



**NORTH PARK  
COVENANT CHURCH**

OCTOBER 8, 2023  
+ THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

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+ THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

PRELUDE

Air  
Gordon Young  
Brian Ward, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Building with Faithfulness  
125th Video

Jeff Hunter and Libby Piotrowski  
Dave Dawson, from the Board of Trustees  
The Friendship Center - Part I

CHORAL INTROIT

Spirit of God  
Simon Lole  
Chancel Choir, Dominic German, Director

\* LITURGY OF PRAYER FOR THE CAMPAIGN

Mary Chase-Ziolek

Gracious God, our Creator and the giver of all life, we praise you for your faithfulness to North Park Covenant Church these last 125 years, and we thank you for your many gifts.

**Help us to be good stewards of every gift.**

We pray that Your Spirit will continue to lead us and grow us for the next 125 years.

**As we embark on this Building with Faithfulness campaign, we give you thanks for the monies that have already been pledged and given.**

Help us to be good stewards of every gift.

**We ask for your continued guidance as decisions are made, contracts are signed, and the work begins.**

Open our eyes to the power of the Gospel to transform our time, talent, and treasure; to transform us all by the good news of the gospel.

**Bestow patience and wisdom on all who lead us.**

It is our desire to share your boundless grace, love, and peace with our church, our community, and our world. For God's glory and neighbors' good.

**In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

\* OPENING HYMN 422

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

\* 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.**

CHORAL ANTHEM

Loving Shepherd of Thy Sheep  
Philip Ledger

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Reading

New Testament Reading

\* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Donn Engebretson, Reader

Isaiah 5:1-7

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

MESSAGE

Jeff Hunter

\* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me  
Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, Rich Thompson

2018 CityAlight Music (Admin. by Integrity Music)

Farren Love and War Publishing (Admin. by Integrity Music)

Integrity's Alleluia! Music (Admin. by Integrity Music)

Led by Dominic German, 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 gifts.*

*Giving online at any time is also an option [here](#).*

Offertory

Blessed Are Ye Faithful Souls

Johannes Brahms

\* Doxology 48

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* CLOSING HYMN 494

O Let Your Soul Now Be Filled with Gladness

\* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

O Magnify the Lord  
Melody and Dick Tunney

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

# O God, Our Help in Ages Past

422

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
 2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived her frame,  
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,  
 5 Time, like an ev - er roll - ing stream, bears all of us a - way;  
 6 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,

our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home.  
 suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
 from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.  
 we fly, for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the op - 'ning day.  
 be now our guide while life shall last, and our e - ter - nal home. A - men.

WORDS: Based on Psalm 90, Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.  
 MUSIC: Attrib. William Croft, 1678-1727

C.M.  
 ST. ANNE

887

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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*

# Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

Michael Farren, Rich Thompson, and Jonny Robinson



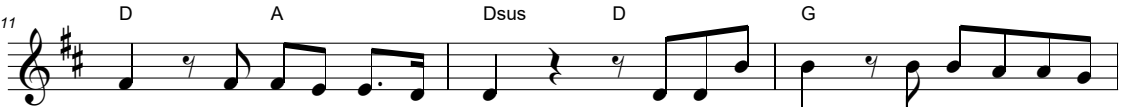
What gift of  
The night is  
No fate I  
With e - very



grace is Je - sus my re - deem - er. There is no more for hea - ven now to  
dark, but I am not for - sak - en. For by my side, the Sav - iour, He will  
dread, I know I am for - giv - en. The fu - ture sure, the price it has been  
breath, I long to fol - low Je - sus. For He has said that He will bring me



give He is my joy, my right - eous - ness and free - dom My stead - fast  
stay. I la - bour on in weak - ness and re - joic - ing; In my  
paid. For Je - sus bled and suf - fered for my par - don, and He was  
home, and day by day, I know He will re - new me un - til I



love; my deep and bound - less peace. To this I hold, my hope is on - ly  
need, His pow - er is dis - played. To this I hold, my Shep - herd will de -  
raised to o - ver - throw the grave. To this I hold, my sin has been de -  
stand with joy be - fore the throne. To this I hold, my hope is on - ly



Je - sus; for my life is whol - ly bound to His. Oh how  
fend me; through the deep - est val - ley He will lead. Oh the  
feat - ed; Je - sus now and e - ver is my plea. Oh the  
Je - sus; All the glo - ry e - ver - more to Him. When the



strange and di - vine, I can sing, all is mine, Yet not I, but through Christ in me.  
night has been won, and I shall o - ver - come, Yet not I, but through Christ in me.  
chains are re - leased, I can sing, I am free, Yet not I, but through Christ in me.  
race is com - plete, still my lips shall re - peat, Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

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# Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 48

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

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

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

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711  
 MUSIC: attrib. Louis Bourgeois, c.1510-c.1561; arr. *Genevan Psalter*, 1551

L.M.  
 OLD 100th (alt. rhythm)

## 494 O Let Your Soul Now Be Filled with Gladness

1 O let your soul now be filled with glad-ness, your heart re-deemed, re-  
 2 If you seem emp-ty of an-y feel-ing, re-joice—you are his  
 3 It is a good ev-'ry good tran-scend-ing that Christ has died for

joyce in - deed! O may the thought ban - ish all your sad-ness that  
 ran-somed bride! If those you cher - ish seem not to love you, and  
 you and me! It is a glad - ness that has no end - ing there -

in his blood you have been freed, that God's un - fail - ing love is yours,  
 dark as - sails from ev - 'ry side, still yours the prom - ise, come what may,  
 in God's won - drous love to see! Praise be to you, O spot - less Lamb,

that you the on - ly Son were giv - en, that by his  
 in loss and tri - umph, in laugh - ter, cry - ing, in want and  
 who through the des - ert my soul are lead - ing to that fair

death he has o-pened heav-en, that you are ran-somed as you are.  
 rich - es, in liv-ing, dy-ing, that you are pur-chased as you are.  
 cit - y of joy ex-ceed-ing, for which you bought me as I am.

*Singing was prominent in the services of the early Covenanters. The whole congregation would join in the unaffected and beautiful songs which were willingly led by brothers and sisters who had the gift. At the conclusion of the sermon it seemed as if the singing would not end. A verse, or perhaps only a refrain, would be repeated again and again until the words were impressed upon our minds and "joy stood high on the ceiling!"*

C.M. Youngquist, 1851-1901

From Eric G. Hawkinson, *Images in Covenant Beginnings*, © 1968 Covenant Publications.



# *Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online!*

## *We're glad you're here.*

### *For your prayers this week:*

- **Rosemary Slaughter**, in need of extra prayer this week
- **the family of Melinda Hunter**, former member here most recently living in California, who passed away after a heart attack on September 24
- **Kari Lindholm-Johnson and family**, diagnosed with ovarian cancer
- **Corky Larson and family**, mourning the passing of her husband, Paul, on September 20
- **Jim Hosek**, home from the hospital, but still with no answers as to the source of the pain he is experiencing
- Janice Finney's brother-in-law, **Tim Rohr**, diagnosed with cancer, which has metastasized
- Rosemary Slaughter's friend **Edgar Muniz**, facing obstacles in a move from Florida to Chicago

### Praying for Our Neighborhood in 2023

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

Nn

### *Missionary Prayer Spotlight*

James Ventress, serving in Nome, Alaska, requests prayer for the following:

- for visas to allow teachers from the Philippines to come to Nome to fill positions in the 2nd- and 4th-grade classrooms at the local school. In the meantime, classrooms are over-crowded, and children are not receiving the education they deserve;
- for a fundraising event to purchase a wheelchair-accessible van for a local family whose 13-year-old son was injured in an accident; and
- for Linnea, the new intern who helps with youth in the community and at Checkpoint.

**The flowers at the front of the sanctuary** are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Claire Bromley and Colin Raley yesterday in Nashville, Tennessee.

**Staff away: Ann-Marie will be out of the office** on Monday, October 9.



**Please keep Building with Faithfulness in your prayers!** We ask that you prayerfully consider giving to the campaign and for continued prayers of support. To learn more about Building with Faithfulness, to give, or to pledge online, please visit [www.npcovenant.org/bwff/](http://www.npcovenant.org/bwff/). On Sunday, October 15, we will have a special time during the service to bring forward pledge cards. Join us in celebrating 125 years of ministry at NPCC and in looking forward to the next 125 years of faithful ministry! If you have any questions, please reach out to one of the co-chairs, Samantha Johnson (773-383-0682) or Sandi Kersten (312-622-8100).

**Notice about online gifts:** We have begun the process of transitioning our church software system to Realm, one side effect of which will be delays posting online gifts to our accounting system. Please continue giving online during this transition period. Your gifts are received to our bank as scheduled, but the gifts will not be reflected on your giving statement until later this month. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Know that your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Be on the lookout for communications on the new system. In the meantime, if you have any questions about online giving, please contact the church treasurer at [treasurer@npcovenant.org](mailto:treasurer@npcovenant.org)

**Volunteers are needed on an ongoing basis** for childcare and hospitality! If you're able to help out in the toddler room or with serving refreshments after Sunday worship, please sign up for a Sunday or two [using this form](#).

**Our church has a fantastic opportunity** to come together and welcome refugees to our community! Join Exodus World Service to learn more about Private Sponsorship, an exciting program that allows small groups to resettle refugees. Groups provide core services while building meaningful relationships with newcomers. Exodus is here to train and walk alongside us! To learn more or join an information session, visit [exodusworldservice.org/sponsorship-info](http://exodusworldservice.org/sponsorship-info).

**Have you ever wondered how to have deep conversations** with your Jewish and Muslim neighbors? Come join "Conversations between Jews, Muslims, and Christians around the Psalms", led by North Park University professor Boaz Johnson. We will be engaging with Afghan Bible Institute in Turkey, via Zoom. The discussion group meets in our large conference room on Saturdays from 12 to 2 pm.

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

### **Loving Shepherd of Thy Sheep**

*Philip Ledger*

Loving shepherd of thy sheep, keep thy lamb, in safety keep;  
nothing can thy pow'r withstand, none can pluck me from thy hand.

I would bless thee ev'ry day, gladly all thy will obey,  
like thy blessed ones above, happy in thy precious love.

Loving shepherd, ever near, teach thy lamb thy voice to hear;  
suffer not my steps to stray from the straight and narrow way.

Where thou leadest I would go, walking in thy steps below,  
till before my Father's throne I shall know as I am known.

### **Tutors Needed!**

The Peterson School Tutoring Program hopes to start up again by the first week in November, but we need tutors! If you're able to be at church on Mondays from 4-5:30 pm and/or from 6:30 to 8, please contact Christine Olfelt at [olfelt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:olfelt@sbcglobal.net) or 312-914-7712.

## The Church Calendar This Week

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

### *Monday, October 9*

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

### *Tuesday, October 10*

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

### *Wednesday, October 11*

- 10 am Women's Bible Study (Hybrid)  
6 pm Gather Dinner (Parlors)  
6:30 pm Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Side Balcony, Sanctuary)  
6:30 pm Contemporary Music Rehearsal (Choir Room)  
7 pm Middle-school Youth Group (Youth Room near the Gym)  
7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)  
7:30 pm Adult Bible Study (Large Conference Room)

### *Thursday, October 12*

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

### *Friday, October 13*

- 1 pm Prayer Gathering (North Room)

### *Saturday, October 14*

- 8 am Geezerball (Gym)  
10 am NPCCP Fall Open House (Preschool Classroom)  
11 am Vandersluis Visitation (Sanctuary)  
1 pm Vandersluis Memorial Service (Sanctuary)  
12 pm Interscriptural Readings Group (Large Conference Room)

### *Sunday, October 15 - Children's Sunday*

- 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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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

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### The Friendship Center

2711 West Lawrence Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60625

Justin Block  
Executive Director  
justin@friendshipcenterchicago.org

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

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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

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### 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