

NORTH PARK
COVENANT CHURCH

NOVEMBER 8, 2026
+ THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

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PRELUDE — Soon and Very Soon
Andraé Crouch
Brian Ward, Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

❖ ❖ ❖

CHORAL INTROIT — What Is This Place
Hymnal Selection 508, verses 1 and 2
Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

* CALL TO WORSHIP — from Psalm 78:1-7

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord,
that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn,
and rise up and tell them to their children,
so that they should set their hope in God,
and not forget the works of God, but keep God's commandments.

* OPENING HYMN 584 — Faith of Our Fathers

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

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

PRAYER FOR THE JOURNEY — Jeremiah Arnold and Titus Kyles,
Youth Ministry Interns

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES — Bill Faude, Reader
Old Testament Reading — Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
New Testament Reading — 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
* Gospel Reading — Matthew 25:1-13

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN — Libby Piotrowski

CHORAL ANTHEM — Keep Your Lamps
André Thomas
Sam Parnin, Djembe

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't get weary 'til your work is done.

Christian journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

MESSAGE — Jeff Hunter

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

* CONGREGATIONAL SONG — Cornerstone
Edward Mote, Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin,
Reuben Morgan, William Batchelder Bradbury
Led by Andrew Berg, Anders Johnson,
Samantha Johnson, and Brian Ward

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory — Adagio from Sonata No. 1
Felix Mendelssohn
Sam Parnin, Organ

* Doxology 48

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

* Prayer of Dedication
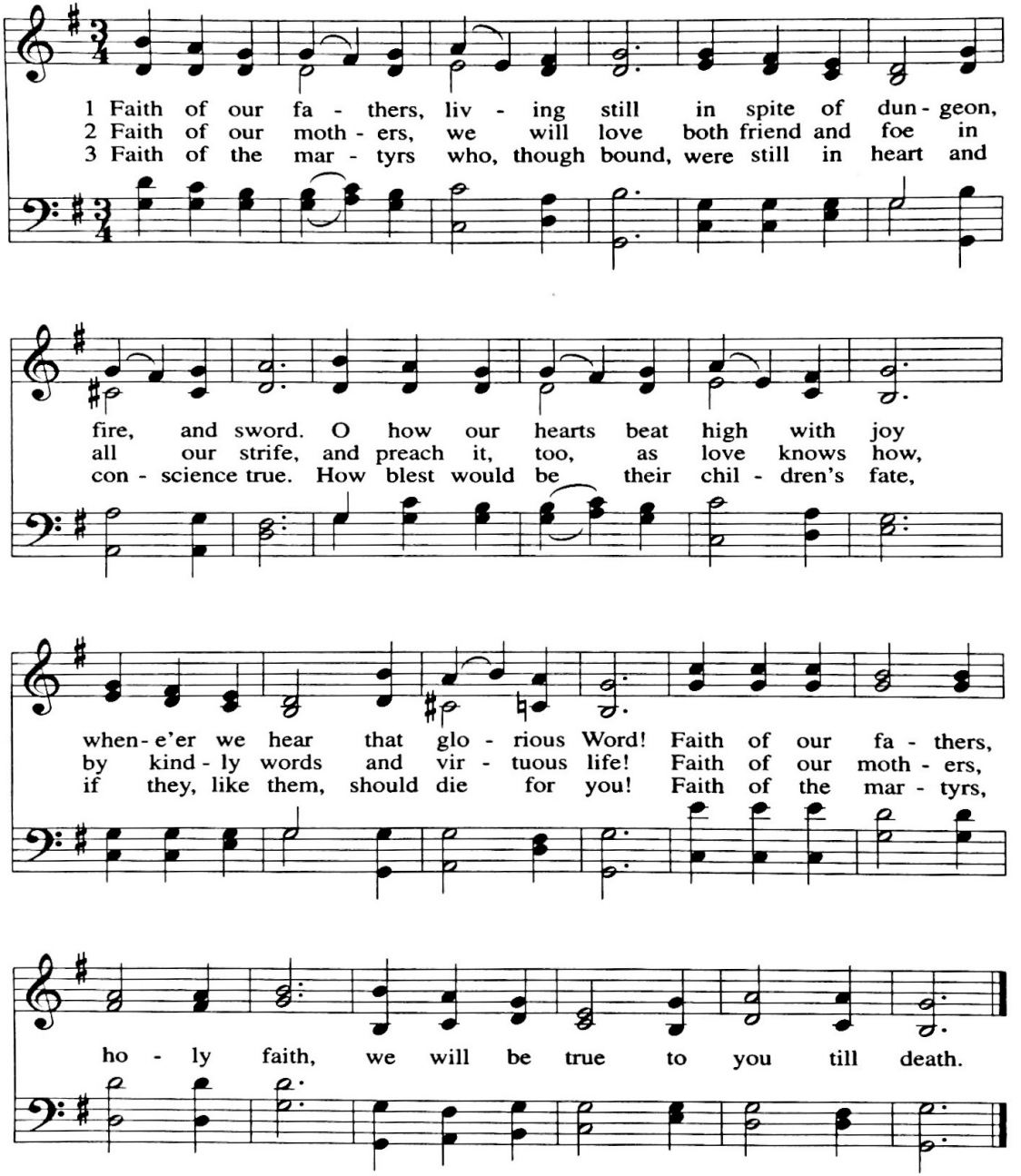
* CLOSING CONGREGATIONAL SONG 727 — Where Justice Rolls Down

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE — The Ash Grove
Traditional Welsh Tune,
arr. Douglas E. Wagner
Chancel Handbell Choir, Sam Parnin, Director

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

584 Faith of Our Fathers



WORDS: Fredrick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt.
MUSIC: Henri F. Hemy, 1818-1888; arr. James G. Walton, 1821-1905

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ST. CATHERINE
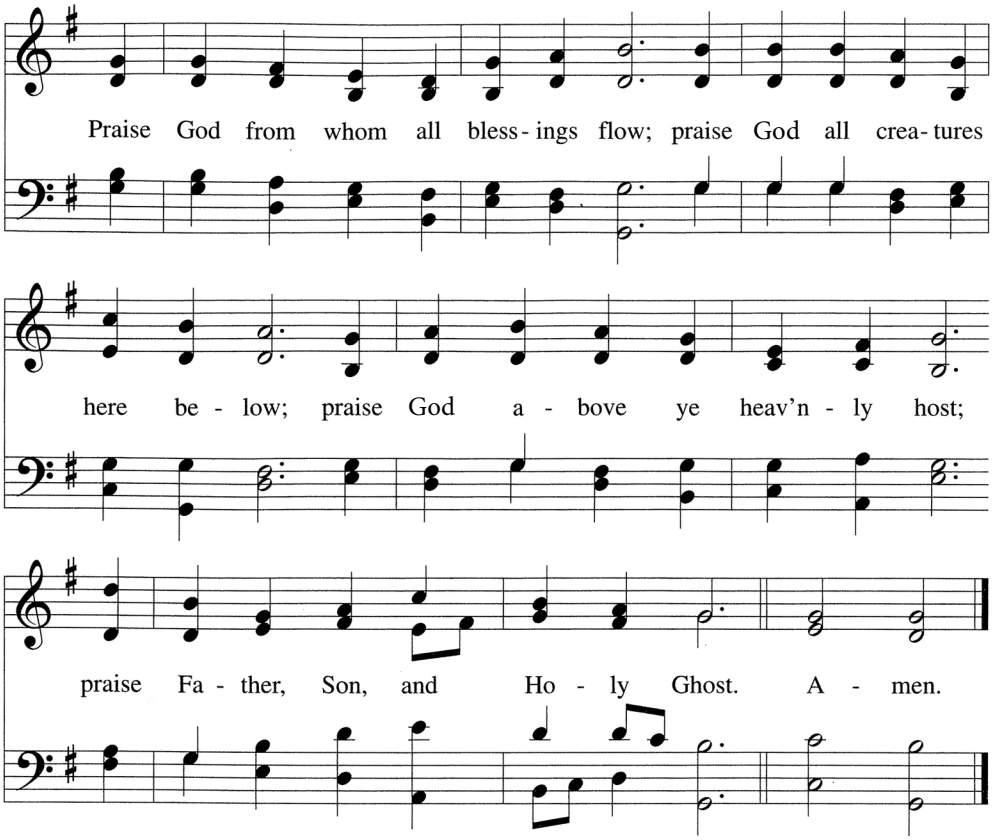
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

ADORATION AND PRAISE
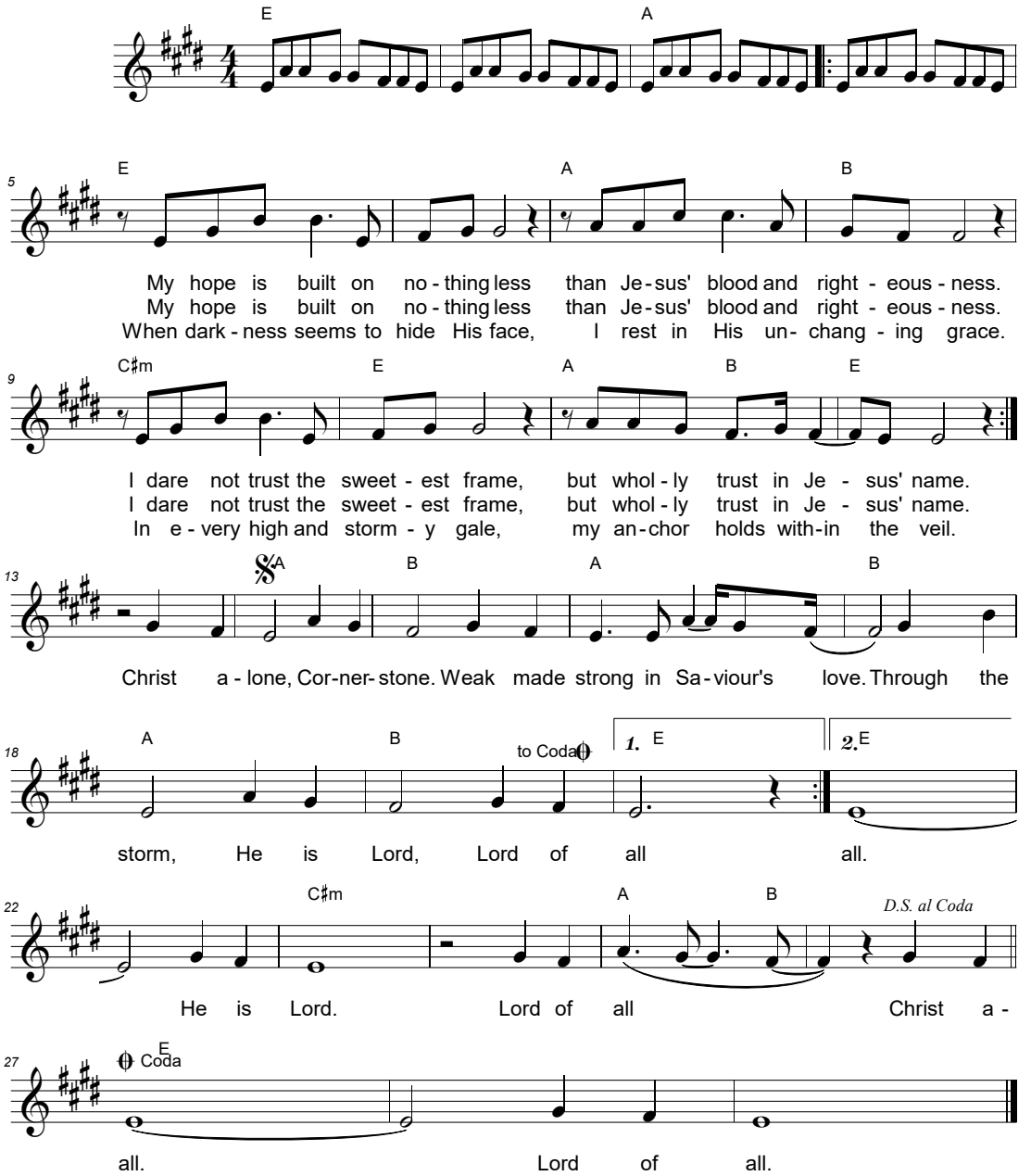
Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 48
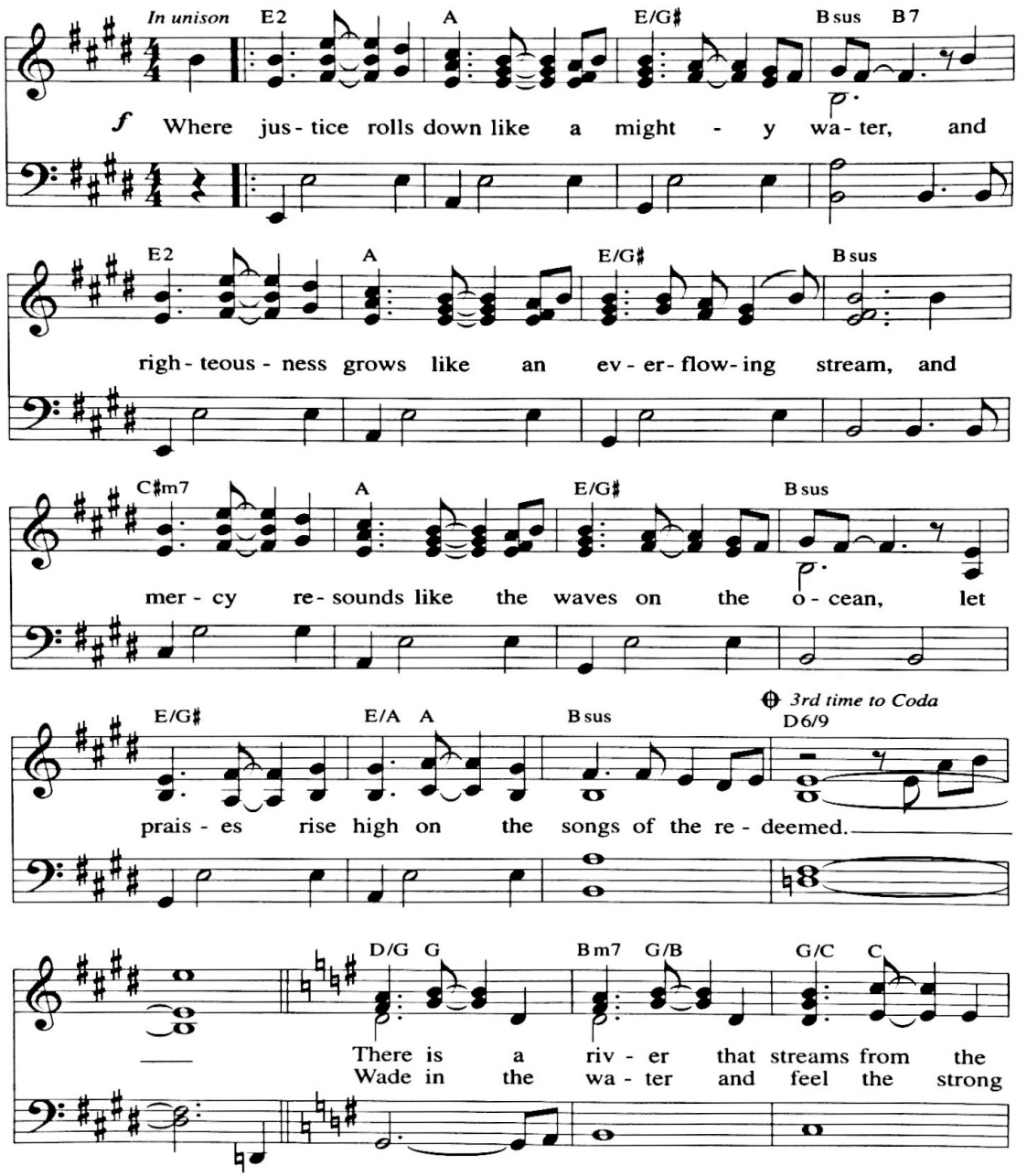


Cornerstone

Edward Mote, Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin,
Reuben Morgan, William Batchelder Bradbury

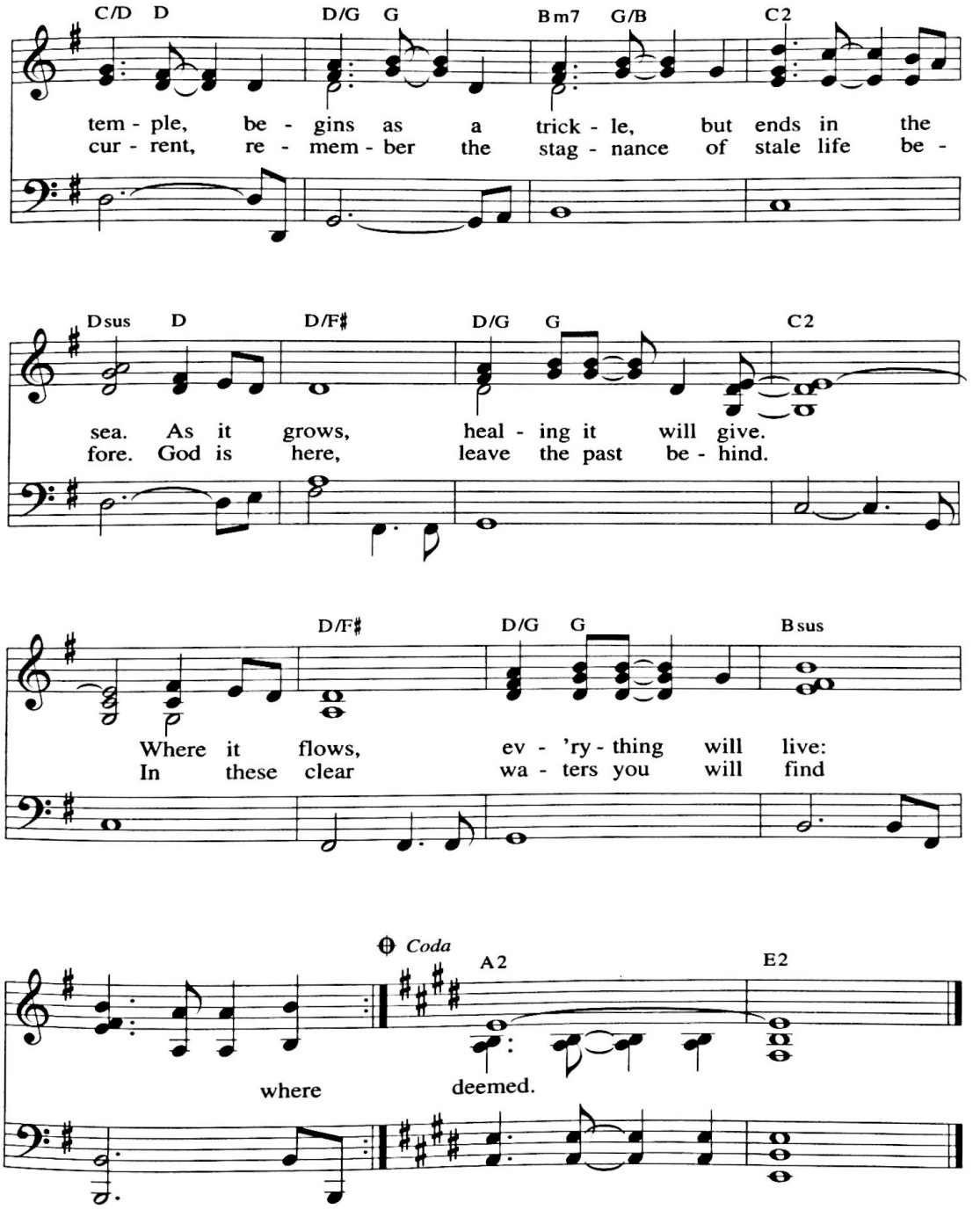
2011 Hillsong MP Songs (Admin. by Hillsong Music Publishing USA)
Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Hillsong Music Publishing USA)
Hillsong Music Publishing UK (Admin. by Hillsong Music Publishing USA)



727 Where Justice Rolls Down



WORDS: Robert D. Stromberg, 1952-, Michael Pearce Donley, 1964-, Richard K. Carlson, 1956-,
© 1994 Hark! Productions, Inc.
MUSIC: Robert D. Stromberg, 1952-, Michael Pearce Donley, 1964-, Richard K. Carlson, 1956-,
© 1994 Hark! Productions, Inc.; arr. Michael Pearce Donley, 1964-, © 1994 Arvid's Girl Music


C/D D
D/G G
Bm7 G/B
C2
tem - ple, be - gins as a trick - le, but ends in the
cur - rent, re - mem - ber the stag - nance of stale life be -
Dsus D
D/F♯
D/G G
C2
sea. As it grows, heal - ing it will give.
fore. God is here, leave the past be - hind.
D/F♯
D/G G
Bsus
Where it flows, ev - 'ry - thing will live:
In these clear wa - ters you will find
Coda
A2
E2
where
deemed.

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 the last day to order Christmas greens! This year, all the money we raise will go toward scholarships for students attending Unite, the triennial youth conference hosted by the Evangelical Covenant Church. Paper order forms are available in the parlors and the narthex, or you can use the online registration form on Realm. Greens ordered will be available for pickup after church in the alley parking lot on Sunday, November 22. Please reach out to Pastor Jeanette if you have any questions!

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.

Staff Away: Ann-Marie will be out of the office on Tuesday, November 10, but she will return on Wednesday, November 11.

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 Berwyn. Please reach out to Janette and Roderick Smith at rjonberber@sbcglobal.net for more details. All are welcome; no need to RSVP!

We invite you to a new member class! 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!

Iglesia del Pacto de Albany Park Invites You to an Anniversary Celebration: On November 15, Albany Park Covenant Church (Iglesia del Pacto de Albany Park, located at 4516 N. Kedzie) will celebrate its 55th anniversary. A special church service will be held at 11:30 am followed by lunch beginning between 1:30 and 2 pm. If you are interested in attending, please contact Sue Vandervoort at suev307@sbcglobal.net or 773-769-1963 by the end of the day today.

Lectionary texts for Sunday, November 15:

Judges 4:1-7
Psalm 123
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

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. It is Versiti's goal to have at least 15 donors at any event, and we're more than halfway there. You may sign up here, and we hope you'll take part in this important community event.

Covenant World Relief and Development Sunday is November 22! We invite you to begin collecting coins in a soup can or to write a check or make an online donation to assist those in need around the world. You may bring your gifts to church either on Sunday, November 22, or to the Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday, November 25. Soup labels and lids are available in the narthex this morning or from the office during the week. Thank you for joining us in raising funds to aid in the work of our denomination with local partners around the world to reduce human suffering for the most vulnerable people and support healthy communities.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service and Pie Social on November 25: As has become something of a tradition here at NPCC, we will hold a Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday, November 25, at 7 pm, followed by a pie social. If you are willing and able to bring a pie or two, or if you would like to help set up, serve, or clean up, please fill out the form found here.

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 vendors, musicians, and townspeople. Members of our congregation will 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!

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!

An Invitation to Prayerful Giving: An email went out recently encouraging all members and friends to prayerfully consider pledging to support the ministries of North Park Covenant Church in 2027. Pledge cards will be in the pews for the next few weeks. You may fill out one of those cards and place it in the offering plate on a Sunday morning, or you may go to tinyurl.com/2027-npcc-pledge to pledge online.

Please note: If you choose to pledge online, you will need to set up your initial pledge and then schedule your giving in two separate steps. You can set your recurring gift to have an end date or to be ongoing.Thank you for your support in the coming year!

Support the Viking Pantry: From November 4 to November 22, we encourage you to donate non-perishable food items and household items to support the North Park University Viking Pantry. The pantry needs support during winter break, as it is available to any student in need of support. Please use the list provided so we can give the items the pantry needs the most! Please bring or ship all items to church. Reach out to Pastor Jeanette if you have any questions!

- Snacks (chips, cookies, granola bars, etc.)
- Mac and cheese cups
- Ramen cups
- Peanut butter crackers
- Shelf-stable milk
- Canned beans and meat (Spam, tuna, and and chicken)
- Instant oatmeal/cereal cups
- Microwavable rice, pasta, and other ready to-make meals
- Paper towels and toilet paper
- Bar soap and body wash
- Feminine hygiene products

From the Board of Community Concern: Our personal hygiene cabinet has been very well-utilized so far, which speaks to the great need in our community. It is a blessing to be able to help meet some of the needs of our neighbors.

Below is a list of what seem to be the most sought-after items. However, any personal hygiene items and basic household cleaning supplies are welcome. The next time you're at Costco, Jewel, Target, or the like, please think about picking up something and adding it to the hygiene closet just inside the south doors. Thank you for loving our neighbors in this tangible way!

- Baby wipes
- Deodorant
- Dish soap
- Feminine hygiene products
- Laundry detergent pods
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste

At Church This Week

Monday, November 9

9:15 am	Women's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
10:30 am	Staff Meeting (Staff Conference Room)
4 pm	Tutoring (Parlors)
5:15 pm	Gin Meeting (Staff Conference Room)
6:30 pm	Geezerball (Gym)
7:30 pm	Centering Prayer (Staff Conference Room)

Tuesday, November 10

8 am	Men's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
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 (Staff Conference Room)
	Board of Trustees Meeting (Large Conference Room)

Wednesday, November 11

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, November 12

4:30 pm	Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Friday, November 13

1 pm	Prayer Group Gathering (Edstrom Home)
4 pm	Reed Group Piano Lesson (Sanctuary)
6 pm	VPCC Community Outreach Night: Movie Night & Stuffy Blessing (Parlors)

Saturday, November 14

8 am	Geezerball (Gym)
9 am	New Members Class (Large Conference Room)
10:15 am	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)
2 pm	Brown & Freeman Inurnment (Private) (Columbarium)



Sunday, November 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)
	Tabletop Sundays for High Schoolers (Attic Youth Room)
10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
1:30 pm	Vida Plena Covenant Church Worship Service (Parlors)
2 pm	Andersen Meeting (Staff Conference Room)
7 pm	AA Meeting (Parlors)
	High-school Youth Group (Attic Youth Room)

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

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for your prayers

- **Community prayer:** In a month marked by an emphasis on gratitude and thankfulness, we pause to give thanks to God for God's faithfulness, patience, and presence in our lives.
- **Michael Shawn Sanders**, mourning the passing of his father, Wilburn Sanders, on October 23
- Jackie Spinner's mom, **Donna Spinner**, diagnosed with leukemia and lymphoma
- **Diane Haglund**, whose back surgery has been scheduled for Friday, December 11
- Marti Hindaileh's friend's mother, **Missy Baker**, seeing improvements in her battle with breast cancer and expecting to have surgery in the near future
- Janice Finney's uncle **Walt Leeman**, diagnosed with bone cancer and on hospice care, and for her aunt **Joyce Leeman**, as she walks this difficult journey with her husband
- **Paula Schuetz**, recuperating after surgery on her ankle on October 12
- **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

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Covenant World Relief and Development

PARTNERS IN TRANSFORMATION

A Serve Globally ministry of the Evangelical Covenant Church

8303 WEST HIGGINS RD., CHICAGO, IL 60631 • COVCHURCH.ORG/CWRD • 773-596-2499

@covenantworldreliefanddevelopment | @covworldreliefanddevelopment

2026 CWRD YEAR IN REVIEW

Thank you for your generous support and partnership with Covenant World Relief and Development. Here is a glimpse of your support of CWRD this year!

$1.78 MILLION GRANTED*

35 PARTNERS

SERVING IN **48** LOCALLY LED PROJECTS

SERVING IN **22** COUNTRIES

Includes four domestic FREE partners engaged in anti-human trafficking projects



Every project is locally led. Every partnership is built on trust.



Responding with compassion when communities need it most.

***REPORTING PERIOD: JULY 1, 2025 TO JUNE 30, 2026**

Covenant World Relief and Development is funded solely through gifts specifically designated to CWRD. **We fully depend on churches and individuals like you to continue this ministry.** To learn more about giving to CWRD, please contact us at cwrd@covchurch.org.

North Park Covenant Church Staff

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ext. 525

Libby Piotrowski
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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
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Brian Ward
Music Ministry Coordinator/Chancel Choir Director
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Sam Parnin
Organist/Chancel Handbell Choir Director
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Christian Schuetz
Custodian
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Ann-Marie Olson
Church Administrator
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The Friendship Center

Nadia Jiménez
Executive Director
info@friendshipcenterchicago.org

(773) 907-6338

2711 West Lawrence Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60625
www.friendshipcenterchicago.org

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.