



**NORTH PARK  
COVENANT CHURCH**

AUGUST 27, 2023  
+ THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

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PRELUDE

Lord, Speak to Me  
Lani Smith  
Brian Ward, Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Hunter and Libby Piotrowski

\* CALL TO WORSHIP 852, with sung response

Psalm 138

\* OPENING HYMN 652

This Is a Time to Remember

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

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Joel Olfelt, Reader

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 51:1-6

New Testament Reading

Romans 12:1-8

\* Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:13-20

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

MESSAGE

Libby Piotrowski

\* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

King of Kings

Brooke Ligertwood, Jason Ingram, Scott Ligertwood

2019 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Fellow Ships Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)

So Essential Tunes (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)

Led by Colleen Griggs, Jeff Hunter, Kristen Hunter,

Anders Johnson, and Brian Ward

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

Pastorale  
Charles Wesley

\* Doxology 48

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* CLOSING HYMN 595

Built on the Rock

\* WORDS OF SENDING

SUNG BENEDICTION

Grace and Peace

Fernando Ortega, John Andrew Schreiner

2006 Cerdo Verde Music (Admin. by Curb Music Publishing)

Curb Songs (Admin. by Curb Music Publishing)

John Andrew Schreiner

Ann-Marie Frisk, Alto

Brian Ward, Tenor

Colleen Griggs, Clarinet

POSTLUDE

The Solid Rock  
arr. Mark Hayes

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

## Psalm 138

## RESPONSE



I sing your praise for **stead-fast** love; **ful - fill** your **pur- pose** for me.

- I <sup>1</sup>I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
**before the gods I sing your praise;**  
<sup>2</sup>I bow down toward your holy temple  
**and give thanks to your name**  
**for your steadfast love and your faithfulness;**  
 for you have exalted your name  
**and your word above everything.**  
<sup>3</sup>On the day I called, you answered me,  
**you increased my strength of soul.**

## RESPONSE

- II <sup>4</sup>All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD,  
**for they have heard the words of your mouth.**  
<sup>5</sup>They shall sing of the ways of the LORD,  
**for great is the glory of the LORD.**  
<sup>6</sup>For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly;  
**but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

## RESPONSE

- ALL <sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
**you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;**  
 you stretch out your hand,  
**and your right hand delivers me.**  
<sup>8</sup>The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;  
**your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.**  
**Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

## RESPONSE

## This Is a Time to Remember

*In unison*

1 This is a time to re-mem-ber the great-ness of the Lord;  
 2 This is a time to re-mem-ber the glo-ries that have been;  
 3 This is a time to re-mem-ber the Church is his, not ours;

he has so faith-ful-ly led us as prom-ised in his Word;  
 this is a time to press on-ward to vis-tas yet un-seen;  
 this is a time to sur-ren-der our-selves, our wealth, our pow'rs;

he has so boun-ti-f'ly giv-en his grace like fresh-'ning rain;  
 Christ is a-live in his peo-ple, he meets us face to face;  
 this is a time to be ser-vants to give our-selves a-way,

he has so lov-ing-ly par-doned and made us whole a-gain.  
 grant-ing the pow'r of his Spir-it to serve him in this place.  
 build-ing the Church of the fu-ture un-til the com-ing day.

# King of Kings

Scott Ligertwood, Brooke Ligertwood, and Jason Ingram



In the dark - ness we were wait - ing with-out hope,  
To re - veal the King - dom com - ing and to re -



with-out light 'till from heav - en You came run - ning. There was mer -  
con-cile the lost to re - deem the whole cre - a - tion, You did not



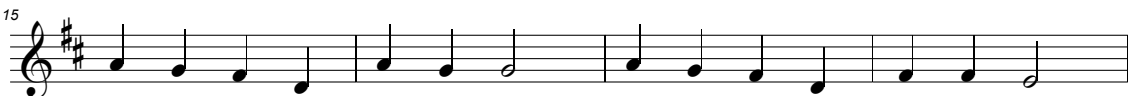
- cy in Your eyes. To ful - fill the law and pro - phets to a vir -  
des-pise the cross for e - ven in Your suf - fring You saw to



- gin came the Word from a throne of end - less glo - ry to a cra -  
the o - ther side Knowing this was our sal - va - tion Je - sus for



- dle in the dirt.  
oursake, You died.



Praise the Fa - ther, Praise the Son, Praise the Spir - it, three in one.

19

God of glo - ry, Ma - jes - ty. Praise for - e - ver to the King of

23

Kings. and the morn - ing that You rose all of heav -

26

- en held its' breath Til that stone was moved for good for the lamb

28

had con - quered death. and the dead rose from their tombs, and the an -

30

- gels stood in awe for the souls of all who'd come to the Fa -

32

- ther are re - stored. and the Church of Christ was born Then the spir -

34

- it lit the flame Now this Gos - pel truth of old shall not kneel,

36

shall not fade. By His blood and in His name and in His free -

38

- dom I am free for the love of Je - sus Christ who has res -

40

- ur-rec - ted me

43

Praise the Fa - ther, Praise the Son. Praise the Spir - it, three in one.

47

God of glo - ry, Ma - jes - ty. Praise for - e-ver to the King of Kings.

51

Praise for - e-ver to the King of Kings.

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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.

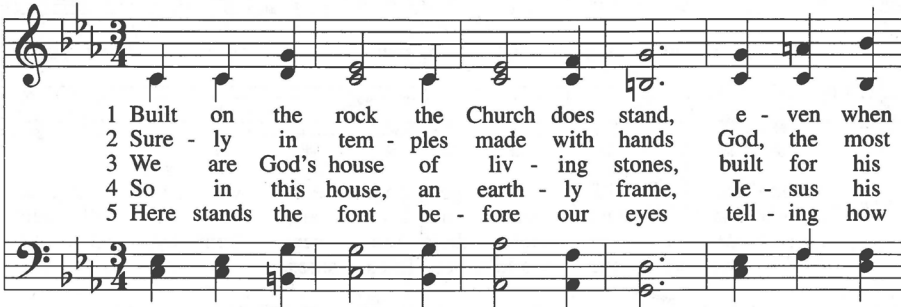
here be - low; praise him a - bove ye heav'n - ly host;

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 printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

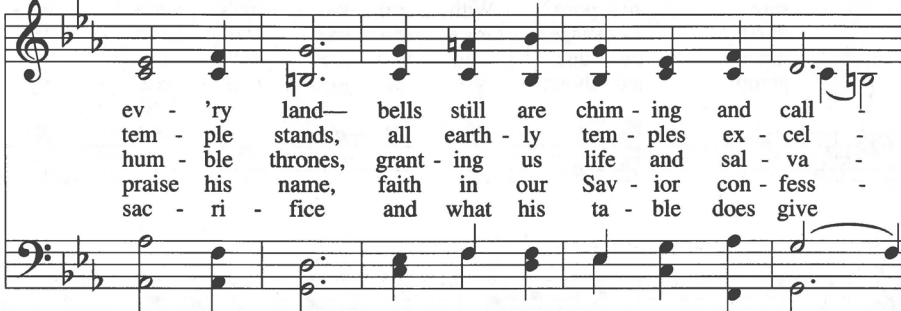
## Built on the Rock



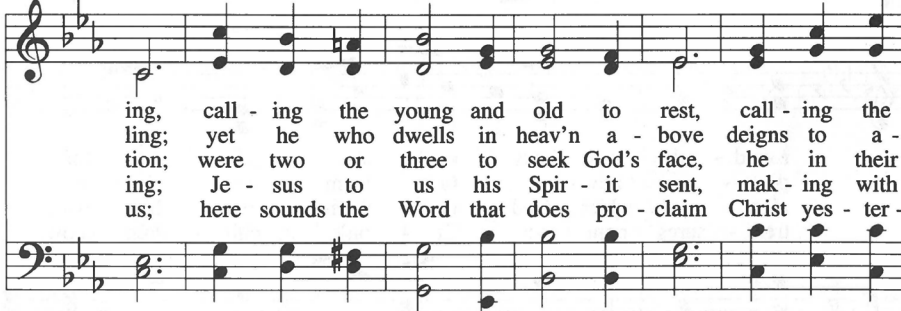
1 Built on the rock the Church does stand, e - ven when  
 2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the most  
 3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, built for his  
 4 So in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus his  
 5 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes tell - ing how



stee - ples are fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in  
 high, is not dwell - ing; high in the heav'n's his  
 own hab - i - ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his  
 chil - dren is bless - ing; here now we come to  
 God did re - ceive us; th'al - tar re - calls Christ's



ev - 'ry land - bells still are chim - ing and call  
 tem - ple stands, all earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -  
 hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us life and sal - va -  
 praise his name, faith in our Sav - ior con - fess -  
 sac - ri - fice and what his ta - ble does give



ing, call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the  
 ling; yet he who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -  
 tion; were two or three to seek God's face, he in their  
 ing; Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with  
 us; here sounds the Word that does pro - claim Christ yes - ter -

CHURCH AND LIFE TOGETHER

souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.  
bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.  
midst would show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.  
us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.  
day, to - day, the same, and our Re - deem - er for - ev - er.

# Fall Celebration Sunday Is Coming!

Join us on Sunday, September 10, for Fall Celebration Sunday! Starting at 10:30 am, we'll enjoy an outdoor worship service (weather permitting), followed by a block party and ministry fair! Enjoy lunch, a water slide bounce house, fresh root beer (straight from the keg!), and maybe even some live music! All are welcome, so invite your neighbors and friends!

As part of this year's Fall Celebration, we will again enjoy a Ministry Fair. This is an opportunity for lay leadership groups to share what individual boards, committees, and other groups do, as well as how people might get involved. As we begin this new year at North Park Covenant Church, lay leadership is invited to think about two things:

## Members and friends with:

- last names beginning A-N, please bring a dessert to share.
- last names beginning O-Z, please bring a salad to share.

1. How might your particular board or ministry reach out beyond our walls and be the church in and to the neighborhood?
2. How might your board or ministry invite and welcome the community to use their gifts and serve alongside us?

If you or your board or committee would like to participate in the Ministry Fair, here's what you need to do:



1. Let Pastor Libby know you'd like to participate so she can provide space.
2. Come with any materials/visuals for the table that morning. We hope to have tables and displays set up no later than 10:30 that morning—in time for worship. Display boards will be purchased and available for you through the church office. Just let Ann-Marie or Libby know you need one, and you can pick it up. Keep in mind that your display boards will need to stand alone. Sign-up sheets are helpful, too!

In your display, consider highlighting ways we minister to one another. For example: sign your child up for Sunday School, confirmation, or youth group; check out the ministries of our church and learn how the church might come alongside and minister to you and those you love.

Also, consider highlighting ways the church and community can serve together. For example: sign up to help with a work day, volunteer to deliver groceries for the Friendship Center, tutor for an hour at Hibbard Elementary, or serve coffee on Sunday morning. Volunteer to be a deacon for the day or serve communion when needed; sign up to teach Sunday School for kids or adults! For a few of these things, one must be a member of the church. However, most of these opportunities require only a willing spirit and a desire to help!


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

## *For your prayers this week:*

- **all those affected by wildfires** in Hawaii
- **all those affected by the tropical storm, flooding, and earthquake** in southern California
- Barbara Nordlund's father, **Dwight Samuelson**, back in the hospital due to hallucinations, and seeing some improvements
- **Sheryl and Paul Noren**, missionaries in Congo: for Sheryl's recuperation after knee surgery, that Paul remains healthy, that Paul receives funds necessary to continue his work with an agricultural project, for Fulani believers to multiply, and for continued support of their ministry
- **Craig Wickstrom**, missionary in Congo, that the planning for his upcoming trips to Congo goes well, and for continued support of his ministry

## Praying for Our Neighborhood in 2023

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



**Pastor Libby is looking for two volunteers** to help with elementary Sunday School this year!

*When:* 9:15-10:15 Sunday mornings

*Where:* In the junior chapel, just off of the parlors

*What:* Help lead activities/discussions each week with a small group of kids ages preschool to 6th grade (curriculum and materials provided). Actual small group time is only about 20 minutes each week. Build amazing relationships with some very cool kids!

*Why:* The kids in our church are not just the future church, they are a part of the church right now! They are learning and growing in their faith just like us. They have insights and wisdom that bring joy and challenge. It is a privilege to get to hang out with them! Come and find out for yourself!

Please see Pastor Libby to volunteer and/or for more details!

**Church workday planned for September 16:** Would you be willing to help with various building and clean-up projects in and around the church this year? The Trustees sponsor workdays a couple of times a year to accomplish clean-up projects, minor building repairs, outside landscaping and painting projects (weather permitting), and more! The time requirement is minimal—even if you can only spare an hour or two that day, any help is appreciated! You will not only help beautify our church property, but you may get to know others in the church in a whole new way! Our first scheduled workday is Saturday, September 16, from 9 am to 3 pm (approx.). Would you like to join us? If so, [please sign up here](#).

**Join us for our fifth annual pet blessing!** Pets and people of all kinds are invited to come to the south garden at 10 am on Saturday, September 16, for a time of blessing. We'll have coffee for humans and biscuits for dogs.

**You're invited to a wedding shower!** Come celebrate the upcoming marriage of Kirsten Anderson and Micah Lupa. An open house will be held at the home of Alyssa Anderson and Dave Holmes (5327 N. Christiana) on Saturday, September 16, from 11 am to 2 pm. Please RSVP to Alyssa at [alyssas.anderson@yahoo.com](mailto:alyssas.anderson@yahoo.com).

**Sign up for the virtual prayer vigil:** Prayer is central to our faith, and it can be done corporately or individually, in a place of worship or as the laundry is folded. On Saturday, September 23, all are invited to take part in a virtual prayer vigil. No matter where you may be, physically, we invite you to carve out a half hour (or more!) of prayerful space between 7 am and 9 pm to pray for our church, our community, our city, our country, and our world. A sign-up sheet will be available in the coming weeks, and prayer materials will be provided. Come pray with us!

**Join Us at Feed My Starving Children!** On Wednesday, October 4, we are going to pack meals at Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) in Libertyville (742 East Park Ave., Libertyville) from 7-8:45 pm. Everyone is welcome! For those who would like to participate, we will meet at the Culver's down the road from FMSC (803 E. Park Ave., Libertyville) at 5:30 for dinner and then go pack meals. You can [use this link to sign up](#) (if prompted, please use code EW3WKG). Please note that this means that there will be no *gather* dinner or middle-school youth group that night!

**Have you heard?** We're collecting donations for 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, and/or 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 are collecting items and storing them at church. So, as you do your fall cleaning, keep us in mind! We will take almost anything we can resell! Questions? Contact Susan Dawson at [dnsdawson@aol.com](mailto:dnsdawson@aol.com).

**The North River Commission is appreciative of the donations received** for migrants coming to our area, especially baby items and gently used clothing and new undergarments and shoes in child and adult sizes. We will continue to collect [donations from this list](#) on an ongoing basis.

**The text for today's benediction** is as follows:

**Grace and Peace**

*Fernando Ortega and John Andrew Schreiner*

Grace and Peace to you from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**You're invited to participate in the 2023 Biking for Congo Challenge**, an annual peer-to-peer fundraising event to support UCare4Congo, the healthcare ministry fund of the Paul Carlson Partnership.



### ***Why bicycling, you ask?***

In DR Congo, some people must travel over 50 kilometers (31 miles) on a bicycle to a hospital while sick or injured. This often prevents people from seeking treatment. If they do make the difficult journey to a hospital, they often arrive to find that the hospital does not have enough medicines, clean water, trained healthcare workers, or even funds to help extremely poor patients.

### ***How does the Biking for Congo Challenge work?***

During the month of October, you are invited to join the effort to raise a collective annual goal of \$50,000 while having fun and staying active and healthy. These funds go toward:

- training healthcare workers in a variety of best practices and specialized medical trainings,
- providing access to clean water in remote villages and health centers, which prevents many illnesses at the village level,
- providing regular medicines and supplies, which are increasingly hard to find, and
- supporting patients who cannot afford medical care.

### ***Here's how to get started:***

- Visit [paulcarlson.org/biking4congo](http://paulcarlson.org/biking4congo),
- select “Donate” or “Become a Fundraiser” (choose if you'll raise funds as an individual or a team),
- set a goal,
- make a plan to ride (or walk, run, kayak, swim, or any other activity!) 31 miles (50km) in October,
- invite family and friends to donate toward your goal,
- [order Biking for Congo t-shirts](#) at least a month in advance,
- share your updates with your supporters, and
- ride in October and celebrate your success on PCP Sunday in November!

## The Church Calendar This Week

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*The calendar is available online at [www.npcovenant.org/calendar](http://www.npcovenant.org/calendar) and is updated as changes occur.*

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### *Monday, August 28*

- 10:30 am Staff Meeting (Staff Conference Room)
- 6:30 pm Geezerball (Gym)
- 7:30 pm Centering Prayer (Staff Conference Room)

### *Tuesday, August 29*

- 4:30 pm Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 6 pm Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

### *Thursday, August 31*

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

### *Saturday, September 2*

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

### *Sunday, September 3*

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



## North Park Covenant

### Church Staff

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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

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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

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2711 West Lawrence Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60625

Justin Block  
Executive Director  
justin@friendshipcenterchicago.org

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

### Missionaries We Support

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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

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*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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