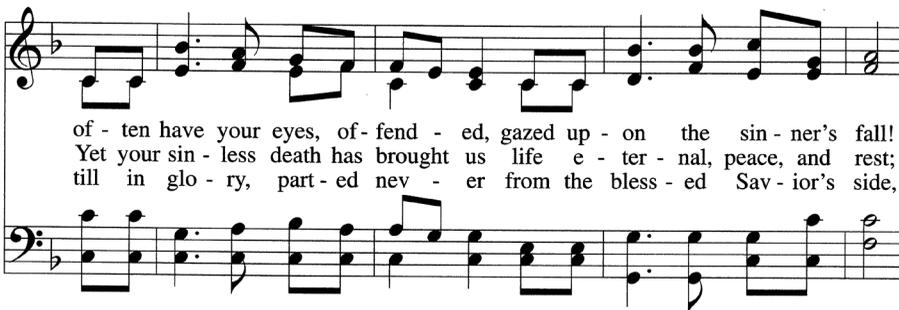
Jesus, Refuge of the Weary



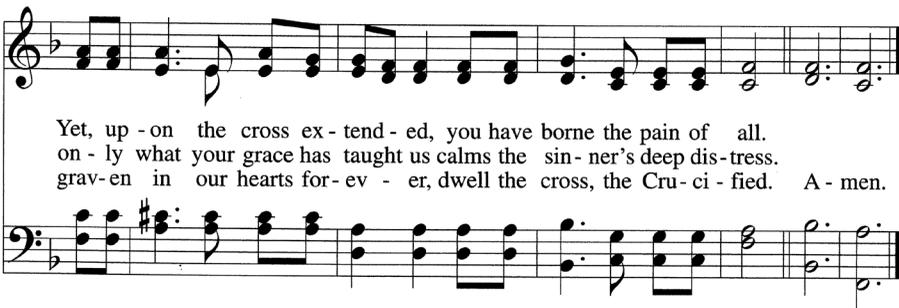
1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, ob - ject of the Spir - it's love,
 2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, breath - ing no re - pent - ant vow,
 3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing with more fer - vent love for you;



foun - tain in life's des - ert drear - y, Sav - ior from the world a - bove:
 though we see you wound - ed, bleed - ing, see your thorn - en - cir - cled brow?
 may our eyes be ev - er turn - ing to be - hold your cross a - new;



of - ten have your eyes, of - fend - ed, gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall!
 Yet your sin - less death has brought us life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest;
 till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er from the bless - ed Sav - ior's side,



Yet, up - on the cross ex - tend - ed, you have borne the pain of all.
 on - ly what your grace has taught us calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
 grav - en in our hearts for - ev - er, dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied. A - men.

The Blessing

Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe, Steven Furtick

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Kari Jobe Carnes Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
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A D A
C#

The Lord bless you, and keep you, make his face shine up-on

4 Esus F#m7 D9

you and be grac-ious to you. The Lord turn His face toward you

7 A C# Esus A D A F#m7

and give you peace. A -

11 D9 A E F#m7

men, A men, A - men. A -

15 D9 A E F#m7

men, A - men. A - men.

19 D9 A E F#m7

May His fa - vor be up-on you and a thou

23 D9

- sand gen-er-a - tions And your fam - ily and your chil - dren and their child

25 E1. E

dren and their chil - dren May His fa dren and their chil - dren May His fa-

27 F#m7 D9

- vor be up-on you and a thou - sand gen-er-a - tions and your fam-

29 A E

- ily and your chil - dren and their chil - dren and their chil - dren May His pre-

31 F#m7 D9

- sence go before you and behind you and beside you all around

33 A E

you and with-in you He is with you, He is with you In the mor-

35 F#m7 D9

- ning, in the e - vening, in your com - ing, and your go - ing, in your weep-

37 A E

- ing and re-joic - ing, He is for you He is for you

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.

If giving digitally is more your style, this handy QR code will take you directly to our online giving portal. It's a great pathway to one of the most powerful and sustainable ways to support NPCC. In the portal, you can make an account, set up recurring gifts, and even include a little extra to offset processing fees. However you give, know that we are deeply grateful for your generosity and doing all we can to equip this church family to live for God's glory and neighbors' good.



Today is a Benevolence Sunday. Members of the Deacon Board will be at the doors after the service to receive any donations to our benevolence fund, which is used to help those in need in our community.

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 for more details.

An Invitation to Journey through Lent Together: In addition to our regular Sunday morning worship services at 10:30, we will gather for a series of contemplative Lenten worship services each Sunday in Lent beginning at 6 pm. The 45-minute services will take place in the south chapel on February 22, March 1, March 8, March 15, and March 22. Join us for a time of quiet prayer, music, singing, and communion.

The Board of Christian Formation invites you to a camping fundraiser on Saturday, March 7, from 5:30 to 7 pm! Do people request your deviled eggs by name? Is your Swedish meatball recipe basically a family heirloom? Or do you just love a good appetizer? Then you'll want to join us for Small Plates Showdown! Bring your bite-sized creation and enjoy a night of great food, friendly competition, prizes, and maybe even a camp song or two! All proceeds support camping scholarships, helping make camp possible for more students and families. If you register to bring a dish, Jeanette will reach out to you with more details. Please [register by March 4](#), whether you plan to enter a dish or not!

Celebration of Life for Adam Griswold: All are invited to a time of remembrance and celebration of the life of Adam Griswold on Sunday, March 8, at 3:30 pm Tre Kronor (3258 W. Foster Ave.). Please RSVP by Wednesday, March 4, to Diane Haglund via text at 773-301-4159.

Brief Congregational Meeting March 15: On Sunday, March 15, we will hold a brief congregational meeting following worship to vote on the Building with Faithfulness tithe monies from this past year. We will remain in the sanctuary for this meeting, and then those who have registered for the Corned Beef and Cabbage Lunch may make their way to the parlors.

The Corned Beef and Cabbage Lunch Returns! Join us on Sunday, March 15, following worship and a brief congregational meeting, for a Corned Beef and Cabbage Lunch in the parlors. RSVPs are required by Monday, March 9, [using this link](#).

Join Us for a Wedding Shower! On Saturday, March 21, all are invited to a wedding shower for Linnea Olfelt and Ben Holda. The shower will begin at 10 am, and Linnea and Ben are registered at Crate & Barrel, IKEA, and Target. We hope you'll be able to join us!

Review Time for Our Co-pastors: Have a compliment, comment, or concern about our co-pastors' performance? After church on March 8 and 15, co-chairs Susan Dawson and Nancy Ebner will be in the corner nursery off the south chapel for confidential conversation.

**Lectionary texts for
Sunday, March 8:**

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

Perspectives on Immigration and the Church: On Saturday, March 21, at 10 am, Central Conference Superintendent Danny Martinez will speak on this topic at the Covenant Church of Schaumburg (301 N. Meacham Rd., Schaumburg). All are invited to attend.

Join us for a virtual prayer vigil on Saturday, March 28. Between the hours of 7 am and 7 pm, you are invited to sign up for a half-hour time slot (or more) to pray for our church, our city, our nation, and our world. Prayer materials will be shared with those who sign up. To sign up, please [click here](#).

Mental Health First Aid Training March 28: Join us for Mental Health First Aid Training! During this course, we will meet with a certified instructor and learn risk factors and warning signs for mental health and addiction concerns. We will also learn strategies for helping someone in crisis and non-crisis situations, where to turn for help, and earn an MHFA certificate. Lunch will be provided! [Click here to register](#) by March 22.

Represent North Park Covenant Church! We can send three delegates each to two ECC gatherings:
- **Celebration 2026**, the Central Conference Annual Meeting, to be held May 1-2 at Evangelical Covenant Church in Princeton, IL, and
- **Gather 2026**, the ECC's Annual Meeting, which will be held in Scottsdale, AZ, June 25-27.
If you're interested, please contact one of the co-pastors or co-chairs, [Susan Dawson](#) or [Nancy Ebner](#).

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.

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:** People struggling with their mental health
- **Andrea Feijoo**, Janice Kelly's niece, placed on hospice care this past Thursday
- Pastor Libby's dad, **Craig Johnson**, hospitalized this past Thursday with what doctors believe is pneumonia
- **Les Carlstrom's cousin and his wife**, in the ICU in a Green Bay hospital in critical condition after a car accident in upper Michigan on February 20
- **John Goode**, hospitalized after another fall this past Wednesday
- **Ann Marie Strom**, diagnosed with a melanoma and undergoing chemo
- **Paul Wargaski**, anticipating the start of cardiac rehab
- **K and A Simmons**, for whom we've received an anonymous request for prayer
- **Chuck Olson**, recuperating after undergoing an ablation procedure on February 17
- **Tami Losey**, Marti Hindaileh's sister, awaiting results from a biopsy
- **Eileen Thorpe**, home again after a time at Brandel Care Center for rehab
- **family and friends of Jack Lundbom**, a child of this church who passed away on February 17 at the age of 86
- **Ruthanne Werner and family**, mourning the passing of her sister, Debbie Gustafson, on February 4
- **Ryan and Sara Wendt**, as they begin life at the Covenant church in Albert City, IA; and for Ryan, in particular, as he recovers after being in a car accident in which their car was totaled
- **Darlene Johnson**, recovering from a badly broken wrist
- Pastor Libby's four-year-old nephew, **Mo Johnson-Collins**, being monitored for a few months related to two benign masses on his liver
- 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 and is updated as changes occur.

Monday, March 2

9:15 am	Women's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
10:30 am	Staff Meeting (Staff Conference Room)
11:30 am	NPCCP Board Meeting (Parlors)
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, March 3

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, March 4

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, March 5

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

Friday, March 6

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

Saturday, March 7

- 8 am Geezerball (Gym)
- 10 am Lane Tech Scandinavian Club Dance Rehearsal (Parlors)
- 10:15 am Cudahy Basketball (Gym)
- 12:30 pm George Soccer Practice (Gym)
- 5:30 pm Camping Fundraiser: Small Plates Showdown (Parlors)

Sunday, March 8 - The Third Sunday in Lent

- 9:15 am Intergenerational Sunday School (Parlors)
- 10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 12 pm Youth Choir Rehearsal (Junior Chapel)
- 1:30 pm Vida Plena Covenant Church Worship Service (Parlors)
- 6 pm Evening Lenten Worship Service (South Chapel)
- 7 pm AA Meeting (Parlors)
High-school Youth Group (Attic Youth Room)

North Park Covenant Church Staff

Jeff Hunter, Co-pastor
jhunter@npcovenant.org
ext. 525

Libby Piotrowski, Co-pastor
lp Piotrowski@npcovenant.org
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
loolfelt@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
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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

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

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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