APRIL 26, 2026

+ GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY +

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PRELUDE — Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
Hymnal Selection 407, arr. Marrianne Kim/Sam Parnin
Mosaic Winds Woodwind Quartet
Sam Parnin, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — Emily Cody and Libby Piotrowski

❖ ❖ ❖

CHORAL INTROIT — Sing Alleluia to the Lord
Hymnal Selection 316
Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

* CALL TO WORSHIP — Jeanette Mottl
Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long. Amen.

* OPENING HYMN 319 — Praise Him! Praise Him!

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

* PASSING OF THE PEACE
The Peace of the Risen Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES — Bill Faude, Reader
Easter Season Acts Reading — Acts 2:42-47
New Testament Reading — 1 Peter 2:19-25
* Gospel Reading — John 10:1-10
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN — Emily Cody

CHORAL ANTHEM — The Lord Is My Shepherd
Thomas Matthews
Mosaic Winds Woodwind Quartet
Ann Boyd, Soprano

MESSAGE — Libby Piotrowski

* CONGREGATIONAL SONG — The Lord's My Shepherd
Stuart Townend
Led by Chris Hickey, Anders Johnson,
Brian Ward, and Maria Ward

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 — Ashitaka and San
Joe Hisaishi, arr. Lizzy O'Brien

* Sung Response 253, verse 3 — He Lives
* Prayer of Dedication

* CLOSING HYMN 592 — With God As Our Friend

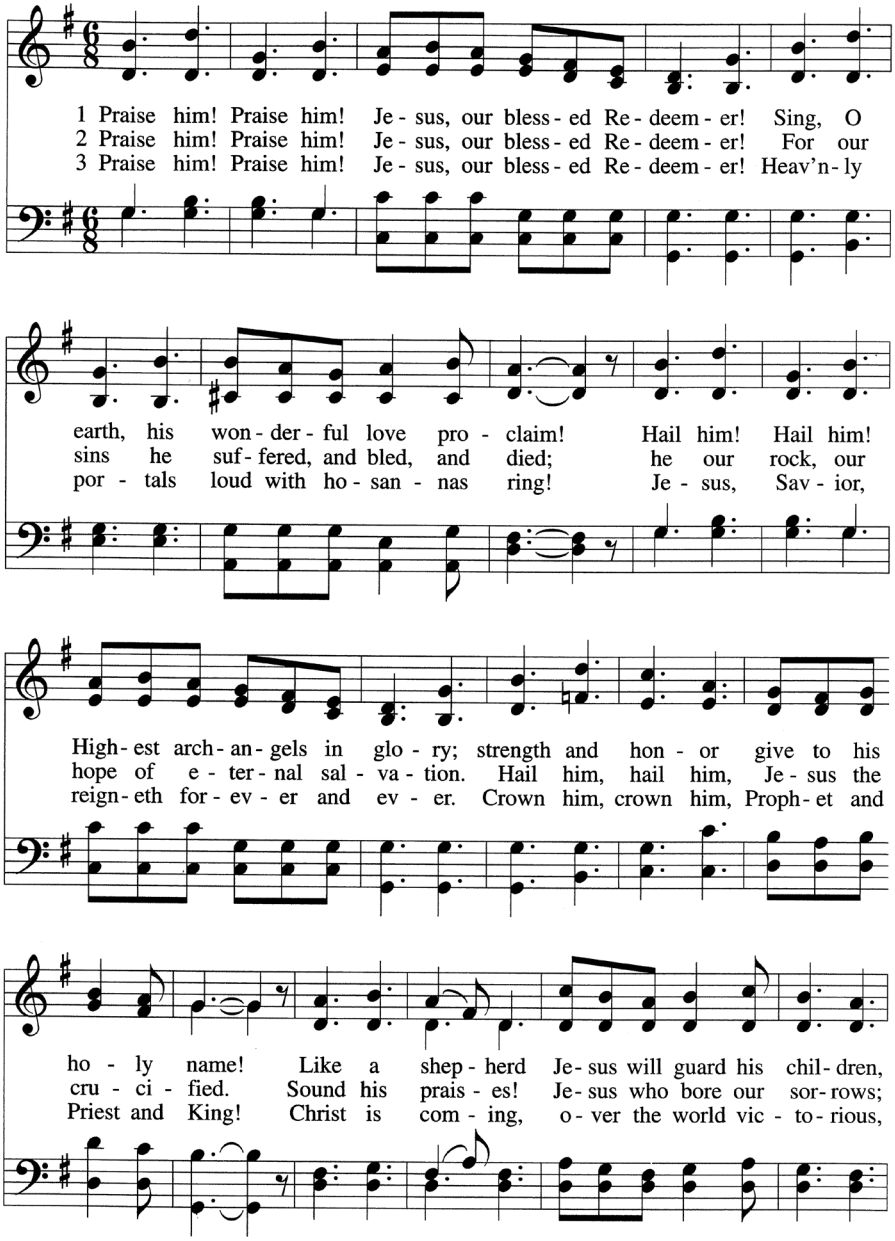
* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE — Be Thou My Vision
Hymnal Selection 412, arr. Ian Higginson/Sam Parnin

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.

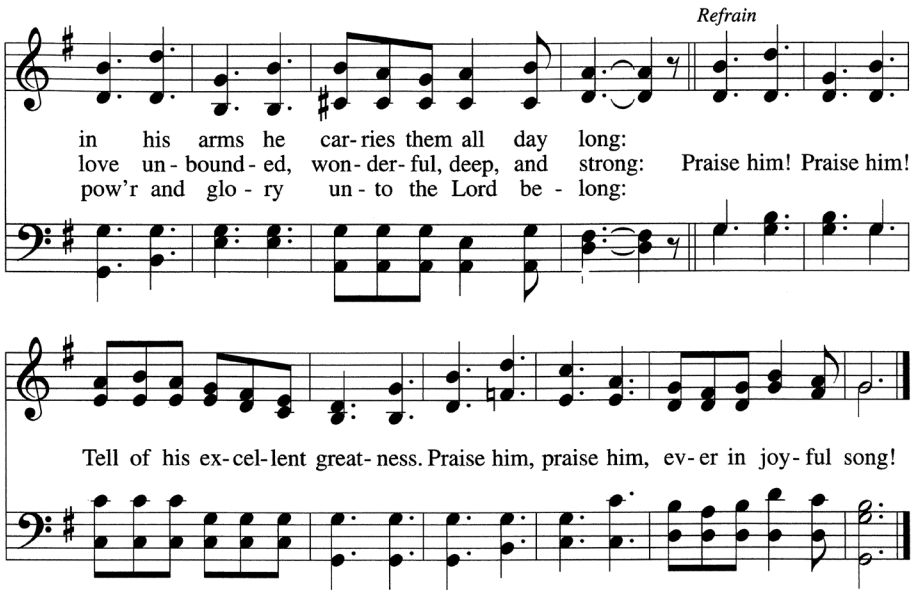
** Please rise, in body or in spirit.*

319 Praise Him! Praise Him!



WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915
MUSIC: Chester G. Allen, 1838-1878

12.10.12.10.11.10.11.10.
JOYFUL SONG



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

The Lord's My Shepherd

Stuart Townend

1996 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
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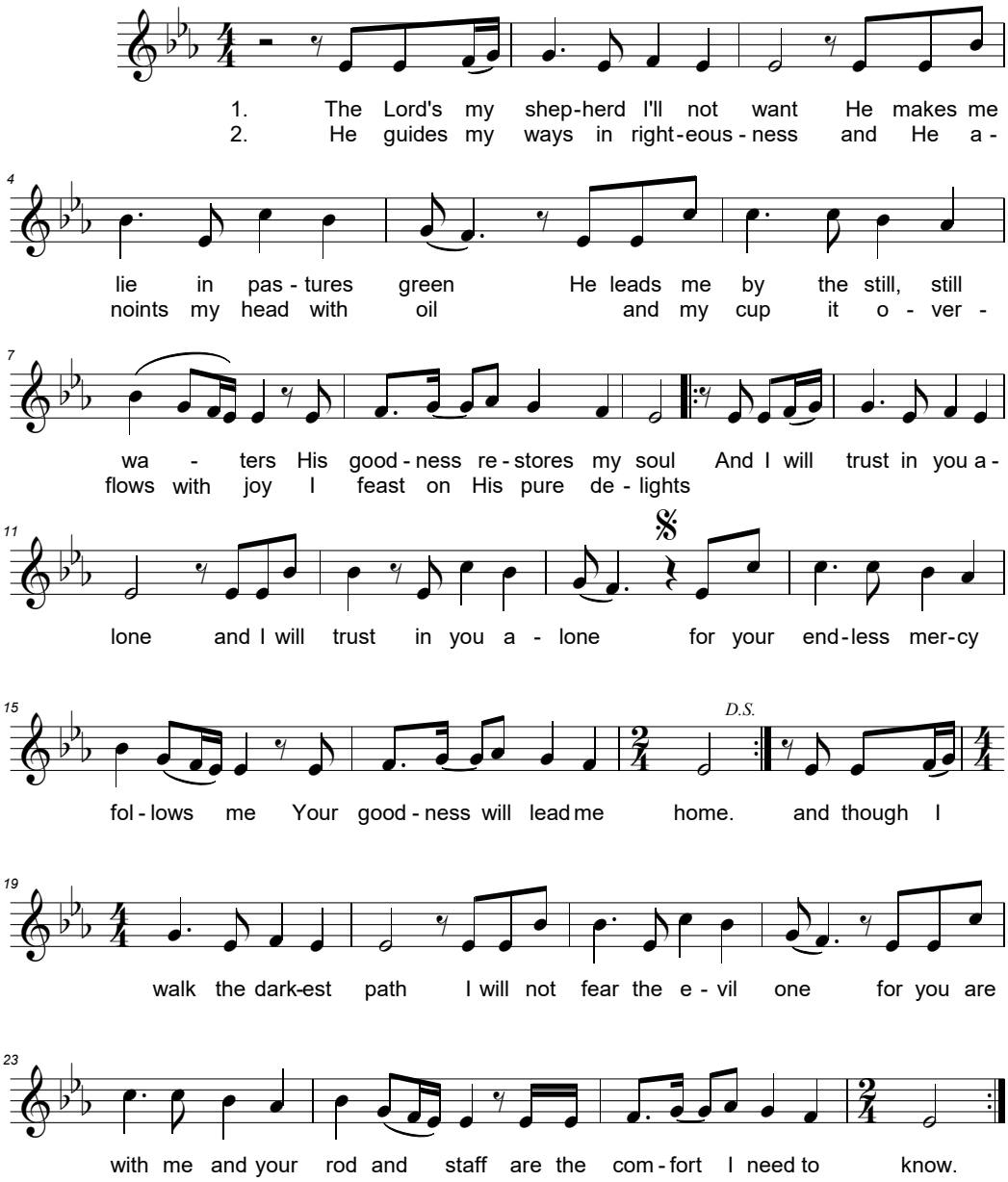


253 He Lives

1 I serve a ris - en Sav - ior, he's in the world to - day;
2 In all the world a - round me I see his lov - ing care,
3 Re - joice, re - joice, O Chris - tian, lift up your voice and sing

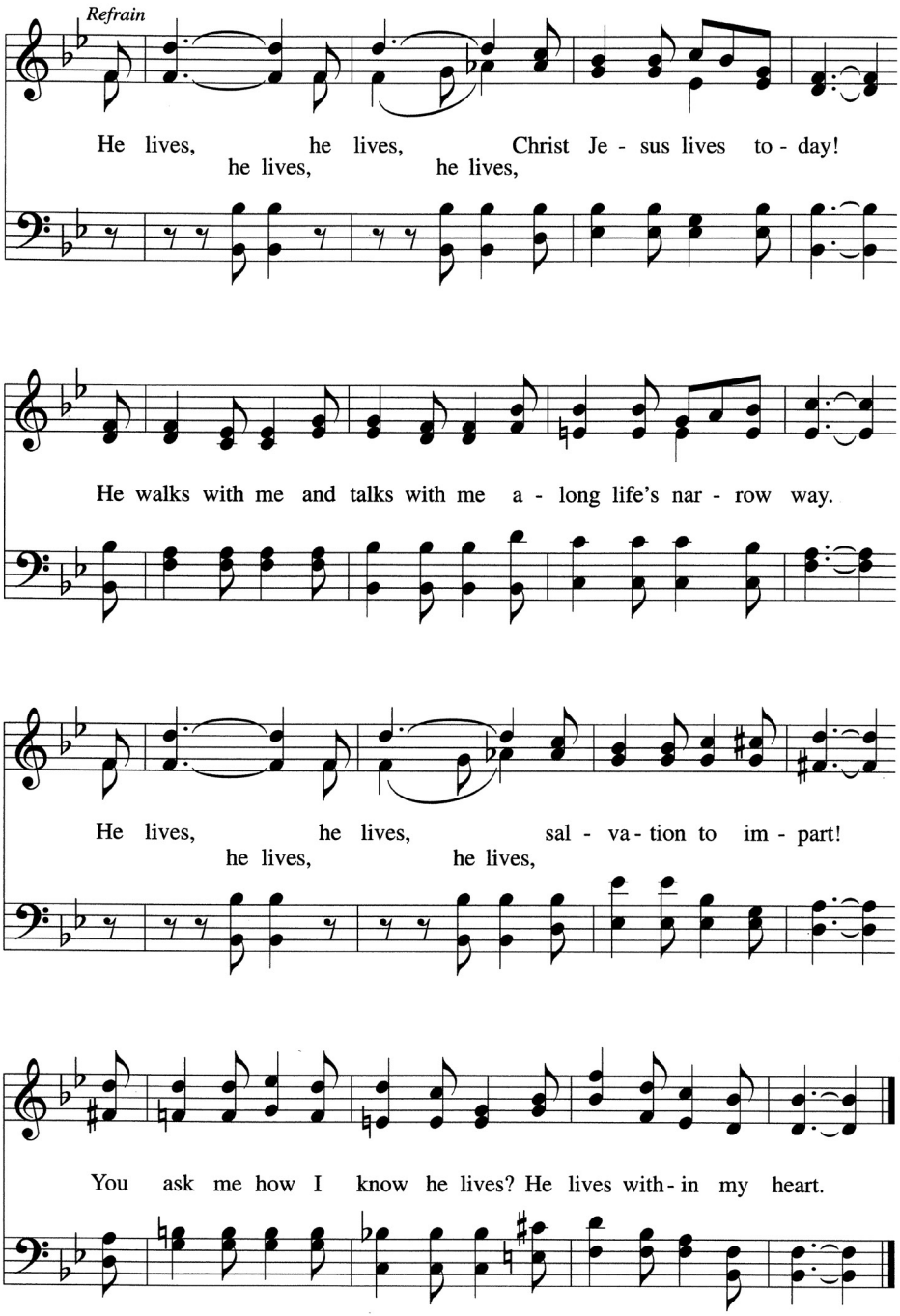
I know that he is liv - ing, what - ev - er some may say;
and though my heart grows wea - ry, I nev - er will de - spair;
e - ter - nal hal - le - lu - jahs to Je - sus Christ the King!

I see his hand of mer - cy, I hear his voice of cheer,
I know that he is lead - ing through all the storm - y blast,
The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find,

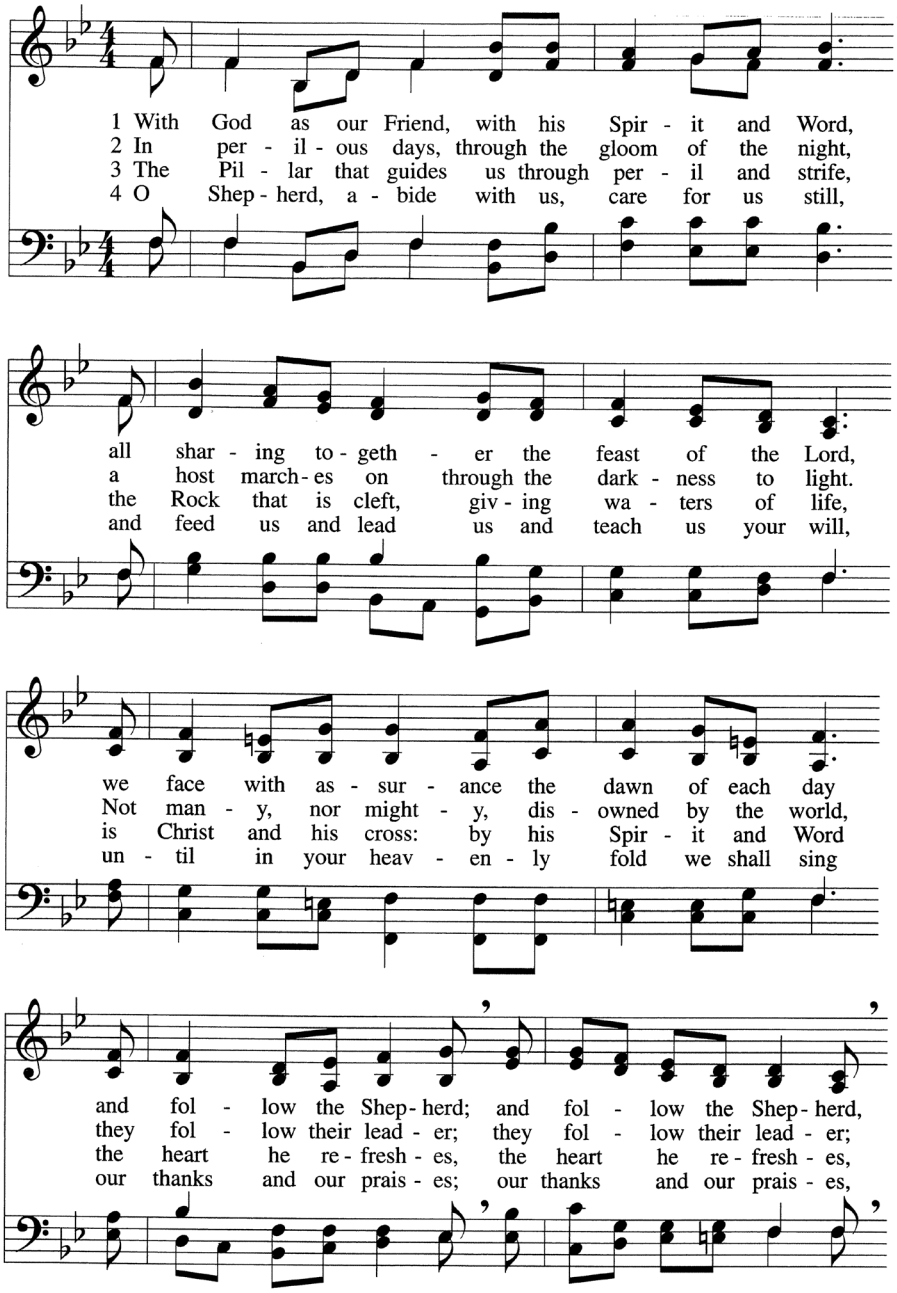
and just the time I need him he's al - ways near.
the day of his ap - pear - ing will come at last.
none oth - er is so lov - ing, so good and kind.

WORDS: Alfred H. Ackley, 1887-1960, alt., © 1933, 1961 Rodeheaver Co.
MUSIC: Alfred H. Ackley, 1887-1960, alt., © 1933, 1961 Rodeheaver Co.

13.13.13.11. with Refrain
ACKLEY

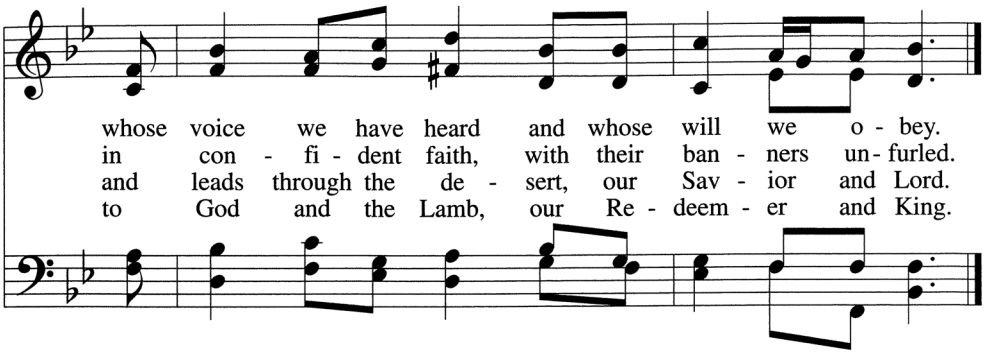

Refrain
He lives, he lives, Christ Je - sus lives to - day!
he lives, he lives,
He walks with me and talks with me a - long life's nar - row way.
He lives, he lives, sal - va - tion to im - part!
he lives, he lives,
You ask me how I know he lives? He lives with - in my heart.

592 With God As Our Friend



WORDS: Carl Olof Rosenius, 1816-1868, tr. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship
MUSIC: Oscar Ahnfelt, 1813-1882; arr. James P. Davies, 1913-, © 1973, 1996 Covenant Publications

11.11.11.6.6.11.
AHNFELT


whose voice we have heard and whose will we o - bey.
in con - fi - dent faith, with their ban - ners un - furled.
and leads through the de - sert, our Sav - ior and Lord.
to God and the Lamb, our Re - deem - er and King.

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.

We welcome to worship today Mosaic Winds woodwind quartet! Formed in 2025, Mosaic Winds is a Chicago-based woodwind quartet bringing a playful, creative approach to music for weddings, celebrations, and events of all kinds. They blend classical repertoire, contemporary composer collaborations, video game and anime soundtracks, and more, connecting with audiences through vibrant programs and engaging stories. They are Lizzy O'Brien (Flute), Vincent Chang (Oboe), Jack Kartsotis (Clarinet), and Christine Breeden (Bassoon). Thank you for sharing your musical gifts with us!

Congregational Meeting Today: The second half of the Annual Congregational meeting will take place today following the morning service. The agenda includes voting on the ballot for board and committee membership, church executive leadership, and church representatives to the conference and denominational annual meetings, a request for funds for needed sewer work, a proposal for the possible use of Employee Retention Credit funds, the bylaw change presented in January, and a proposal for the purchase of a new fire alarm system for the church. A light lunch will be provided. To join this meeting virtually, please use this link (Meeting ID: 897 3999 9468)

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. They meet at 10 am each week, and this coming Saturday, you can join them on the corner of Kedzie and Catalpa. Please reach out to Janette and Roderick Smith at rjonberber@sbcglobal.net for more details. All are welcome; no need to RSVP!

April is poetry month and the North Park Readers have chosen to read *Where the Sidewalk Ends* by Shel Silverstein and *A Child's Garden of Verses* by Robert Louis Stevenson. We will meet on Tuesday, April 28, at 2 pm at Jan Olson's apartment in Northbrook. If you have any questions, please contact Helen Arkema at helen.arkema@gmail.com.

Join us for two wedding showers! On Saturday, May 2, all are invited to a wedding shower for Eunji Lee and Sam Parnin, in the church parlors at 10:30 am. Eunji and Sam's registry can be found here.

On Saturday, May 16, all* are invited to a wedding shower for Sofie Piotrowski and Simon Peterson. The shower will take place in the church parlors at 1 pm. You can view Sofie and Simon's registry here.

* Guys can come, too—keep Joel and Kurt company!

Lectionary texts for Sunday, May 3:

Acts 7:55-60
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

Walk for Water! Sue Vandervoort is pulling together an NPCC World Vision Global 6K team this year, and we encourage you to join her on Saturday, May 16, at 10 am to walk and raise money for clean water all over the world. Let Sue know (773-769-1963, no texts, please) if you'd like to join her! To join the NPCC team, please click here. Or, to donate to Sue's efforts, please click here.

Come hear an organ recital! On May 31, 2026, at 3 pm, Sam Parnin will perform an organ recital here at NPCC! It will include works by J.S. Bach, Jean Langlais, Charles-Marie Widor, Dieterich Buxtehude, and more! The program will showcase a variety of styles, moods, and sounds. While the music will be the main focus, there will also be commentary on the background of the pieces and composers. All are welcome to come and enjoy!

Assistance Needed for Missionary Family: Covenant missionaries Fabio and Johnna Muniz and their two girls will be returning to the States, specifically the North Park neighborhood for a year, beginning on August 6 of this year. The girls will be attending Peterson School, and the family will be living in seminary housing beginning September 1. It will be really fun to have them around, and they hope to get involved at NPCC. However, they are need of a couple of things:

1. Temporary housing between August 6 and September 1
2. A car they can use for the year that would fit all four of them (They are willing to rent it from someone if that would be helpful.)

If you are willing to consider either of these requests, please reach out to Pastor Libby, and she will put you in contact with the Muniz family.

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:** Apartment buildings and houses surround NPCC, and this month, we call to mind and pray for all the families and individuals who live in them.
- **those affected by a tornado** in Lena, IL, last week
- **Ann Marie Strom**, anticipating surgery on April 29 related to a melanoma
- **Steve Brown**, home again after being hospitalized with an infection
- Rosemary Slaughter's cousin's son, **Doug**, diagnosed with stage 1 cancer
- Joline and Steve Paska's friend **Maggie**, now in remission
- Janice Finney's mom, **Shirley Finney**, on hospice care
- **Kensey Colon**, recuperating after successful surgery last Thursday and awaiting biopsy results
- **Betty Boyd**, Jon's mother, on hospice care
- **Sara Gortner**, Ann Boyd's mother, on hospice care
- **Eileen Thorpe**, for comfort and discernment of next steps in her care
- **Barb and John Goode**, as they adjust to life with in-home caregivers
- **Craig Johnson**, Pastor Libby's dad, in the midst of chemo
- Zeynab's daughter, **Soofia**, seeing movement on a decision regarding her release from the detention center she has been in for the past many months
- **Sandy Edstrom**, still struggling with sciatica pain
- **Tami Losey**, Marti Hindaileh's sister, whose biopsy was benign, but whose doctors still can't pin-point the source of the pain she's experiencing
- **Darlene Johnson**, recovering from a badly broken wrist
- **Melanie Jones**, for strength to live with chronic pain
- **Zeynab and her two sons**, awaiting word about their asylum case
- **Anna and Peter Kim**, missionaries in Taiwan, request prayer for Peter, as he continues to work twice a week as a counselor in training; for wisdom to know how best to provide daughter Eva with a good future amid her special needs; and for their children, as they all look for summer jobs

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The Church Calendar This Week

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

Monday, April 27

9:15 am	Women's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
10:30 am	Staff Meeting (Staff Conference Room)
3:45 pm	Von Steuben Boys' Basketball Practice (Gym)
4 pm	Tutoring (Parlors)
6 pm	Youth Group Leader Dinner (Parlors)
6:30 pm	Geezerball (Gym)
7:30 pm	Centering Prayer (Staff Conference Room)

Tuesday, April 28

8 am	Men's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
4:30 pm	Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
6 pm	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

Wednesday, April 29

10 am	Wednesday Women's Bible Study (Edstrom Home)
1:30 pm	Peterson Organ Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
3:45 pm	Von Steuben Boys' Basketball 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, April 30

4:30 pm	Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
6 pm	Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Gym)

Friday, May 1

1 pm	Prayer Group Gathering (Edstrom Home)

Saturday, May 2

8 am	Geezerball (Gym)
10:15 am	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)
10:30 am	Parnin/Lee Wedding Shower (Parlors)
7 pm	Confirmation Family Party (Parlors)

Sunday, May 3 - Confirmation Sunday

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)
	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
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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/Chancel Handbell Choir, Director
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Christian Schuetz, Custodian
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Lyndsey Wellner,
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The Friendship Center

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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.