



NORTH PARK

COVENANT CHURCH

OCTOBER 18, 2026
+ THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

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PRELUDE

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moment for Mission

Jeff Hunter and Libby Piotrowski
Scott Applequist and Steve Paska,
for the Stewardship Committee



CHORAL INTROIT

A Wonderful Savior Is Jesus My Lord
Hymnal Selection 441, verses 1 and 2
Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

* CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 99

The Lord is king; The Lord sits enthroned and is exalted over all peoples.

We praise Your great and awesome name. You are holy!

Mighty King, You are a lover of justice,

You have established equity;

You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

We praise Your great and awesome name. You are holy!

* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

What An Awesome God
Jonathan Smith, Phil Wickham, Richard Mullins
Led by Johanna Frisk, Teg Piotrowski,
Erik Ward, and Anna Wargaski

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

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of 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.

Paul Wargaski, Reader
Exodus 33:12-23
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

Jeff Hunter

CHORAL ANTHEM

Sing to the Lord
Cristi Cary Miller

Chorus: Sing to the Lord a new song!
Oh, sing to the Lord all the earth!
Sing to the Lord and praise His name. Alleluia!

Let the heavens rejoice. Let the fields be jubilant.
Let the sea resound and all that is in it.
Sing for joy! Sing for joy to the Lord! *Chorus*

Let all the trees of the forest sing,
for the Lord is worthy of our love and praise.
Let all creation rejoice before the Lord,
for He comes to judge the earth.
Give to the Lord all the glory due His name.
Worship Him in splendor and in majesty.
Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!
Worthy of our praise! *Chorus*

Sing to the Lord a new song!
Oh, sing to the Lord all the earth! (Sing all the earth!)
Sing to the Lord and praise His name! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Sing to the Lord!

MESSAGE

Acacia Gin

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

* HYMN OF RESPONSE 426

God of the Ages

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

Voluntary on “Holy, Holy, Holy”
Arthur Frackenpohl, based on Hymnal Selection 113

* Doxology 48

* Prayer of Dedication

* CLOSING HYMN 441

A Wonderful Savior Is Jesus My Lord

* BENEDICTION

based on Numbers 6:24-27

POSTLUDE

Let All Things Now Living
Traditional Welsh Air
Brian Ward, Piano

*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.*

What an Awesome God

Phil Wickham, Jonathan Smith, and Rich Mullins

2025 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)
Be Essential Songs (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)
Cashagamble Jet Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)
Phil Wickham Music (Fair Trade Music Publishing [c/o Essential Music Publishing LLC])
Simply Global Songs (Fair Trade Music Publishing [c/o Essential Music Publishing LLC])

C G D Em7 C G

God is great Give Him all the praise Hal-le-lu-jah

D Em7 C G

name a-bove all names. Fi-re in His eyes, Heal-ing in His veins. Ev-ry-where His

D Em7 C G

glo - ry on dis-play. Take a look at those stars: He can name them all. Be-fore His

D Em7 C G

throne, e-v'ry knee falls. The de-mons have to run, the an-gels have to praise.

D Em7 C G

E-ven the wind and waves o - bey. Our God is an awe - some God. He

D Em7 C G

1. D Em7

reigns from hea-ven a-bove with wis-dom pow'r and love; Our God is an awe-some God. Our

D Em7 C G

God is an awe-some God. And even when I ran, He did-n't run a-way, He came and put

17 D Em7 C G

death back in its place. Fri-day on the cross, bro-ken for my shame, Sun-day morn-ing

19 D Em7 C G

rose up from that grave. Take a look at those scars on His hand and feet; He saved our

21 D Em7 C G

souls for e-tern - i - ty. Wor - thy is the Lamb. Glo-ry to the King. Oh,

23 D Em7 C G

let all the saints and an - gels sing Our God is an awe-some God. He

25 D Em7 C G 1. D Em7

reigns from hea-ven-a-bove with wis-dom pow'r and love; Our God is an awe-some God. Our

28 D Em7 C G

God is an awe-some God. Eyes on the sky, there will be a day He will come and

30 D Em7 C G

wipe our tears a - way. No more fear, no more pain. No more

32 D Em7 C G
 sor - row, sin or shame. The King is com - ing back a - gain, a reign of

34 D Em7 C G
 love that will never end. For e - very - thing You've done and e - very - thing You do, and e - very - thing You

36 D Em7 C G
 are, I'll sing to You. My God, You're an awe - some God, You're

38 D Em7 C G
 great in all You do, I'm made to wor - ship You, My

40 D Em7 C G
 God, You're an awe - some God. My Our God is an awe - some God. He

42 D Em7 C G
 reigns from hea - ven a - bove with wis - dom pow'r and love; Our

44 D Em7 Am D Em7
 God is an awe - some God. Our God, what an awe - some God.

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

God of the Ages

426

In unison C Am Dm G Am/C G/B

1 God of the a - ges, his - to - ry's Mak - er,
 2 God of this morn - ing, glad - ly your chil - dren
 3 God of to - mor - row, strong o - ver - com - er,
 4 Lord of past a - ges, Lord of this morn - ing,

Am Em Am Em G

plan - ning our path - way, hold - ing us fast,
 wor - ship be - fore you, trust - ing - ly bow:
 princ - es of dark - ness own your com - mand:
 Lord of the fu - ture, help us, we pray:

C/E Am F C/E Am G

shap - ing in mer - cy all that con - cerns us:
 teach us to know you al - ways a - mong us,
 what then can harm us? We are your peo - ple,
 teach us to trust you, love and o - bey you,

C G/B Am G C

Fa - ther, we praise you, Lord of the past.
 qui - et - ly sov - 'reign — Lord of our now.
 now and for - ev - er kept by your hand.
 crown you each mo - ment, Lord of to - day.

WORDS: E. Margaret Clarkson, 1915-, © 1982 Hope Publishing Company
 MUSIC: Gaelic melody

10.9.10.9.
 BUNESSAN

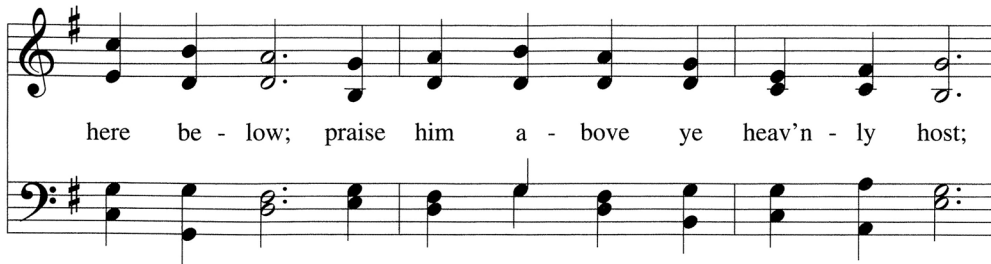
An alternate harmonization can be found at 547.

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, and the bass staff also concludes with a double bar line. The melody for 'A - men' is written in the treble staff, while the bass staff provides a final harmonic accompaniment.

441 A Wonderful Savior Is Jesus My Lord

1 A won - der - ful Sav - ior is Je - sus my Lord, a
 2 A won - der - ful Sav - ior is Je - sus my Lord, he
 3 With num - ber - less bless - ings each mo - ment he crowns and,
 4 When clothed in his bright - ness trans - port - ed I rise to

won - der - ful Sav - ior to me; he hid - eth my soul in the
 takes all my bur - dens a - way; he lifts up my life, and I
 filled with his full - ness di - vine, I sing in my rap - ture, "O
 meet him in clouds of the sky, his per - fect sal - va - tion, his

won - der - ful love, I'll shout with the mil - lions on high."/>

cleft of the rock, where riv - ers of pleas - ure I see.
 shall not be moved, he gives me new strength ev - 'ry day.
 glo - ry to God for such a Re - deem - er as mine!"
 won - der - ful love, I'll shout with the mil - lions on high."

Refrain G7 C F C G7
 He hid - eth my soul in the cleft of the rock that shad - ows a

ASSURANCE IN DOUBT

G C Dm/F F

dry, thirst-y land; he hid-eth my life in the depths of his love, and

C/G G C/G G7 C G/D C/E F C/G G7 C

cov-ers me there with his hand, and cov-ers me there with his hand.

The image displays a musical score for the hymn 'Assurance in Doubt'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The first system covers the lyrics 'dry, thirst-y land; he hid-eth my life in the depths of his love, and' and features chords G, C, Dm/F, and F. The second system covers the lyrics 'cov-ers me there with his hand, and cov-ers me there with his hand.' and features a sequence of chords: C/G, G, C/G, G7, C, G/D, C/E, F, C/G, G7, and C. The piano accompaniment is written in a simple, homophonic style, often using block chords and moving bass lines to support the vocal melody.

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.



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

Today is the Small Plates Showdown registration deadline! Do people request your deviled eggs by name? Is your Swedish meatball recipe basically a family heirloom? Could your brownie bites win the Great British Baking Show? Or do you just love a good appetizer or sweet treat? Then you'll want to join us on Saturday, October 24, at 5:30 pm for our second Small Plates Showdown! Bring your bite-sized creation to the parlors and enjoy a night of great food, friendly competition, and prizes. All proceeds will support Unite scholarships, helping make Unite possible for more students. If you register to bring a dish, Jeanette will reach out to you with more details. Please [register by the end of the day today](#), whether you plan to enter a dish or not!

It's almost Christmas! And that means it's time for our annual Christmas greens fundraiser. This year, all the money we raise will go toward scholarships for students attending Unite. Christmas greens will be available for order between October 11 and November 8. They will be available for pickup after church in the alley parking lot on Sunday, November 22. Paper order forms are available in the parlors and the narthex, or you can use the [online registration form](#) on Realm. Please reach out to Pastor Jeanette if you have any questions!

Last call for 2027 offering envelopes! Each year, we order offering envelopes for those members and friends who wish to use them for their weekly giving. If you received envelopes last year and wish to receive them again this year, you do not need to do anything. However, if you received them last year and do not wish to continue receiving them, or if you did not receive them last year and do want to receive them for next year, please reach out to Ann-Marie in the church office by this coming Tuesday, October 20, to let her know. Thank you!

The next meeting of the North Park Readers will be on Tuesday, October 27. We will be reading *There Is No Place for Us* by Brian Goldstone. The book discusses America's homeless problem, following five Atlanta families as they struggle to remain housed in a gentrifying city. We will meet at Karen Darelius' house at 7 pm. Please [contact Helen Arkema](#) if you have any questions.

**Lectionary texts for
Sunday, October 25:**

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 46

Romans 3:19-28

John 8:31-36

Night of the Walking Taco Returns! Every year on Halloween night, we set up a couple of canopies on the corner of Christiana at Berwyn and hand out hot cocoa and walking tacos to (un)suspecting trick-or-treaters between 5 and 7:30 pm. It's a hoot 'n' a howl! If you're able to help with setup, serving, or cleanup, please reach out to Pastor Jeff.

As a special bonus treat this year, our organist, Sam Parnin, is going to perform creepy cool music on the organ in three half-hour sets while the Night of the Walking Taco is taking place. Come hear this spook-tacular recital at 5, 6, or 7 pm on Halloween night!

Have you been wondering about membership at North Park Covenant Church and what it might mean? Do you have questions about the church and/or the Covenant denomination? Would you like to learn more without an obligation to join the church? We'd love to have you join us at our next New Member Class, which will be offered on Saturday, November 14, from 9 am to 1 pm. Breakfast and lunch will be included! Please let Pastor Libby or Pastor Jeff know of your interest, and we'll add your name to the list and be in touch!

Please Consider Donating Blood on November 21: We will hold a blood drive through Versiti donation center on Saturday, November 21, from 10 am to 2 pm. You may [sign up here](#), and share the information with a neighbor and friend! We hope you'll take part in this important community event.

A few people in our church are Biking for Congo! If you'd like to join the team, please [click here](#). Our team members are Wally Ebner, Fabio Muniz, Joline Paska, Carol Schlensker, and Sue Vandervoort. However you participate, we're glad to be Biking for Congo with you!

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! [Please click here](#) to put your name down for a Sunday or two—thank you!

It's a Little Town of Bethlehem year! Mark your calendars for December 6, from 4 to 6 pm. This Christmas, everyone is invited to experience the sights and sounds of Bethlehem. North Park Covenant Church will be transformed into the streets and markets of Jesus' birth, complete with costumed vendors, musicians, and townspeople. Members of our congregation will dress in costume and take on the roles of various local characters, each pointing the way to the manger where they hear that a very special child has been born.

We need lots and lots of help! Committees are being organized, and there is a spot for everyone, whether you're interested in advertising, recruiting, costumes, props for shops, or set design. You may receive a call from someone on the recruiting team, asking for you to help. If you don't get that call but are interested in jumping on board, please contact Lisa Applequist or Pastor Libby. We need people with all kinds of gifts and all kinds of time to give! Also, be sure to invite your neighbors and friends and family, and spread the word!

for your prayers

- **Community prayer:** those in our community who are struggling with their physical health; for those living with illness, injury, or chronic pain; we pray for strength, healing, and compassionate care
- **Paula Schuetz**, recuperating after surgery on her ankle this past Monday
- Janice Finney's uncle **Walt Leeman**, diagnosed with bone cancer and on hospice care, and her aunt **Joyce Leeman**, as she walks this journey with him
- Rosemary Slaughter's cousin **Joanie Mykesell**, who fell and broke three ribs
- **Diane Haglund**, whose back surgery has been postponed to a date still to be determined
- **the family of John Hunter**, longtime member of NPCC, who passed away at the age of 89 on October 2 after a time on hospice care
- Marti Hindaileh requests prayer for a dear friend's mother, **Missy Baker**, who is battling breast cancer and currently in intensive care in grave condition
- **Ann Marie Strom**, now on a new infusion medication to help with severe pain
- **Sandy Edstrom**, still struggling with sciatica pain
- **Sara Gortner**, Ann Boyd's mother, on hospice care

At Church This Week

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

Monday, October 19

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

Tuesday, October 20

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

Wednesday, October 21

- 10 am Wednesday Women's Bible Study (Edstrom Home)
- 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, October 22

- 4:30 pm Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Friday, October 23

- 1 pm Prayer Group Gathering (Edstrom Home)
- 6:30 pm Vida Plena Covenant Church Mental Health Workshop (Parlors)

Saturday, October 24

- 8 am Geezerball (Gym)
- 10:15 am Cudahy Basketball (Gym)
- 5 pm Soto/Tellez Birthday Party (South Garden)
- 5:30 pm Unite Fundraiser: Small Plates Showdown (Parlors)

Sunday, October 25

- 9 am Confirmation (Staff Conference Room)
- 9:15 am Adult Formation (Parlors)
Art Journaling (Art Room)
Sunday School for Preschool - 6th Grade (Junior Chapel)
Tabletop Sundays for High Schoolers (Attic Youth Room)
- 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)

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Global Personnel 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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