



NORTH PARK

COVENANT CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 22, 2024
+ THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

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PRELUDE

Processional
William Mathias
Sam Parnin, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Hunter and Libby Piotrowski

CHORAL INTROIT

He's Ever Over Me (428)
Bob Stromberg
Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

* CALL TO WORSHIP 779

Psalms 1

* OPENING HYMN 10

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

* 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.

CHORAL ANTHEM

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 the 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.

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Reading

New Testament Reading

* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Rebecca Rodriguez, Reader

Proverbs 31:10-31

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

Libby Piotrowski

MESSAGE

Jeanette Mottl

* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Lord, You Have My Heart

Martin Smith

1992 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Led by Anders Johnson, Linnea Olfelt,
Sam Parnin, 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 at www.npcovenant.org/give.

Offertory

Daybreak

Paul A. McKlveen

Chancel Handbell Choir, Linnea Olfelt, Director

* Doxology 48

* Prayer of Dedication

* CLOSING HYMN 614

Christ, You Call Us All to Service

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue

J.K.F. Fischer

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

Prayer is offered in the south chapel after the service.

*In addition, if you have prayer requests to be shared confidentially with the pastors,
there is a prayer box located in the narthex, as well as slips of paper and a pen
in the box's drawer for your use.*

Psalm 1

RESPONSE 1



Like a tree that's plant-ed by the wa - ter, we shall not be moved.

RESPONSE 2 (in unison or as a canon)



Hap - py those who hear God's Word. Hap - py those who keep God's Word.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

I ¹Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread,
or sit in the seat of scoffers;

II ²but their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and night.

RESPONSE 1 OR 2

I ³They are like trees planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.

II ⁴The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

I ⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

II ⁶for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

RESPONSE 1 OR 2

10 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,
 all praise we would ren - der, O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish— but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

WORDS: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824-1908, alt.
 MUSIC: Welsh melody, arr. John Roberts's *Canïadau y Cyssegr*, 1839

11.11.11.11.
 ST. DENIO

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

Lord, You Have My Heart



1. Lord, you have my heart, and I will search for yours.
2. Lord, you have my heart, and I will search for yours.



Je - sus, take my life and lead me on.
Let me be to you a sac - ri - fice.



I will praise you, Lord,

and I will praise you, Lord, and I will

15

I will sing of love come down show your

sing of love come down and as you show your face,

21

face, we'll see your glo - ry here

we'll see your glo - ry here

Words and music by Martin Smith

CCLI # 1108735

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Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 48

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.'

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.

Yupik: *Nanrau mali Agayutvut, Nanrarlitgu pilimalriit
Nanrarlitgu qilagmeInguut, Aata, qetunraq, Anerneqllu.*

Translation by Lucy Daniels and Wassilie Mute

Spanish: *A Dios el Padre celestial, al Hijo nuestro Redentor,
y al eternal Consolador, uni dos todos alabad.*

Lingala: *E Njambe apesi bato nse, mpo mingi na Yosanjola,
Na banje mpe tosambel, tata, Mwana, Molimo mpe.*

Christ, You Call Us All to Service 614

1 Christ, you call us all to serv-ice, call us all who fol - low you;
 2 Teach us how to work to - geth - er, broth - ers, sis - ters, side by side,
 3 Let us be a ser - vant peo - ple, re - con - cil - ing, end - ing strife,

plant in us a deep com - mit - ment all your work and will to do.
 e - qual part - ners in the strug - gle, in the cause of truth al - lied.
 seek - ing ways more just of shar - ing and of or - d'ring hu - man life.

Fire a pas - sion for your jus - tice, in us kin - dle love of peace;
 To each one some gift is giv - en, man or wo - man, young or old;
 Fill us with a glow - ing vi - sion of this world as it should be;

help us heal the bro - ken - heart - ed, to the cap - tive bring re - lease.
 help us use each skill and ta - lent your great pur - pose to un - fold.
 send us forth to change that vi - sion in - to blest re - al - i - ty.

Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online!

We're glad you're here.

For your prayers this week:

- Joline Paska's brother-in-law, **Steve Pelz**, anticipating open heart surgery on September 30
- Sally Adams's brother, **Edgar Adams**, facing a major health challenge
- Marti Hindaileh's godson, **Brandon Baglayan**, as he begins chemo and radiation
- **Vida Plena Covenant Church**, the church plant using our sanctuary, as they begin services
- **Tim Johnson and family**, mourning the passing of his brother, Darryl, on September 9
- **Joanna Sjoblom and family**, mourning the passing of her father, Harry Westberg, on September 3 at age 100
- **Elizabeth Johnson**, mourning the passing of her father, Ken Johnson, on August 26
- **Craig Johnson**, Pastor Libby's dad, making good progress in his recuperation again
- **Caitlin Hunt Brody**, Barbara and Francis Hunt's daughter, recuperating well after an extensive skin cancer operation
- **Terri Njaa**, whose move to assisted living has been delayed due to another health issue
- Terri Njaa and Sig Hulburt's sister, **Ingrid "Inky" Newlin**, home again from the hospital



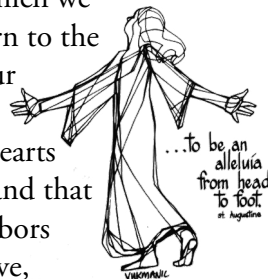
Welcome to North Park Covenant Church! If you're new here today, we invite you to scan the QR code at the left to learn more about us and, perhaps, get a little more connected.

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 0 through 5 needing a place to wiggle and play. We always happily welcome children in the service but recognize that sometimes parents need a break so they can focus on worship.

All are invited to the closing reception for Kari Lindholm-Johnson's art exhibit in the Carlson Tower Art Gallery on the North Park University campus today at 2 pm. Kari and Tim's son, Gabriel Johnson, will reflect on his mom's life and work. There will also be special music and dessert.

Neighborhood Prayer in 2024

As we make our way through September and continue in prayer for the neighborhoods and communities in which we live and work, we return to the idea of praying with our hearts. This month, let us pray that our own hearts would be set to right, and that the hearts of our neighbors would be filled with love, peace, and joy; each heart softened to hear the Good News of Christ at work in their lives, as we long to hear it in our own lives and in the world.



"How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, indeed it faints, for the courts of the Lord, my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God." - Psalm 84:1-2

The North Park Readers are back again for another year! Our first meeting will be on Tuesday, September 24, at 7 pm at Karen Darelus's apartment (2708 W Balmoral). We will be reading *Beautiful Country, A Memoir* by Qian Julie Wang. In the book, the author reflects on her childhood experiences as an undocumented immigrant after moving with her family from China to New York City. If you have any questions, please contact Helen Arkema at helen.arkema@gmail.com.

September is Hunger Action Month, and the Board of Community Concern is working with the Friendship Center to help them stock items that are hard to secure through food rescue or their weekly donation from the Greater Chicago Food Depository. For the next two Sundays, September 22 and 29, the Friendship Center has invited us to help by donating menstrual supplies, such as pads, panty liners, tampons, period underwear of any size, or menstrual cups or discs. Donations may be left in the bin in the narthex. Thank you!

**Lectionary texts for
Sunday, September 29:**

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

Psalms 124

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50

About donations: Unless we advertise about a particular need, we are not able to receive donations here at the church. We've noticed some items have been left in the narthex from time to time, but we don't have a designated place to bring them. If you are able to retrieve your items, we would appreciate that. Otherwise, we will add them to our lost and found, which will be donated to an organization of our choosing at the end of the year. Thank you!

On Wednesday, October 16, we're heading to Libertyville to eat dinner and pack meals at Feed My Starving Children (FMSC)! We will meet at Culver's (803 E Park Ave) at 6 pm and then head over to the FMSC location (742 E Park Ave) to pack meals from 7:15-8:45 pm. Please [click here to sign up](#) (if prompted, use code 0PV656)! If you have any questions or would like to join us but need a ride, please reach out to Jeanette. Please note that this event is in place of all Wednesday night activities at church. All who would like to participate are welcome!

Save the date, dear and fun women of North Park Covenant Church! On Saturday, October 19, we will gather for our next Women's Brunch at 10 am in the parlors. The agenda is simple: food, fellowship, and fun with a mini project around the tables and a chance to open our hearts to Mary Chase-Ziolek as she leads us in a time of enhancing our faith walk! [To register, please click here.](#)

We believe God has wonderfully gifted each of us with talents and energies to use for the good of God's kingdom. As we begin this new programmatic year together, we invite you to consider ways you might share your gifts. Whether member or friend, we welcome you to join us in ministry within the church walls and beyond. Scan the QR code* to explore ways you can step into service and join in study and fellowship. You need not be a member, and there is no "magic age" for most things! Your name and information will be passed along to the point people in charge, and they will reach out to you. Come, join us in ministry!

* Please note, this code is different from the one provided on Fall Celebration Sunday.



From the Church Treasurer: Through August 31, 2024, offering is \$81,978 behind budget, and total revenues are \$64,322 behind budget. Expenses of \$479,294 exceed income by \$57,647. We are currently relying on undesignated reserves to pay our bills; the balance in undesignated reserves is \$22,782.

Accounts	Actual YTD 8/31/2024	Budget YTD 8/31/2024	Budget Over/ Under YTD 8/31/2024	Annual Budget 2024
Total Offering	354,022	436,000	(81,978)	654,000
Total Revenues	421,646	485,969	(64,322)	734,300
Total Expenses	479,294	499,414	20,120	734,300
Net Total	(57,647)	(13,445)	(44,202)	-

KICY Salmon Dinner
Sunday, October 6, 1 pm
Ravenswood Covenant Church



On October 6, Ravenswood Covenant is hosting a meal to raise money for KICY radio station. Fresh Alaskan salmon will be flown in and served, and KICY program director Patty Burchell will give a presentation of the station's ministry. Guests may leave an offering at their plate. This dinner will take place in conjunction with Ravenswood Covenant's annual Offerfest project, of which half of 2024's funds will also go toward KICY's ministry.

KICY broadcasts from Nome, Alaska, and is owned by Arctic Broadcasting Association, which is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation affiliated with the Evangelical Covenant Church. KICY serves native Alaskan villages throughout western Alaska, as well as the entire Russian Far East. Most of KICY's annual operating budget comes from churches and individual donations, and their staff consists of full- and part-time volunteers.

Since KICY's first sign-on—Easter Sunday, April 17, 1960—it has broadcast the good news of Jesus Christ. They've increased power to 50,000 watts, 24 hours a day, which allows KICY AM 850 the opportunity to send the gospel to places where other forms of media are not readily available. They operate two distinct radio stations, KICY AM 850 & ICY 100.3 FM. While the AM station broadcasts at 50,000 watts and can be heard throughout the entire region, the FM station is programmed for and serves the city of Nome and surrounding communities.

Please join us for a delicious salmon dinner and help support this important ministry to reach the world for Christ! Ravenswood Covenant Church is located at 4900 N. Damen Ave. in Chicago. Free parking is available in the church's parking lot. For more information or to RSVP, please contact the church office at 773-784-7091 or office@ravenscov.org.

The Church Calendar This Week

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

Monday, September 23

- 9:15 am Women's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
- 10:30 am Staff Meeting (Staff Conference Room)
- 6:30 pm Geezerball (Gym)

Tuesday, September 24

- 8 am Men's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
- 4:30 pm Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 6 pm Cudahy Basketball (Gym)
- 7 pm Adult Bible Study (Art Room)

Wednesday, September 25

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

Thursday, September 26

- 8 am East Wall Project Progress Meeting (Large Conference Room)
- 10 am Pastor Cluster Lunch (Parlors)
- 4:30 pm Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Friday, September 27

- 1 pm Prayer Gathering (South Chapel Prayer Corner)
- 3:30 pm Peterson Organ Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Saturday, September 28

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

Sunday, September 29

- 9 am Confirmation (Staff Conference Room)
- 9:15 am Sunday School for Preschool - 6th Grade (Junior Chapel)
- Adult Formation (Parlors)
- Bible Journaling (Art Room)
- 10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 12 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal (Junior Chapel)
- 1:30 pm Vida Plena Covenant Church Worship (Sanctuary)
- 7 pm High-school Youth Group (The Attic Youth Room)
- AA Meeting (Parlors)

**North Park Covenant
Church Staff**

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Linnea Olfelt, Chancel Handbell Choir Director

Joline Paska, Treasurer
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Christian Schuetz, Custodian
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Cooperative Preschool**

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The Friendship Center

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Missionaries We Support

Letha Kerl,
Regional Co-coordinator 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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