



NORTH PARK
COVENANT CHURCH

MAY 14, 2023
+ THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER +

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PRELUDE

God's Love Shine on You
J.S. Bach
Brian Ward, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebrating Our 125th Anniversary

Jeff Hunter and Libby Piotrowski
Missions Video

INTROIT

* CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 66

Bless our God, O peoples,
let the sound of his praise be heard,
who has kept us among the living,
and has not let our feet slip.

Come and hear, all you who fear God,
and I will tell you what he has done for me.

I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue.

Truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer.

**Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer
or removed his steadfast love from me.**

* OPENING HYMN 318

We Come, O Christ, to You

All sing verses 1 and 5, Men sing verse 2, Choir sings verse 3, Women sing verse 4

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

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of the Risen Christ be with you.

And also with you.

ANTHEM

Jesus Loves Me
arr. Joel Raney
Chancel Choir and Sunday School Children
Directed by Dominic German and Brian Ward
Sandi Kersten, Piano

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

Jeff Hunter

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Easter Season Acts Reading

New Testament Reading

* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* Sung Response 246, verses 1 and 3

Alyssa Anderson, Reader

Acts 17:22-31

1 Peter 3:13-22

John 14:15-21

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks

MESSAGE

Libby Piotrowski

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

I Give You My Heart

Reuben Morgan

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

Led by Kristen Hunter, Anders Johnson, and Brian Ward

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

The Lord Is My Light

Brian Daniel Ward

Children's Vocal Ensemble

* Doxology 48

* Prayer of Dedication

* CLOSING HYMN 744

Because He Lives

WORDS OF SENDING

BENEDICTION

Blessing

Natalie Sleeth

Children's Vocal Ensemble

POSTLUDE

I'm Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing

arr. Anthony Giamanco

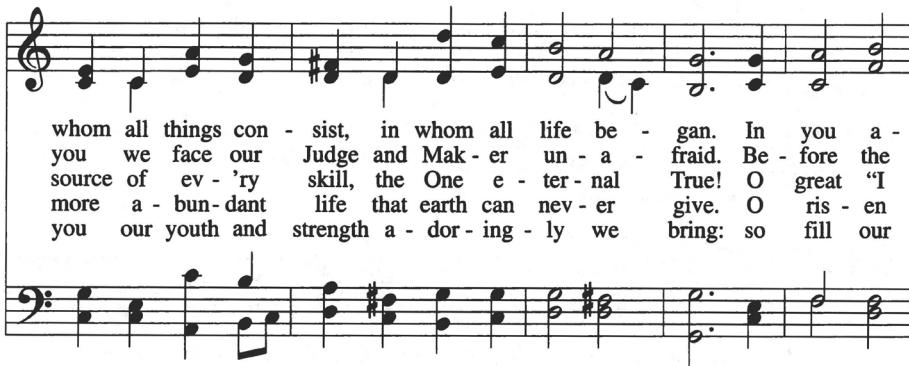
** Please rise, in body or in spirit.*

We Come, O Christ, to You

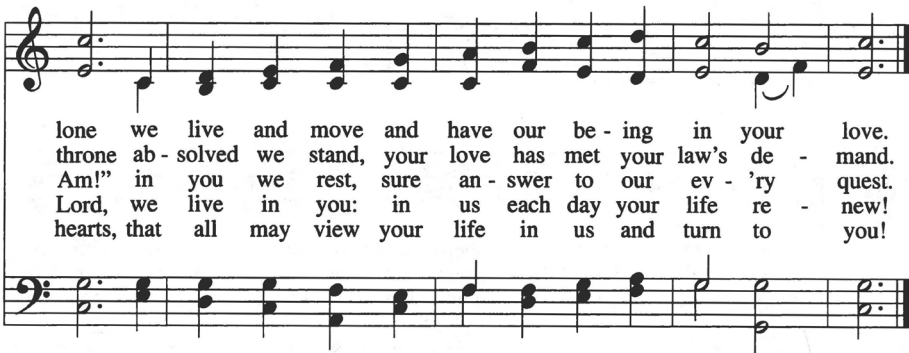
318



1 We come, O Christ, to you, true Son of God and man, by
 2 You are the way to God, your blood our ran - som paid; in
 3 You are the liv - ing truth, all wis - dom dwells in you, the
 4 You on - ly are true life, to know you is to live the
 5 We wor - ship you, Lord Christ, our Sav - ior and our King, to



whom all things con - sist, in whom all life be - gan. In you a -
 you we face our Judge and Mak - er un - a - fraid. Be - fore the
 source of ev - 'ry skill, the One e - ter - nal True! O great "I
 more a - bun - dant life that earth can nev - er give. O ris - en
 you our youth and strength a - dor - ing - ly we bring: so fill our



lone we live and move and have our be - ing in your love.
 throne ab - solved we stand, your love has met your law's de - mand.
 Am!" in you we rest, sure an - swer to our ev - 'ry quest.
 Lord, we live in you: in us each day your life re - new!
 hearts, that all may view your life in us and turn to you!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks

246

Refrain (in unison) F Dm Gm C

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give thanks to the ris - en Lord. Al - le -

F Dm Gm C ⊕ Last time

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give praise to his name.

F/A Stanzas F Dm Bb C F

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth; he is the
2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Je - sus has
3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ; now we shall
4 God has pro - claimed the just re - ward: life for all
5 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God, joy - ful - ly

Dm Gm7 C D.C. ⊕ F Last time

King of cre - a - tion. name.
died and has ris - en.
live for - ev - er.
peo - ple, al - le - lu - ia.
sing to our Sav - ior.

I Give You My Heart

Reuben Morgan



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



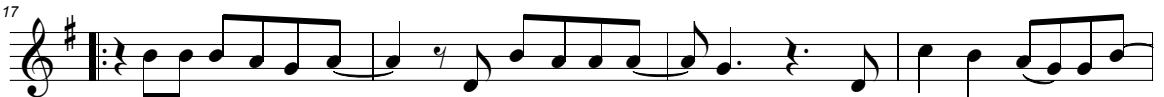
Lord, with all my heart I wor-ship You.



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.

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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 upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment of chords and single notes.

here be - low; praise him a - bove ye heav'n - ly host;

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It features similar rhythmic patterns and chordal structures, maintaining the hymn's steady and reverent character.

praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

The third system concludes the piece. The melody ends with a final cadence, and the accompaniment provides a solid harmonic base. The lyrics are centered under the notes, and the system ends with a double bar line.

Because He Lives

1 God sent his Son, they called him Je - sus; he came to love,
 2 And then one day I'll cross the riv - er; I'll fight life's fi -

heal, and for - give; he lived and died to buy my
 nal war with pain; and then as death gives way to

par - don, an emp - ty grave is there to prove my Sav - ior lives.
 vic - t'ry, I'll see the lights of glo - ry and I'll know he lives.

Be - cause he lives I can face to - mor - row; be - cause he lives

all fear is gone; be - cause I know he holds the

PROMISE AND HOPE

fu - ture, and life is worth the liv - ing just be - cause he lives.

The image shows a musical score for a piece titled "PROMISE AND HOPE". It consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and contains a vocal melody. The bottom staff is in bass clef and contains a piano accompaniment. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "fu - ture, and life is worth the liv - ing just be - cause he lives." The music ends with a double bar line.

Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online!

We're glad you're here.

For your prayers this week:

- **Tom McCullough**, anticipating heart surgery
- Elizabeth Petersen's stepson, **Robert Petersen**, on hospice and nearing end of life
- **Tracee Lundeen**, Jim and Jan's daughter-in-law, undergoing chemo for malignant brain tumors

Vacation Bible School registration has begun!

Children in preschool through 5th grade are invited to come to our church from 9 am to 12 pm each day from June 12-16, with an extended celebration and lunch on Friday. The cost is \$25/child. Children must be potty-trained. To register, [click here](#).

Planning is well underway! We are still need of your help, in all sorts of ways:

1. If you have volunteered to help already, *thank you!* If you haven't volunteered but have been considering it, please let Pastor Libby know. We can use all the help we can get, even if you can't be there the whole week. Anyone in 6th grade and older is welcome as staff. There are three dates set for volunteer meetings; please mark your calendars:

Tuesday, May 30, at 7 pm OR Wednesday, June 7, at 7 pm

(Please plan to attend one of these two first meetings, which will be identical.)

AND

Sunday, June 11, at 6 pm – Set-up/decorating

(all volunteers should attend)

2. Please take a look at [the needs list](#). There are many things we need. If you are willing and able to donate items, please bring them to the church office as you are able. (If you'd like to see a hard copy of the list, just let Libby or Ann-Marie know!)

3. Please continue to pray for the children and the staff as they prepare for the week of VBS. Pray that the week would be one of fun, excitement, and energy... and a week in which these kids can come closer to the God who loves them so very much!

Thanks to your overwhelming generosity, we have raised \$855 to purchase new books for the church library over the next few years! Praise the Lord! Your support has been amazing and very much appreciated by the library committee. Now you have the opportunity to let us know what books you would like to see in the library. Adults and teens may [vote online](#) or via paper ballot, which will be available in the parlors during coffee hour on Sundays and at *gather*. Kids were given a chance to vote for their favorites today in Sunday School. All ballots must be submitted by June 2.

There will be a brief congregational meeting immediately after worship on Sunday, May 21, to vote on new member applicants.

Praying for Our Neighborhood in 2023

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

Pp

Join us for a time to craft together! On Saturday, May 20, we invite you to spend some time crafting and fellowshiping together. Come to the parlors from 1 to 2:30 pm, and bring your own project (needlepoint, embroidery, cross-stitch, crocheting, knitting, or what-have-you!) to work on. Light refreshments will be served. If you can't make it on this date, don't worry! We'll do this again sometime in the not-too-distant future.

Opera West! presents Potpourri of Song: On Sunday, May 21, at 4:30 pm, you are invited to our sanctuary to hear a concert of opera, musical theatre, pop, rock, and jazz sung by students of *Opera West!* founder Janice Pantazelos, with Sharon Peterson as accompanist. All profits go to *Opera West!*, a not-for-profit company offering productions of the great operas at an affordable price. Suggested donation: \$20 (If you let them know you're a member of the church, you may attend for free.)

Jochy Hernandez in concert: On Sunday, May 28, Jochy Hernandez will be our guest preacher during morning worship. Along with his wife, Tammi, Jochy serves as a member of the Evangelical Covenant Church's global personnel. You are also invited to a concert featuring Jochy and our very own Central Conference Superintendent Danny Martinez the evening before. The concert will take place at 6 pm on May 27 in Anderson Chapel on the campus of North Park University and will be a benefit for Casa Guatemala Orphanage. No tickets required!

Join us for two all-church community events! Come for fun and fellowship, laughter, and some relationship building! (And, if money is an issue, no worries... just let Pastor Libby know.)

Saturday, June 3, from 3:30-5:30 pm - Bowling Event (Avondale Bowl, 3118 N. Milwaukee Avenue)
\$12/ person or \$45 per family (If you need shoes, that is an additional \$4/person.)
RSVP by Wednesday, May 31, [here](#).

Wednesday, August 9, at 6:30 pm - Chicago Dogs Game (9850 Balmoral Ave., Rosemont, IL 60018)
Join us to watch as the Chicago Dogs take on the Gary-Southshore Railcats - \$16/person
RSVP by Thursday, August 3, [here](#).

What do the lamp in your basement, a pair of slacks you only wore a few times, and the toddler toys that have been stored in your attic for decades have in common? They are all items that can be donated to (and sold at) the North Park Covenant Church Rummage Sale! Here's your chance to:

- Clean out the stuff that has been accumulating in your home!
- Donate sellable items and/or your time and energy!
- Put your organization skills to good use!
- Have an enjoyable time working with others in the church on a project!

And for the bakers in the group... we just might have a baked goods area that could use your talent!

The Rummage Sale will take place on Saturday, October 7, 2023! Between now and then, we will be looking for people to serve on the Rummage Sale Committee. We will also be collecting items and storing them at church. So, as you do your spring cleaning, keep us in mind! We'll take almost anything we can resell! Questions? Contact Susan Dawson at dnsdawson@aol.com.

Architectural Tour Reprise! The architectural tours held in April were so well received, we wanted to have one more for anyone who wasn't able to attend either of those. Dave and Carol Schlensker will walk you through the history of our lovely facilities, focusing on various building features and stories. Topics will include stories behind our sanctuary's stained glass, as well as understanding the major building additions made in the 1960s and 2000s. The tour, which will last about an hour, will be offered on Sunday, June 4, soon after the worship service ends. Availability is limited, so please [register early!](#) The tour will begin at the front of the sanctuary.

Staff away: Ann-Marie will be out of the office on Friday, May 19, and Monday, May 22, and will reply to any messages that come in on those days when she returns on Tuesday, May 23.

The texts for today's anthem, offertory, and benediction are as follows:

Jesus Loves Me

arr. Joel Raney

We are all God's children, we are one in God's love.
Jesus loves me, this I know. Everyone's a child of God.

Children:

We are all God's children, we are all God's children,
we are all God's children, we are one in God's love.
Jesus loves me,
this I know.

Chancel Choir:

Jesus loves the little children,
all the children of the world.
Every color, shape, and size,
they are precious in his eyes.

Everyone's a child of God.

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.
Oh, yes, Jesus loves me! for the Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me, he who died, heaven's gate to open wide;
he will wash away my sin, let his precious child come in.

Children:

Oh, yes, Jesus loves me!
Oh, yes, Jesus loves me!
Oh, yes, Jesus loves me,
for the Bible tells me so.
Oh, yes, Jesus loves me! Oh, yes, Jesus loves me!
Oh, yes, Jesus loves me!
For the Bible tells me so.

Chancel Choir:

We are all God's children, we are all God's children,
we are all God's children, we are one in God's love.
Jesus loves me, this I know.
Everyone's a child of God.
Oh, yes, Jesus loves me! Oh, yes, oh yes,
yes, God loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, he loves me.

Jesus loves me, this I know.

The Lord Is My Light

Brian Daniel Ward

The Lord is my light and my salvation, of whom shall I be afraid?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life, so why should I be anxious?
So why should I tremble? Why should I be afraid?
The Lord will come to my aid.

One thing I ask of the Lord:
the thing that I seek most is to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
for He will conceal me when trouble comes. He will hide me in His sanctuary.
He will place me out of reach on a high rock. Then I will hold my head high
above the enemies who surround me, singing and praising the Lord with music.

Teach me your way, O Lord. Lead me in a straight path.
Do not turn me over to my foes' desires as they rise up against me.
I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord.
Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart.

The Lord is my light and my salvation, of whom shall I be afraid?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life, so why should I be anxious?
So why should I tremble? Why should I be afraid?
The Lord will come to my aid. The Lord is my light.
The Lord is my light, so I won't be afraid.

Blessing

Natalie Sleeth

O may the peace of God be with you evermore,
and may the power of His great love your soul again restore,
and may you feel His hand upon you day by day
to strengthen and sustain you along your way.

O may He be your guide as long as life shall last,
and in the time of Trial, may His strong arms hold you fast,
and may you always know His never-ending care,
and may His gracious Spirit be with you ev'rywhere.

The one eternal God his King o'er all the earth,
He made the universe so vast and gave to Man his birth;
but though He reigns supreme, His love surrounds us all,
and from His throne He tends His own: His creatures great and small.

The Church Calendar This Week

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

Monday, May 15

- 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, May 16

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

Wednesday, May 17

- 10 am Women's Bible Study (Hybrid)
- 6 pm *gather* Dinner (Parlors)
- 7 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, May 18

- 4:30 pm Uniting Voices Chicago Year-end Showcase (Sanctuary and Parlors)
- 8:15 pm Swanson Basketball (Gym)

Friday, May 19

- 1 pm Prayer Gathering (North Room)

Saturday, May 20

- 8 am Geezerball (Gym)
- 10 am BravoStudio Recital - Private (Sanctuary)
- 1 pm Sew Together Craft Time (Parlors)
- 4 pm Reed Group Piano Lesson (Sanctuary)
- 7 pm Confirmation Family Party (Parlors)

Sunday, May 21

- 9:15 am Sunday School for Preschool - 6th Grade (Junior Chapel)
- 9:15 am Adult Formation (Parlors)
- 10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:45 am Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)
- 2 pm Grant Piano Recital - Private (Sanctuary)
- 4:30 pm *Potpourri of Song!* Concert (Sanctuary)
- 7 pm AA Meeting (Parlors)

North Park Covenant

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John and Letha Kerl,
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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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