

FIFTH
SUNDAY



IN
LENT

MARCH 26, 2023
+ THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT +

PRELUDE

Sweet Hour of Prayer
arr. C.E. Waltz
Brian Ward, Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moment for Mission

Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter
Linnea Olfelt for Covenant Camping Ministry

CHORAL INTROIT

In the Bulb There Is a Flower (752, verses 1 and 2)
Chancel Choir, Dominic German, Director

* CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive

Pay attention to my prayer!

I wait for the Lord; my soul waits,

and in his word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord

more than those who watch for the morning,

more than those who watch for the morning.

* OPENING HYMN 306

And Can It Be That I Should Gain

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name.

Amen.

* WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Jesus be with you.

And also with you.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Stay with Us
Egil Hovland

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

David Frisk and Johanna Frisk, Readers

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 37:1-14

New Testament Reading

Romans 8:6-11

* Gospel Reading

John 11:1-45

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Jeff Hunter

INVITATION TO THE PRAYER TREE

* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

I Give You My Heart

Reuben Morgan

1995 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Led by Dominic German, Emma Hunter, Kristen Hunter, Anders Johnson, and Brian Ward

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

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 [here](#).

Offertory

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

arr. Lani Smith

* Doxology 48

* Prayer of Dedication

* CLOSING HYMN 489

I Have a Friend Who Loveth Me

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Ayre
Arcangelo Corelli

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

And Can It Be That I Should Gain

1 And can it be that I should gain an in - t'rest
 2 He left his Fa - ther's throne a - bove, so free, so
 3 Long my im - pris - oned spir - it lay fast bound in
 4 No con-dem - na - tion now I dread: Je - sus, and

in the Sav - ior's blood? Died he for me, who caused his
 in - fi - nite his grace! Emp - tied him - self of all but
 sin and na - ture's night. Thine eye dif - fused a quick - ning
 all in him, is mine! A - live in him, my liv - ing

pain? For me, who him to death pur - sued?
 love, and bled for A - dam's help - less race!
 ray; I woke the dun - geon flamed with light!
 Head, and clothed in righ - teous - ness di - vine,

A - maz - ing love! how can it be that
 'Tis mer - cy all, im - mense and free, for,
 My chains fell off, my heart was free, I
 bold I ap - proach th'e - ter - nal throne, and

PRAISE TO CHRIST JESUS

thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
O my God, it found out me. A - maz - ing
rose, went forth, and fol - lowed thee. A -
claim the crown, through Christ my own.

love! how can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
maz-ing love! how can it be that thou, my

The musical score consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The second system also has a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines.

I Give You My Heart

Reuben Morgan



This is my de-sire to ho - nor You.



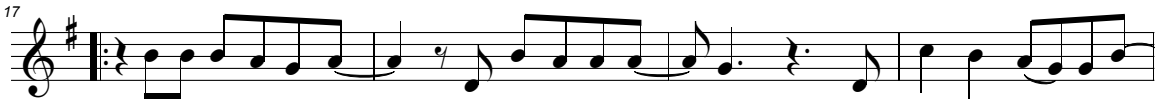
Lord, with all my heart I wor-ship You.



All I have with - in me I give You praise



All that I a - dore Is in You



Lord, I give you my heart I give You my soul I live for You a-lone



e - very breath that I take E-very mo-ment I'm a-wake Lord,



have Your way in me.

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

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.'

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I Have a Friend Who Loveth Me

1 I have a friend who lov-eth me, he gave his life on Cal-va-ry;
 2 My Sav-ior's love, so full and free, doth light the wea-ry way for me;
 3 I have a friend, a might-y friend, up-on his pow'r I may de-pend;
 4 What mat-ters if I'm weak and poor and of-ten meet with test-ing sore,
 5 O come and join us in our song, this friend to you would now be-long;

up-on the cross my sins he bore, and I am saved for-ev-er-more.
 it fills with joy each pass-ing day and drives my sor-rows all a-way.
 he reign-eth o-ver ev-'ry land, o'er val-ley, hill, o'er sea and strand.
 as long as Je-sus is my friend I still am blest and sing a-gain.
 though far from what you'd like to be, his grace suf-fi-cient is for thee.

Refrain

O hal-le-lu-jah, he's my friend! He guides me to the jour-ney's end;

he walks be-side me all the way and will be-stow a crown some day.

Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online!

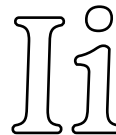
We're glad you're here.

For your prayers this week:

- **family and friends of Roger Nelson**, who passed away on March 18
- **Bruce Strom**, home again after partial knee-replacement surgery and an adverse reaction to medication
- Terri Njaa's 3-month-old great-grandson, **Daniel**, recuperating after heart surgery last week
- **Tracee Lundeen**, Jim and Jan's daughter-in-law, diagnosed with malignant brain tumors
- **Chloe Johnson**, diagnosed with lupus
- **Greg Mesimore**, recuperating following surgery to remove a tumor on his brain
- **Sig Hulburt**, recuperating after surgery for a hiatal hernia this past Wednesday
- Rosemary Slaughter's friend **Barbara's 18-year-old grandson**, on life support after being given medication to which he had a reaction
- Barbara Nordlund's parents, **Sue and Dwight Samuelson**, recuperating after a cardioversion and initial radiation and chemo treatments, respectively
- Millie Lungren's sister, **Margaret**, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer
- **Rosemary Slaughter's great-nephew**, Anthony, age 4, has leukemia and was recently hospitalized
- Elizabeth Petersen's stepson, **Robert Petersen**, on hospice care
- **Gunnel Brunsell**, diagnosed with lymphoma and not seeking treatment

Praying for Our Neighborhood in 2023

Join us this week, as we pray for those in our community whose first names begin with...



The spring issue of our denominational quarterly devotional *The Covenant Home Altar*, and its Spanish-language counterpart, *Hoy Con Dios*, is now available for pick-up in the narthex. Please feel free to grab a copy on your way down to coffee hour today!

The April issue of *The Narthex*, our monthly newsletter, is available in the narthex today.

Join in an opportunity to sign Easter cards for congregants! The Board of Deacons will have a couple of tables in the parlors after worship today, with cards that will accompany flowering plants for those in our congregation who are homebound. Please consider signing your name to these cards.

If you signed up for one of today's architectural tours, please meet at the front of the sanctuary at the time of the tour you registered for. There are still a few open spots in the 1:30 tour.

We invite you to join us for our final evening Lenten service, beginning tonight at 6 pm. Join us in the south chapel for a time of quiet prayer, music, singing, and communion. Come and worship as we make the journey together to the cross.

The North Park Readers will meet in the home of Helen Arkema, 5837 N. Bernard St., on Tuesday, March 28, at 7 pm. Our book selection is *A Study in Scarlet* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. This is the first Sherlock Holmes novel where Mr. Sherlock Holmes is introduced along with John Watson. You are welcome to join in the discussion.

Help the Church Library celebrate the 125th anniversary of North Park Covenant Church! Let's see if we can raise \$125 (or more) during the month of April to purchase some new books for the library. This could be accomplished if 125 people gave \$1 or if 25 people gave \$5. If you'd like to donate, please find Church Librarian Lori Johnson after the service.

North Park Church Cooperative Preschool invites you to a Dine 'n' Share! On Thursday, March 30, you're invited to make your way to SmashBurger (4709 W Foster Ave, Chicago) for a meal that will benefit the Preschool. They need at least 20 people to RSVP, [using this link](#), by Monday, March 27, in order for the event to take place. Please [show this flyer](#) at check-out. Thank you for your support!

The Spring Prayer Vigil is scheduled for Saturday, April 1, from 7 am to 9 pm. During the season of Lent, we have been looking at Jesus' ministry, and how he encouraged people to believe in him as God's son and defended himself as the Messiah! Boring redemptive holes in religious certainty and performing jaw-dropping miracles, he was authenticating his supernatural abilities, and ever since he has urged us to take advantage of them, too, through prayer. Here is another opportunity for us to pray as he encourages us in his Word! To sign up for a half-hour time slot (or more), [please use this form](#).

Eat Some Pancakes, Raise Some Funds! Join us on Saturday, April 15, from 8:30 to 11 am in the church parlors for the first pancake breakfast camping fundraiser since 2020! Come for delicious pancakes, fruit, and sausage... Participate in a raffle with fun camp prizes... Sip some coffee and chat with friends... Donate to help send kids to camp... Come when you can, leave when you must... No reservations needed!

Things are moving forward with the 125th-anniversary Campaign! Back at our January Annual Meeting, the church approved of the Executive Council forming a committee to raise \$1.25 million for the restoration of the east wall, a full-time pastor focused on youth and the community, and a 10% tithe to community organizations. The Executive Council has approved the committee's members, but we are still looking for more people to support this team! The committee is currently comprised of Sandi Kersten and Samantha Johnson (co-chairs), Joline Paska, Donn Engebretson, Cal Katter, Brad Thompson, Scott Applequist, and Jane Swanson-Nystrom, as well as ex-officio members Joel Olfelt, Libby Piotrowski, and Jeff Hunter. We are hoping to schedule our first meeting by the end of March to look at the roles we will oversee, set timelines and metrics, and review our current giving and budget. If you are interested in joining this team, please contact Sandi Kersten (skers26803@gmail.com) or 312-622-8100) or Samantha Johnson (scjohnson725@gmail.com or 773-383-0682).

There is an ongoing need in the church for volunteers in childcare, ushering, and hospitality. If you are interested in helping out in any of these ways, [please click here](#) and fill in a couple of dates. If everyone in the church signed up for two dates, we would be covered for a long time!

The text for today's choral anthem is as follows:

Stay with Us

Egil Hovland

Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us.

Stay with us, it soon is evening.

Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us,

it soon is evening and night is falling.

Jesus Christ, the world's true light!

Shine so the darkness cannot overcome it!

Stay with us, Lord Jesus, it soon is evening.

Stay with us, Lord Jesus, for night is falling.

Let your light pierce the darkness

and fill your church with its glory.

Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us.

Stay with us, it soon is evening.

Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us,

It soon is evening, and night is falling.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 2: Palm Sunday

We invite you to join us at 9:15 am for a palm procession through the neighborhood, followed by breakfast in the parlors before our 10:30 am worship service. Meet us in the south garden to process through the neighborhood, and stay for breakfast and a time to journey through the liturgy of the palms and the passion.

Thursday, April 6: Maundy Thursday Service

Join us at 7 pm as we share in the Last Supper and the washing of feet.

Friday, April 7: Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Join us at 7 pm to participate in the Service of Shadows.

Sunday, April 9: Easter Sunday

All are welcome to return at 10:30 am to celebrate the resurrected Christ!

The Church Calendar This Week

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

Monday, March 27

- 9 am Monday Morning Women's Bible Study (Hybrid)
- 10:30 am Staff Meeting (Staff Conference Room)
- 6:30 pm Geezerball (Gym)
- 7:30 pm Centering Prayer (Staff Conference Room)

Tuesday, March 28

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

Wednesday, March 29

- 10 am Women's Bible Study (Hybrid)
- 5 pm George Soccer Practice (Gym)
- 6 pm *gather* Dinner (Parlors)
- 7 pm Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Side Balcony, Sanctuary)
- 7 pm Middle-school Youth Group (Middle-school Youth Room)

Thursday, March 30

- 4:30 pm Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 5 pm George Soccer Practice (Gym)
- 8:15 pm Swanson Basketball (Gym)

Friday, March 31

- 1 pm Prayer Gathering (North Room)

Saturday, April 1

- 7 am Virtual Prayer Vigil
- 8 am Geezerball (Gym)
- 10:30 am Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

Sunday, April 2 - Palm Sunday

- 9:15 am Palm Procession (Meet in South Garden) and All-church Breakfast (Parlors)
- 10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 12 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal (Junior Chapel)
- 7 pm High-school Youth Group (The Attic Youth Room)
- 7 pm AA Meeting (Parlors)

North Park Covenant

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Libby Piotrowski, Co-pastor
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Missionaries We Support

John and Letha Kerl,
Field Representatives for Europe

Peter and Anna Kim, Taiwan

James and Rachel Ventress, Alaska

Paul and Sheryl Noren, Congo

Eugenio and Pia Restrepo,
Latin America

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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