

MAY 21, 2023
+ ASCENSION SUNDAY +

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PRELUDE

Jesus Shall Reign
arr. Anna Laura Page
Brian Ward, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moment for Mission

Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter
Sue Vandervoort

CHORAL INTROIT

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (267, verse 1)
Chancel Choir, Dominic German, Director

* CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 47

Sing praises to God,

sing praises;

sing praises to our King,

sing praises.

For God is the king of all the earth;

sing praises with a song.

God is king over the nations;

God sits on his holy throne.

* OPENING HYMN 269

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

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

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Risen Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Sing and Be Not Silent
Mary McDonald

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Easter Season Acts Reading

Acts 1:1-11

New Testament Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

* Gospel Reading

Luke 24:44-53

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* Sung Response 246, verses 1 and 3

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

Libby Piotrowski

MESSAGE

Jeff Hunter

* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Lord Most High

Don Harris and Garry Sadler

1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Admin. by Integrity Music)

Led by Jeanette Mottl, Brian Ward, and Ryan Wendt

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 [here](#).

Offertory

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Frederick Cook Atkinson

* Doxology 48

* Prayer of Dedication

* CLOSING HYMN 299

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Diademata"

Gordon Young

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

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun 269

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc - ces - sive jour - neys run;
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and end - less prais - es crown his head;
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his love with sweet - est song;
 4 Let all God's crea - tures rise and bring their grate - ful hon - ors to our King;

his king - dom spread from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wain no more.
 his name like sweet per - fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 and in - fant voic - es shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 an - gels de - scend with songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men!

WORDS: Based on Psalm 72, Isaac Watts, 1674-1748
 MUSIC: John Hatton, 1710-1793

L.M.
 DUKE STREET

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

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 B♭ 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.

Lord Most High

Don Harris and Gary Sadler

From the ends of the earth From the ends of the earth From the
4 depths of the sea From the depths of the sea From the heights of the hea - vens From the
7 heights of the hea - vens Your name be praised From the hearts of the weak From the
11 hearts of the weak From the shouts of the strong From the shouts of the strong From the
14 lips of all peo - ple This song we raise Lord Lord
From the lips of all peo - ple This song we raise Lord
18 Through-out the end-less a - ges You will be crowned with prais-es Lord Most
Through-out the end-less a - ges You will be crowned with prais-es Lord Most
23 High Ex - alt - ed in e - very na - tion Sovereign of all cre - a - tion
High Ex - alt - ed in e - very na - tion Sovereign of all cre - a - tion
28 Lord Most High be mag - ni - fied
Lord Most High be mag - ni - fied

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 a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The melody is written in quarter and eighth notes. The bass staff provides 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 quarter and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. The bass staff continues with a steady accompaniment.

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 repeat dots. The bass staff also concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

299

1 O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
 3 Je-sus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sor-rows cease,
 4 He breaks the pow'r of can-celled sin, he sets the pris-'ner free;
 5 To God all glo-ry, praise, and love be now and ev-er giv'n

the glo-ries of my God and King, the tri-umphs of his grace!
 to spread thro' all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
 'tis mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
 his blood can make the foul-est clean, his blood a-vailed for me.
 by saints be-low and saints a-bove, the Church in earth and heav'n. A-men.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

MUSIC: Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

C.M.
 AZMON

Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online! *We're glad you're here.*

For your prayers this week:

- **the families of four teenagers** who were killed in a tragic car accident in Wheeling last week
- **Elizabeth Petersen and family**, mourning the passing of her stepson, Robert Petersen, on May 15
- **Fred Holmgren**, home from the hospital and considering hospice
- **Tom McCullough**, undergoing tests before heart surgery can be performed

Praying for Our Neighborhood in 2023

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



We will hold a brief congregational meeting

immediately following worship today. The joyful purpose of this meeting is to vote on receiving nine applicants into membership in North Park Covenant Church. The applicants have completed Inquirers' classes and are recommended by the Board of Deacons. They are: Angelica Alhman, Antonio Pizzaro, and Michael Shawn Sanders (application by confession of faith), Joseph (JP) DeNeui, Sarah Hillbrant, Bonnie Pfeiffelman, Eric Pfeiffelman, Lauren Wargaski, and Paul Wargaski (coming from Grace Covenant Church).

***Opera West!* presents Potpourri of Song:** Today at 4:30 pm, you are invited back 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 a Town Hall meeting May 31. Our church leadership is hopeful that NPCC will be receiving some good financial news in the next couple of months, and we'd love to share that news with you and enter into conversation as a church family as to where we might go from there. Please join us for the final *gather* dinner of the programmatic year and stay for a Town Hall meeting directly afterward. We will also provide a Zoom link for those unable to be present in person. Dinner will begin at 6 pm, and the Town Hall will begin at 6:30 (with a time certain end of 7:45 pm).

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 soon!](#) The tour will begin at the front of the sanctuary.

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.

Get reading this summer! The church library invites all kids to join in The Great Summer Reading Challenge. Have fun reading on the beach, to a pet, on a swing, or wherever/however you want to read. Summer reading challenge sheets will be available in Sunday School and in the parlors. Turn in your completed sheets at a time to be announced in the fall.

It's time to clear out the Lost & Found! If you have lost something and wonder if it might be at church, please stop by the church office and let Ann-Marie know what you're looking for. Items not claimed by May 31 will be donated or tossed. Thank you!

Vacation Bible School planning is 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!

Finally, if you haven't registered your kids for VBS, now is the time! [Click here to sign up!](#)

From the Board of Community Concern: According to the New York Times (May 10, 2023), "Open-armed Chicago Feels the Strains of Migrant Influx: Asylum seekers are pouring in at a fraught moment... (our) shelters are full, and a pandemic-driven restriction at the southern border is expected to end." You might ask yourself, "What can I do?" Of course, our pastors would say let's start with prayer, and we absolutely should. In addition, we have partnered with the North River Commission (NRC) to collect the items in the image below. Pastor Libby has placed a box in the narthex for collection of items for the migrants. Our first drop-off to the NRC is scheduled for Sunday, June 4, after church. For more information, please contact Mark Schukas at mjschukas@aol.com. Thank you!


What do the lamp in your basement, that 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 subsequently sold at) the North Park Covenant Church Rummage Sale! Here's your chance to:

- Clean out stuff that has accumulated in your home!
- Donate sellable items and/or your time and energy!
- Use your organization skills!
- Have fun working with others 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 who are interested in being 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 will take almost anything we can resell! Questions? Contact Susan Dawson at dnsdawson@aol.com.

Today's cover art is printed courtesy of Jesus Mafa. *The Ascension*, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the [Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN](#) [retrieved May 16, 2023]. [Original source](#). [Contact page](#).



Donate to Support Migrant families

North River Commission in collaboration with elected officials, local orgs, and neighbors is collecting donations to help new migrant families. We need your support to provide medication, hygiene products, food, and educational materials to new coming families!


What is needed:

Medicinal Needs:

- Lice Shampoo
- Yeast infection medication
- Hydrocortisone for itchy skin
- Fever Reducers/ Pain relievers for infants, kids, and adults
- Pepto bismol
- Pedialyte and or Gatorade

Hygiene Products:

- Feminine products - just pads not tampons
- Soap bars
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Razors
- Deodorant
- Diapers
- Baby wipes
- Brushes/combs
- Hair ties



To donate please contact Erika at (872) 257-8773

- #### Food:
- Non-perishable ex: granola bars, chips, dry fruit, etc.
 - Water
- #### Educational Materials:
- Books in Spanish for kids ages 2-5
 - Math activity books
 - Coloring books and crayons
 - Pencils and sharpeners

Staff Away: Ann-Marie will be out of the office on Monday, May 22.

Join us for three all-church community events! Come for fun, 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 Ave)

\$12/person or \$45 per family (If you need shoes, that is an additional \$4/person.)

RSVP by Wednesday, May 31, [here](#).

Sunday, June 11, after outdoor worship - Block Party!

Hot dogs and drinks will be provided. Entertainment for the kids and fellowship for all!

Church members: If your last name begins with A-J, please bring a side dish. If it begins with K-Z, please bring a dessert. (Please bring enough for your family plus an additional 10.) Bring a neighbor and friend from another block!

Wednesday, August 9, at 6:30 pm - Chicago Dogs Baseball Game (9850 Balmoral Ave, Rosemont)

Join us to watch as the Chicago Dogs take on the Gary-Southshore Railcats - \$16/person

RSVP by Thursday, August 3, [here](#).

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

Sing and Be Not Silent

Mary McDonald

Sing to the Lord and be not silent. Sing to the Lord and glorify!
Sing to the Lord, all ye his children. Sing to the Lord, O Most High!

Give thanks to him and be not silent. Give thanks to him and magnify!
Sing to the Lord, all ye his children. Sing to the Lord, O Most High!

Thou hast turned my mourning into dancing; thou hast girded me with gladness.
For his anger is but a moment, his favor endures for a life.

He comes with joy to greet the morning. He gives us hope for each new day.
Give thanks, remembering his holiness. Give thanks to him with songs of praise.

Sing to the Lord and be not silent. Sing to the Lord and glorify!
Sing to the Lord, all ye his children. Sing to the Lord, O Most High!

Sing to the Lord and be not silent. Sing to the Lord and glorify!
Sing to the Lord, all ye his children. Sing to the Lord!

Sing to the Lord and be not silent. Sing to the Lord and glorify!
Sing to the Lord, all ye his children. Sing to the Lord on high!

The Church Calendar This Week

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

Monday, May 22

- 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 23

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

Wednesday, May 24

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

Thursday, May 25

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

Friday, May 26

- 1 pm Prayer Gathering (North Room)

Saturday, May 27

- 8 am Geezerball (Gym)
- 10:30 am Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

Sunday, May 28 - Pentecost Sunday

- 10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 7 pm AA Meeting (Parlors)

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North Park Covenant

Church Staff

Jeff Hunter, Co-pastor
jhunter@npcovenant.org
ext. 525

Libby Piotrowski, Co-pastor
lp Piotrowski@npcovenant.org
ext. 515

*To reach both Jeff and Libby, please use
copastors@npcovenant.org or ext. 510.*

Jeanette Mottl, Director of Youth Ministry
jmottl@npcovenant.org

Brian Ward, Music Ministry Coordinator/Organist
bward@npcovenant.org

Dominic German, Director, Chancel Choir and
Chancel Handbell Choir
dgerman@npcovenant.org

Joline Paska, Treasurer
treasurer@npcovenant.org, ext. 505

Christian Schuetz, Custodian
cschuetz@npcovenant.org

Ann-Marie O. Frisk, Church Administrator
afrisk@npcovenant.org, ext. 500

North Park Church

Cooperative Preschool

Becky Edwards
Administrative Director

Lyndsey Wellner
Head Teacher/Educational Director

Jennifer Glazier
Assistant Teacher

(773) 463-0055, ext. 520
preschool@npcovenant.org
www.npcovenant.org/npccp

The Friendship Center

2711 West Lawrence Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60625

Justin Block
Executive Director
justin@friendshipcenterchicago.org

Abbie Malkin
Development Manager
abbie@friendshipcenterchicago.org

(773) 907-6338
info@friendshipcenterchicago.org
www.friendshipcenterchicago.org

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.

5250 NORTH CHRISTIANA AVENUE • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60625
NPCC@NPCOVENANT.ORG • (773) 463-0055 • WWW.NPCOVENANT.ORG