



NORTH PARK
COVENANT CHURCH

NOVEMBER 12, 2023
+ THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

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PRELUDE

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy
arr. Gordon Young
Brian Ward, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter

Covenant World Relief & Development Video

CHORAL INTROIT

Gather Us In (511, verses 1 and 4)
Chancel Choir, Dominic German, Director

* CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 70

Please, God, rescue me!

Come quickly, Lord, and help me.

May those who take delight in my trouble

be turned back in disgrace.

Let them be horrified by their shame,

for they said, "Aha! We've got him now!"

But may all who search for you

be filled with joy and gladness in you.

May those who love your salvation

repeatedly shout, "God is great!"

But as for me, I am poor and needy;

please hurry to my aid, O God.

You are my helper and my savior;

O Lord, do not delay.

* OPENING SONGS

Where Justice Rolls Down (727)

Grace Flows Down

David E. Bell, Louie Giglio, Rod Padgett

2000 sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Led by Dominic German, Emma Hunter, Kristen Hunter,

Anders Johnson, Brian Ward, and Ryan Wendt

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

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

COMMISSIONING OF LAY LEADERS

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Reading

New Testament Reading

* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Zayd Vestal, Reader

Amos 5:18-24

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Matthew 25:1-13

CHORAL ANTHEM

Keep Your Lamps!

Spiritual, arr. Andre Thomas

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

MESSAGE

Jeff Hunter

* HYMN OF RESPONSE 612

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

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

Elevation in F Major

Alexandre Guilmant

* Doxology 48

* Prayer of Dedication

* CLOSING HYMN 136

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers!

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Soon and Very Soon

Andraé Crouch

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

Where Justice Rolls Down

In unison E2 A E/G# B sus B7

f Where jus-tice rolls down like a might - y wa-ter, and

E2 A E/G# B sus

right-teous-ness grows like an ev-er-flow-ing stream, and

C#m7 A E/G# B sus

mer-cy re-sounds like the waves on the o-cean, let

E/G# E/A A B sus *3rd time to Coda*
D6/9

prais-es rise high on the songs of the re-deemed.

D/G G Bm7 G/B G/C C

There is a riv-er that streams from the
Wade in the wa-ter and feel the strong

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in a soprano voice, with a piano accompaniment. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into five systems, each with a vocal line and a piano line. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody. The lyrics are written below the vocal line, with some words split across lines. The score includes dynamic markings such as *f* and *p*, and performance instructions like *In unison* and *3rd time to Coda*. The piece concludes with a Coda symbol.

JUSTICE AND PEACE

C/D D D/G G Bm7 G/B C2

tem - ple, be - gins as a trick - le, but ends in the
 cur - rent, re - mem - ber the stag - nance of stale life be -

Detailed description: This system contains the first two lines of music. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It features a melody with eighth and quarter notes, and chords indicated by letters above the staff: C/D, D, D/G, G, Bm7, G/B, and C2. The bottom staff is in bass clef, providing a bass line with quarter and eighth notes.

Dsus D D/F# D/G G C2

sea. As it grows, heal - ing it will give.
 fore. God is here, leave the past be - hind.

Detailed description: This system contains the third and fourth lines of music. The top staff continues the melody and includes chords: Dsus, D, D/F#, D/G, G, and C2. The bottom staff continues the bass line.

D/F# D/G G Bsus

Where it flows, ev - 'ry - thing will live:
 In these clear wa - ters you will find

Detailed description: This system contains the fifth and sixth lines of music. The top staff includes chords: D/F#, D/G, G, and Bsus. The bottom staff continues the bass line.

⊕ Coda A2 E2

where deemed.

Detailed description: This system contains the final two lines of music, marked as a Coda. The top staff includes chords: A2 and E2. The bottom staff continues the bass line. The music concludes with a double bar line.

Grace Flows Down

David E. Bell, Louie Giglio, Rod Padgett

A-maz - ing grace How sweet the sound

6 A - maz - ing love now flow - ing down

10 From hands and feet that were nailed to the tree

14 as grace flows down and co - vers me

17 It co - vers me

21 It co - vers me

25 It co - vers me and co - vers me

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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

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

612

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with thee in low - ly
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
 3 Teach me thy pa - tience: still with thee in clos - er,
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the

paths of serv - ice free; tell me thy se - cret— help me
 win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward feet to
 dear - er, com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith sweet and
 fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly thou canst

bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
 stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
 strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.
 give, with thee, O Mas - ter, let me live. A - men.

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. Geneva Psalter, 1551

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

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers!

1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers! and let your lights ap - pear;
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ning, re - plen - ish them with oil;
 3 All you who wait his com - ing, re - hearse the joy - ful song,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing and dark - er night is near.
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
 which we shall sing in glo - ry with all the an - gel throng.
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Lord is now a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh.
 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the Lord is near.
 The ho - ly feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand.
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

Up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! At mid - night comes the cry.
 Go meet him as he comes now with al - le - lu - ias clear.
 Rise up, you heirs of glo - ry! The Mas - ter is at hand.
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free.

Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online!

We're glad you're here.

For your prayers this week:

- **Christian Schuetz and family**, mourning the passing of his father, Peter, this past Monday
- Cheryl Borgeson's sister **Anne Erickson**, home again after a brief hospitalization overseas
- Jon Boyd's 87-year-old father, **Bill Boyd**, recuperating after breaking his hip
- **Lyubov and Lilly Milostrazich**, mourning the passing of husband and father Robert October 24
- **Jan, Travis, and Jess Klingberg**, mourning the sudden passing of husband and father 'Don
- Rosemary Slaughter's friend **Debbie Williams**, diagnosed with cancer
- **Ted Helwig**, home again following a brief hospitalization last week with heart issues
- **Hasina**, the mother of the family we helped set up an apartment for last year, home again following a brief hospitalization for a liver issue.
- **Huck Johnson**, recuperating after surgery to repair a torn ACL last Wednesday
- **Kari Lindholm-Johnson**, undergoing chemo and receiving good reports so far

Praying for Our Neighborhood in 2023

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

S S

Missionary Prayer Spotlight

John and Letha Kerl, regional coordinators for Europe, share the following prayer requests:

- Chris Peterson (Sweden), fundraising as Co-Regional Europe Coordinator with Letha;
- John's transition into retirement;
- Letha as she takes on new Leadership role without John and finds her new work rhythm;
- Health—lots of virus going around;
- Rae Rife (United Kingdom), as she recovers from a shattered elbow and broken ankle.

Childcare is available in the toddler room (lower level, off the hallway south of the parlors) for the full duration of the worship service for any wee ones ages 1 through 5 needing a place to wiggle and squirm. We always happily welcome children in the service but recognize that sometimes parents need a break so they can focus on worship.

Hey, college students! Every Sunday after church, lunch is available for you directly after service in the Large Conference Room (lower level, down the hall from the parlors). Let us know if you want to come for some non-cafeteria food and community! Reach out to Linnea Olfelt at 773-397-3468 or lmolfelt@gmail.com with questions or if you want to come!

We have a new church database system! To make the database as accurate as possible, we need all church members and friends to visit www.npcovenant.org/learn-realm to learn more about it and make your online profile. Please reach out to Pastor Jeff, Pastor Libby, or me if you have any questions.

We are excited to announce that the Building with Faithfulness campaign has raised over \$959,000 in gifts and pledges! Thank you to everyone who has helped make this possible. We have a very generous church. But we are still a ways away from reaching our goal of \$1.25 million. So if you have not yet pledged, there is still time! Pledge cards can be found in the narthex, online at www.npcovenant.org/bwf/ or you can email your pledge to our church treasurer, Joline Paska at treasurer@npcovenant.org.

Blanket Collection Continues: Many thanks to all of you who have already brought blankets to church to be given to the migrants living at the former Marine base on Foster. We will happily receive any new (preferably) and used (if in good shape and recently washed) twin and/or throw-size blankets to the church through Wednesday, November 15, and they will be delivered to the base. Thank you!

The Peterson School Tutoring Program started up again this past week, but we still need tutors! If you're able to be at church on Mondays from 4 to 5:30 pm and/or from 6:30 to 8 pm, please contact Christine Olfelt at olfelt@sbcglobal.net or 312-914-7712.

The North River Commission is appreciative of the donations received for migrants coming to our area. A request has come in for new blankets, pillows, fall clothing, clothing for children ages 7+, and adult small/medium athleisure clothing. We will continue to collect donations on an ongoing basis. Please bring donations in boxes or bags, as that will make transporting them much easier. Thank you!

Join us for part two of a two-part series on Wednesday, November 15: Videotaped interviews of some of our very own (former) members who served in World War II. We will enjoy Gather dinner together at 6 pm, and the video will start at 6:15 and run for about 45 minutes. Following, there will be time for refreshments and conversation. The usual Gather dinner donation applies (\$6/person for dinner or \$20/family). [Please RSVP](#) by the end of the day tomorrow, November 13.

Town Hall and Congregational Meeting to be Held to Discuss Employee Retention Credit Monies Please mark your calendars for Sunday, November 19, and Sunday, December 3, following worship each of those mornings for time to gather as a church family.

Last winter, North Park Covenant Church (with North Park Church Cooperative Preschool) applied for an Employee Retention Credit—monies granted to organizations that were able to maintain their full employee count through the duration of the COVID pandemic. We were granted that credit and received checks totaling approximately \$200,000. The Executive Council has discussed how it might make sense for this money to be divided between the preschool and the church. Further, we held one town hall last spring to discuss the possibilities. It is time, now, for us to make some decisions.

On November 19, there will be a town hall to further discuss how these monies might be divided. There will be no vote at this meeting. On December 3, we will hold a brief congregational meeting to vote on the division of that money.

We will call another gathering at a later date to determine together how the church's portion might be used for the glory of God and for our neighbors' good.

You are invited to join us for a Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday, November 22, at 7 pm, followed by a pie social in the parlors. If you are willing and able to bring a pie or two (store-bought or homemade), or if you can help set up, serve, or clean up, [please sign up here](#). Thank you!

Covenant World Relief and Development Sunday is November 26! Whether you are collecting your coins in a soup can or you are planning to write a check or make an online donation, you may bring those funds to church either at the Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday, November 22, or to church on Sunday, November 26. Soup labels and lids are available in the narthex on Sunday mornings or from the office during the week. Thank you for joining us in raising funds to aid in the work of our denomination with local partners around the world to reduce human suffering for the most vulnerable people and support healthy communities.

Please join us for a special Christ the King Sunday all-church breakfast on Sunday, November 26, beginning at 9:15 am in our church parlors. There will be no formal Sunday School that week, so please join us for fellowship, coffee, juice, and a yummy breakfast. After eating, we will gather in the columbarium to burn the palms from last Palm Sunday to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday, and will be done in time for 10:30 am worship. All are welcome!

North Park Church Cooperative Preschool is hosting a Holiday Market on Saturday, December 2, from 9 am - 12 pm in the church parlors. Come peruse unique gifts, kids' crafts, seasonal treats, and participate in a mystery raffle! And, if you're interested in setting up a table at the market to sell your own handmade holiday gifts (soaps, candles, knitted items, ornaments, etc.), [please fill out this form](#). If you have questions, please reach out to Administrative Director Becky Edwards at preschool@npcovenant.org for more information.

Advent Bible Journaling to Begin December 3: Join Kristen Hunter each Sunday morning in Advent, starting at 9:15 am in the art room (lower level just south of the coffee lounge) to journal through the Advent texts and beyond. Bring a Bible and journal, or make a journal when you arrive. Art supplies will be provided.

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

Keep Your Lamps

Spiritual, arr. Andre Thomas

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't get weary 'til your work is done.

Christian journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

The Church Calendar This Week

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

Monday, November 13

9:15 am	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, November 14

8 am	Men's Bible Study (Hybrid)
4:30 pm	Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
5 pm	Board of Community Concern Meeting (via Zoom)
6 pm	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)
7 pm	Board of Deacons Meeting (Hybrid/Staff Conference Room)
7 pm	Board of Trustees Meeting (Large Conference Room)
7:30 pm	Board of Christian Formation Meeting (Hybrid/Parlors)

Wednesday, November 15

10 am	Women's Bible Study (Hybrid)
6 pm	Gather Dinner/WWII Video - Part 2 (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, November 16

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

Friday, November 17

10 am	Larson Inurnment - Private (Columbarium)
12:30 pm	NPCCP Parent/Teacher Conferences (Staff Conference Room)
1 pm	Prayer Gathering (North Room)

Saturday, November 18

8 am	Geezerball (Gym)
10:30 am	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)
12 pm	Interscriptural Readings Group (Large Conference Room)

Sunday, November 19

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)
11:45 am	Town Hall re ERC Funds (Parlors)
2 pm	Grant Piano Recital - Private (Sanctuary)
7 pm	Combined Youth Group Friendsgiving Potluck (Parlors)
7 pm	AA Meeting (South Chapel)

North Park Covenant

Church Staff

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The Friendship Center

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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

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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