



NORTH PARK

COVENANT CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023
+ FALL CELEBRATION SUNDAY +

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PRELUDE

Praeludium
Josef Seeger
Brian Ward, Keyboard

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter
Building with Faithfulness

Moment for Mission

* OPENING SONGS

10,000 Reasons
Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman
2011 Atlas Mountain Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMGPublishing)
sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

You Never Let Go
Beth and Matt Redman

2005 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 119

Teach us, O Lord, the way of you statutes. Give us understanding,
that we may keep your law and observe it with all that we are.
Lead us in the path of your commandments, that we may delight in you.
And turn our hearts from selfish gain to your decrees.
How we long for your precepts, O Lord.
In your righteousness give us life.

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

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Charles Olson, Reader
Ezekiel 33:7-11
Romans 13:8-14
Matthew 18:15-20

Old Testament Reading
New Testament Reading

* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* Sung Response 110

Glory Be to God, Creator

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

SPECIAL MUSIC

Desert Song

Brooke Ligertwood

2008 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Dominic German, Jeanette Mottl, and Brian Ward

MESSAGE

Jeff Hunter and Libby Piotrowski

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

Come, Thou Fount

arr. Tracey Craig McKibben

* Doxology 48

* Prayer of Dedication

* CLOSING HYMN

All Are Welcome

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Rejoice! He Is Lord of All
Benjamin David Knoedler

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

10,000 Reasons

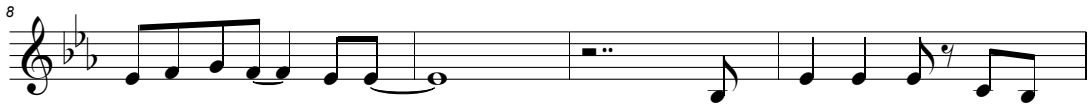
Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman



Bless the Lord, oh my soul oh - my soul



Wor-ship his ho - ly name Sing like ne - ver be-fore oh my soul I



wor-ship Your ho - ly name.

1. The sun comes up, it's a
2. You're rich in love and You're
3. And on that day when my



new day daw - ning It's time to sing Yoursong a - gain. What -
 slow to an - ger Your name is great and Your heart is kind. For
 strength is fail - ing The end draws near and my time is come.



e - ver may pass and what - e - ver lies be - fore me
 all Your good-ness I will keep on sing - ing
 Still my soul will sing your praise un - end - ing



Let me be sing - ing when the e - vening comes.
 Ten thou-sand rea - sons for my heart to find.
 Ten thou-sand years and then for - e - ver more.

You Never Let Go

Matt Redman



1. E-ven though I walk through the val-ley of the sha-dow of death, Your
2. I can see the light that is com-ing for the heart that holds on A



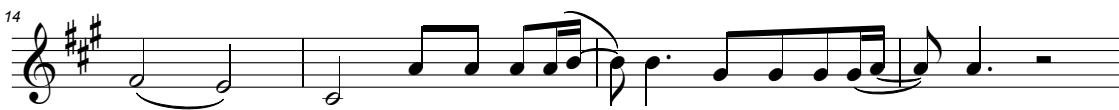
per - fect love is cast - ing out fear and e - ven when I'm
glo - rious light be - yond all com - pare. and there will be an



caught in the mid-dle of the storms of this life I won't turn back I know you are near
end to these trou-bles, but un - til that day comes, We'll live to know You here on the earth.



and I will fear no e - vil For my God is with - me, and if my God is



with - me, Whom then shall I fear? Whom then shall I fear?



Oh no, You ne-ver let go, through the calm and through the storm Oh no, You ne-ver let go, in



e - very high and e - very low Oh no, You ne-ver let go Lord, You ne-ver let go of me.

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

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷ So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

God's Justice and Mercy

¹⁰ Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?”

¹¹ Say to them: As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

New Testament Reading

Romans 13:8-14

Love for One Another

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

An Urgent Appeal

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:15-20

Reproving Another Who Sins

¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Glory Be to God, Creator

In unison

C/E F Gsus Dm/C C C/E F G

1 Glo-ry be to God, Cre - a - tor, glo-ry be to God the
was in the be - gin - ning, it is now and so shall
ho - ly God Al - mighty, ho - ly, ho - ly Prince of

Am C/E Dm Am/C G/B G G/A Am

Son, glo-ry be to God the Spir - it, known as
be in a world with - out an end - ing, glo - ry
Peace, ho - ly, ho - ly Wind of Pre - sence, ho - ly,

F G 1,2 C C/E 3 C F G7 C

Three, yet God the One.
through e - ter - ni - ty. 2 As it
ho - ly, ho - ly. 3 Ho - ly, ly. A - men.

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 48

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him all crea-tures

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 primarily composed of 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, while the bass staff uses chords and single notes to support the vocal line.

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.

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ALL ARE WELCOME

Text and Music
by Marty Haugen
Tune: TWO OAKS



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and
2. Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and
3. Let us build a house where love is found in
4. Let us build a house where hands will reach be -
5. Let us build a house where all are named, their



all can safe - ly live. A place where saints and
words are strong and true. Where all God's chil - dren
wa - ter, wine and wheat; A ban - quet hall on
yond the wood and stone, To heal and strength - en,
songs and vi - sions heard And loved and treas - ured,



chil - dren tell how hearts learn to for -
dare to seek to dream God's reign a -
ho - ly ground, where peace and jus - tice
serve and teach, and live the Word they've
taught and claimed as words with - in the



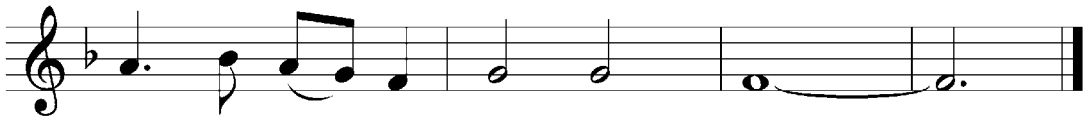
give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions, rock of
new. Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness and as
meet. Here the love of God, through Je - sus, is re -
known. Here the out - cast and the stran - ger bears the
Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter, prayers of



faith and vault of grace, Here the love of Christ shall
sym - bol of God s grace; Here as one we claim the
vealed in time and space, As we share in Christ the
im - age of God s face, Let us bring an end to
faith and songs of grace. Let this house pro - claim from



end di - vi - sions:
faith of Je - sus; } All are wel - come, all are wel - come,
feast that frees us;
fear and dan - ger:
floor to raft - er:



all are wel - come in this place.

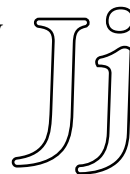
Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online! We're glad you're here.

For your prayers this week:

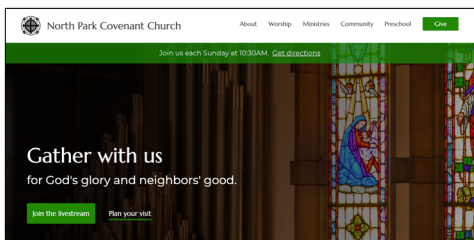
- **Barbara Nordlund and family**, mourning the passing of her father, Dwight Samuelson, on September 2
- **Andrew Clauson and family**, mourning the passing of his father, Herb, on August 26
- **Jim Hosek**, hospitalized with COVID, a high fever, and possible abscesses in his liver
- **Peter and Anna Kim**, missionaries in Taiwan, as Peter awaits news of his visa application
- **Paul and Sheryl Noren**, missionaries in Congo, as Sheryl recuperates after knee surgery
- **Craig Wickstrom**, missionary in Congo, planning for September and November trips to Congo

Praying for Our Neighborhood in 2023

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



The fall issue of *The Covenant Home Altar*, our denomination's daily devotional, is available for pick-up at church. Feel free to grab a copy next time you're here! We have not yet received our copies of *Hoy Con Dios*, but will let you know when they have arrived.



We are excited to announce that North Park Covenant Church has a brand-new website! We've been working with Koda Designs, run by our very own Dominic and Victoria German, and the end product is one we're all pretty fond of. Go check it out at www.npcovenant.org and tell us what you think!

Do you have a child in preschool through 6th grade who would like to be a part of Sunday School this year? We have a great team of teachers who are excited to sing and tell stories, grow in relationship with the kids, and explore God's love together with them. Sunday School begins September 17 at 9:15, and we meet in the Junior Chapel (lower level) off of the parlors. It would be really helpful to receive a registration form for each child who plans to attend for the year so we can recognize birthdays and plan class sizes and activities well. [You can fill out that form here](#) (one per child, please). If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Pastor Libby.

The Christian Formation Board is looking to hire someone (18 or older) for Sunday morning childcare each week. The position is paid and could be shared with one other person. Please [see the job description](#) and contact Pastor Libby if you're interested.



gather

Come Gather with us! Every Wednesday night beginning September 13, we invite you to join us for dinner at 6 pm, followed by activities for different ages and interests!

6-7 pm	Gather Dinner (South Garden, weather permitting)
6:30-7:10 pm	Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
6:30-7:10 pm	Contemporary Music Rehearsal (Choir Room)
7-8:30 pm	Middle-school Youth Group (Youth Room)
7:15-8:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

The suggested donation for dinner is \$6/person or \$20/family.

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 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 next 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.

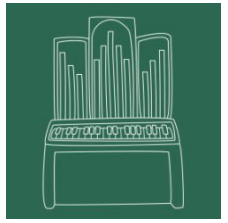
Please join us to celebrate the upcoming marriage of Kirsten Anderson and Micah Lupa. An open house will be held at the home of Alyssa Anderson and Dave Holmes (5327 N. Christiana) on Saturday, September 16, from 11 am - 2 pm. Please RSVP to Alyssa at alyssas.anderson@yahoo.com.



Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 17! That's when we will start a new year of Sunday School for children in preschool through sixth grade (junior chapel, 9:15 am), Adult Formation (parlors, 9:15 am), and Confirmation (staff conference room, 9 am). We'll bless all of our students' backpacks on September 17, so be sure to bring your backpack to worship!

Will you pray with us? As we continue celebrating our 125th anniversary, we realize just how much prayer has played an integral part in our life together and all the lives that have preceded us. And, as the summer gently morphs into fall, we as a congregation adhere to a more structured schedule again. The schedule includes opening a delightful and worthy package wrapped in the privilege of extending ourselves into a deeper faith as we joyfully plunge into our anniversary campaign. Its name says it all: Building with Faithfulness! That is one thing we will be praying for at our Virtual Prayer Vigil on Saturday, September 23, from 7 am to 7 pm. [Please use this form to sign up](#) for half an hour or more. The materials you may use, if you choose, will be forwarded to you if you sign up.

Have you ever wanted to learn more about our organ? As we celebrate the faithfulness of God throughout the last 125 years, we give thanks for the gift of a beautiful organ that brings musical depth and tradition to our worship! On Sunday, September 24, join us for Musical Machinery & Munchies, an organ tour of sorts with the added bonus of pizza! This event is especially good for kids, but adults are welcome, too! We will begin at 12:30 pm and be done by about 1:30 pm. The cost is \$5/person to cover food expenses, payable online or via check or cash. [Please RSVP here](#) by noon on Friday, September 22.



Food, Fun, and Fellowship: Women of NPCC, of any age, please come to a casual brunch on Saturday, September 30, at 9:30 am. We women haven't been together to celebrate ourselves in a long time. During this time of celebrating our 125th anniversary, we realize that the outstanding efforts of our women have been an integral component in bringing us to where we are today! So it is exciting to think about how God might use all our marvelous gifts and skills in the future God has planned for our church. Please sign up, [using this link](#), for a time of food, fun, and fellowship.



You're invited to join us for a soup supper and hymn sing on Sunday, October 1, beginning at 6 pm. Dr. Mark Safstrom, Covenant historian, will lead us in the hymn sing, as well as share some church history and the importance of hymnody throughout our collective story. There will be a fee of \$5/person to cover the cost of that evening's meal. [Please reserve your spot](#) by the end of the day on Tuesday, September 26.

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

The Rummage Sale is almost here! There are several ways you can help. We need plastic bags, brown paper bags, hangers of all sizes, and newspapers to wrap breakables. We need strong arms willing to help move furniture (this is a big need). We need people willing to help organize sets of like items for display. This work will start on Tuesday, September 26, and be done every day at various times.



We also need bakers willing to bake goods for the coffee bar, which will be run by the youth group as a fundraiser for Unite (formerly CHIC) next summer.

Don't know exactly what you want or can do? Just offer your help, and we will find just the right place for your skills! Please reach out to Susan Dawson at dnsdawson@aol.com.



The Building with Faithfulness Campaign is one of the many ways North Park Covenant Church is celebrating 125 years of God's faithfulness in and through the people of this community. As we work to end our year of celebration well and build toward our future, we invite

you to make note of these upcoming dates. All that has been planned (and that is being planned) is in celebration of who we've been and who God is calling us to be!

Keep your eyes and ears open for updates about both the campaign itself and the progress that is being made in each of the three areas we are addressing: the east wall, additional pastoral staff, and new community partners! Updates will come on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights at Gather!

September

17 Video Viewing: **Music at NPCC** - *during worship*

24 **Building with Faithfulness Campaign Launch**

Moment for Mission - *during worship*

Q&A with Pie - *following worship, parlors*

Musical Machinery & Munchies: Celebrate the gift of our organ with a tour of sorts and pizza! Great for kids, but open to anyone! - *12:30 pm, sanctuary*

▶ Sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/musical-machine>

October

1 **Soup Supper and Hymn Sing:** Celebrating Our History and Embracing Our Future - *6 pm, church parlors*

▶ Sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/soup-n-sing>

- 7 **All-church Rummage Sale:** Proceeds support our Building with Faithfulness Campaign
- 9 am to 3 pm, church gym and parlors
- 8 Video Viewing: **The Friendship Center - Part I**
- during worship
- 15 **Turn in Building with Faithfulness Campaign Pledges** - during worship
- 22 Video Viewing: **The Friendship Center - Part II**
- during worship

November

- 8 Viewing of **WWII Videos - Part I**; interviews of some of our church members as they reflect on their experiences - following Gather dinner
▶ Sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/WWII-vid>
- 15 Viewing of **WWII Videos - Part II**; interviews of some of our church members as they reflect on their experiences - following Gather dinner
▶ Sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/WWII-vid>
- 19 Video Viewing: **The Church in the Neighborhood**
- during worship
- 26 Video Viewing: **I Remember, I Imagine** - during worship

December

- 10 Video Viewing: **Generational Perspectives** - during worship
- 20 **Closing of the Time Capsule** - following Gather dinner

The Church Calendar This Week

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

Monday, September 11

- 9 am Monday 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, September 12

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

Wednesday, September 13

- 10 am Women's Bible Study (Hybrid)
- 6 pm *gather* Dinner (South Garden, weather permitting)
- 6:30 pm Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Side Balcony, Sanctuary)
- 6:30 pm Contemporary Worship Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 7 pm Middle-school Youth Group (Youth Room)
- 7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, September 14

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

Friday, September 15

- 1 pm Prayer Gathering (North Room)

Saturday, September 16

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

Sunday, September 17

- 9 am Confirmation (Large Conference Room)
- 9:15 am Sunday School for Preschool - 6th Grade (Junior Chapel)
- 9:15 am Adult Formation (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

Church Staff

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North Park Church

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Lyndsey Wellner
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Jennifer Glazier
Assistant Teacher

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The Friendship Center

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Justin Block
Executive Director
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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.

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