



**NORTH PARK**  
**COVENANT CHURCH**

SEPTEMBER 29, 2024  
+ THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

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+ THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

PRELUDE

Chaconne in E minor  
Dieterich Buxtehude  
Sam Parnin, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Hunter and Libby Piotrowski

Introduction of Pastoral Intern Jeffrey Parker

CHORAL INTROIT

God Moves in a Mysterious Way (418, verses 1 and 2)  
Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

\* CALL TO WORSHIP 848

from Psalm 124

\* OPENING HYMN

If It Had Not Been for the Lord

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

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

A MOMENT FOR MISSION

Paul and Sheryl Noren

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Reading

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

New Testament Reading

James 5:13-20

\* Gospel Reading

Mark 9:38-50

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

CHORAL ANTHEM

Down in the Valley to Pray  
Traditional American Hymn  
arr. Michael Pettersen

As I went down in the valley to pray, studying about the good old way  
and who shall wear the starry crown. Good Lord, show me the way.

Oh, sisters, let's go down. Let's go down, come on down.

Oh, sisters, let's go down, down in the valley to pray.

As I went down in the valley to pray, studying about the good old way  
and who shall wear the robe and crown. Good Lord, show me the way.

Oh, brothers...

As I went down in the valley to pray, studying about the good old way  
and who shall wear the starry crown. Good Lord, show me the way.  
Oh, mothers...

As I went down in the valley to pray, studying about the good old way  
and who shall wear the robe and crown. Good Lord, show me the way.  
Oh, fathers...

As I went down in the valley to pray, studying about the good old way  
and who shall wear the robe and crown. Good Lord, show me the way.  
Oh, sinners...

As we went down in the valley to pray, studying about the good old way  
and who shall wear the robe and crown. Good Lord, show us the way.

MESSAGE

Libby Piotrowski

\* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Light the Fire  
Bill Maxwell

1986 Bloodsmith Music

Led by Kristen Hunter, Anders Johnson,  
Brian Ward, Erik 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](http://www.npcovenant.org/give).*

Offertory

Where He Leads Me  
arr. Cindy Berry

\* Doxology 48

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* CLOSING HYMN 404

He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought!

\* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

The Solid Rock (433)  
arr. Terry Kirkland  
Brian Ward, Organ

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

## RESPONSE

D A7 D Em D

If it had not been for the

G D Bm A#dim D/A A7

Lord on my side, tell me where would I be,

Em/A 1 D Final D ritard G D

where would I be? be?

- I <sup>1</sup>If it had not been the LORD who was on our side—  
let Israel now say—
- II <sup>2</sup>if it had not been the LORD who was on our side,  
when our enemies attacked us,  
<sup>3</sup>then they would have swallowed us up alive,  
when their anger was kindled against us;  
<sup>4</sup>then the flood would have swept us away,  
the torrent would have gone over us;
- III <sup>5</sup>then over us would have gone the raging waters.  
<sup>6</sup>Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth.  
<sup>7</sup>We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers;  
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- ALL <sup>8</sup>Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and  
earth.

## RESPONSE

# If It Had Not Been for the Lord

131

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are: "If it had not been for the Lord on my side, tell me where would I be, where would I be? He kept my enemies away; He let the be? He never left me all alone; He gave the sun shine through a cloudy day. He rocked me in the cradle of his peace and joy I'd never known. He answered when I knelt to real-ly arm pray, when he knew I had been bat-tered and scorned; and in vic-t'ry the Lord brought me his way; so if it".

Chords and musical markings include: D, A7, Em/D, D, G, G/A, D, Bm, A#dim7, D/A, A7, Em/A, Fine, D, D, A, D, Bm, A/E, E7, A, Em/A, A6, Em/A, D.S.

## 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*

# Light the Fire

Bill Maxwell

I stand to praise You, but I fall on my knees. My

I stand to praise You, but I fall on my knees. My

The first system of music is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of two staves. The melody is simple and uses a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are printed below each staff.

spir - it is will - ing, but my flesh is so weak. Light the fire

spir - it is will - ing, but my flesh is so weak.

The second system of music continues the melody from the first system. It also consists of two staves with lyrics below. The notation includes some beamed eighth and sixteenth notes, and a final quarter rest at the end of the second staff.

in my soul; fan the flame make me Lord, You know

Light the fire in my wear-y soul; fan the flame make my spir - it

The third system of music continues the melody. It consists of two staves with lyrics below. The notation includes dotted notes and beamed eighth notes. The lyrics are split across the two staves.





28

in my soul; fan the flame make me whole. Lord, You know

Light the fire in my wea-ry soul. Fan the flame; make my spi - rit

32

where I've been so light the fire in my heart a -

whole. Lord, You know where I've been so light the fire in my heart a -

35

gain; Light the fire in my heart a - gain. Light the fire

gain Light the fire in my heart a - gain.

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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 in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. 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 heav'nly 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.*

## 404 He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought!

C G7/C C F C C/G G

1 He lead-eth me, O bless-ed thought! O words with heav'n-ly com-fort fraught!  
 2 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ev - er mur - mur nor re - pine;  
 3 And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the vic-t'ry's won,

C G7/C C F C Am C/G G7 C

What-e'er I do, where-e'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead-eth me.  
 con - tent, what-e'er my lot may be, since 'tis my God who lead-eth me.  
 e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jor - dan lead-eth me.

*Refrain*

C G G/F C/E F C F/C C Am C/G G

He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me, by his own hand he lead-eth me;

C G G/F C/E F C F/C C Am C/G G7 C

his faith-ful fol-l'wer I would be, for by his hand he lead-eth me.

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

## For your prayers this week:

- **Lori Johnson**, mourning the passing of her mother, Rose Johnson, this past Thursday
- **Terri Njaa and Sig Hulburt and family**, mourning the passing of their sister Ingrid "Inky" Newlin on September 21
- **Sally Adams and family**, mourning the passing of her brother, Edgar Adams, last weekend
- Joline Paska's brother-in-law, **Steve Pelz**, anticipating open heart surgery tomorrow
- Marti Hindaileh's godson, **Brandon Baglayan**, as he begins chemo and radiation
- **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
- **Vida Plena Covenant Church**, the church plant using our sanctuary, as they begin services
- **Craig Johnson**, Pastor Libby's dad, making good progress in his recuperation again



**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.

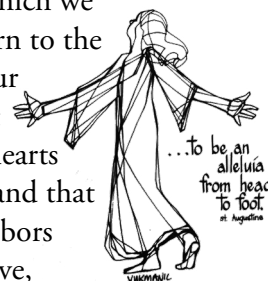
**Childcare is available** in the toddler room (lower level, off the hallway south of the parlors) for the full duration of the worship service for any wee ones ages 0 through 5 needing a place to wiggle and play. We always happily welcome children in the service but recognize that sometimes parents need a break so they can focus on worship.

**We are glad to have Sheryl and Paul Noren, missionaries to Congo, with us today!** They will also join us on Wednesday, October 2, for our 6 pm Gather dinner. We hope you'll come to hear them share about their ministry!

**The fall issue of the *Covenant Home Altar***, our denomination's quarterly devotional, is available for pick-up in the narthex today. Please feel free to take a copy!

## Neighborhood Prayer in 2024

As we come to the end of 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 October issue of our monthly newsletter, *The Narthex***, is available for pick-up in the narthex today. If you would prefer to receive the newsletter via email, please reach out to Ann-Marie in the church office, and she will gladly add you to the distribution list.

**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!

**Fall 2024 Pastoral Review Process:** After worship on October 20 and 27, NPCC's co-chairs, Susan Dawson and Nancy Ebner, will meet in the corner nursery off the south chapel with any individuals who wish to comment on the performance of our two co-pastors, Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter. Your comments will be confidential and shared only with the pastors.

**Lectionary texts for  
Sunday, October 6:**

Job 1:1, 2:1-10

Psalm 26

Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

Mark 10:2-16

**Covenant Living of Northbrook (CLON) will hold a hymn sing** at Northbrook Covenant Church (2737 Techny Rd, Northbrook 60062) on Sunday, October 13, at 4 pm. The program, titled "A Festival of Psalms", has been organized by Royce Eckhart and will include presentations by the CLON Choir.

**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 to 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 gifted each of us** with talents to use for the good of God's kingdom. As we begin this new programmatic year, we invite you to consider ways you might share your gifts and talents.



Whether member or friend, we welcome you to join us in ministry. Scan this new QR code to explore a list of ways you can step into service and/or join in some 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!

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 its 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](mailto:office@ravenscov.org).

## 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, September 30*

- 9:15 am Women's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
- 10:30 am Staff Meeting (Staff Conference Room)
- 4 pm Tutoring (Parlors)
- 6:30 pm Geezerball (Gym)
- 7:30 pm Centering Prayer (Staff Conference Room)

### *Tuesday, October 1*

- 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, October 2*

- 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, October 3*

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

### *Friday, October 4*

- 1 pm Prayer Gathering (South Chapel Prayer Corner)

### *Saturday, October 5*

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

### *Sunday, October 6*

- 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)
- 7 pm High-school Youth Group (The Attic Youth Room)  
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  
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ext. 515

*To reach both Jeff and Libby, please use  
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Jeanette Mottl, Director of Youth Ministry  
jmottl@npcovenant.org

Brian Ward, Music Ministry Coordinator/  
Chancel Choir Director  
bward@npcovenant.org

Sam Parnin, Organist  
sparnin@npcovenant.org

Linnea Olfelt, Chancel Handbell Choir Director

Joline Paska, Treasurer  
treasurer@npcovenant.org, ext. 505

Christian Schuetz, Custodian  
cschuetz@npcovenant.org

Ann-Marie Olson Frisk, Church Administrator  
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## 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

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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

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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

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### 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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