



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

NOVEMBER 10, 2024  
+ THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

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+ THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST +

PRELUDE

Processional  
William Mathias  
Sam Parnin, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moment for Mission

Jeff Hunter and Libby Piotrowski  
Lauren Diaz, for The Friendship Center

CHORAL INTROIT

Cast Thy Burden Upon the Lord (453)  
Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

\* CALL TO WORSHIP 858

Psalm 146

\* OPENING SONG

God of Wonders  
Marc Byrd and Steve Hindalong  
Meaux Mercy/Never Say Never Songs/New Spring/Storm Boy Music  
Led by Anders Johnson, Linnea Olfelt,  
Brian Ward, Erik Ward, and Ryan Wendt

\* PRAYER OF 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

Old Testament Reading

New Testament Reading

\* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Nancy Bromley, Reader

Ruth 1:1-18

Hebrews 9:11-14

Mark 12:28-34

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

CHORAL ANTHEM

O Taste and See  
Ralph Vaughan Williams  
Ann Boyd, Soprano

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is:  
blest is the one that trusteth in him.

MESSAGE

Jeffrey Parker

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

\* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Light the Fire  
Bill Maxwell  
1986 Bloodsmith Music

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

*O Welt, ich muss dich lassen*  
(O world, I must leave you)  
Johannes Brahms

\* Doxology 48

\* Prayer of Thanksgiving

\* CLOSING HYMN 400

I With You Would Begin

\* BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE

Sonata in D Major  
Michael W. Smith  
Brian Ward, Piano

*\* 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 146

## RESPONSE



I will sing the glo-rious prais-es of my God through all my days.

- I     <sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!  
**Praise the LORD, O my soul!**  
<sup>2</sup>I will praise the LORD as long as I live;  
**I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**
- II    <sup>3</sup>Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals,  
in whom there is no help.  
<sup>4</sup>**When their breath departs, they return to the earth;**  
**on that very day their plans perish.**  
<sup>5</sup>Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,  
**whose hope is in the LORD their God,**  
<sup>6</sup>who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;  
**who keeps faith forever;**  
<sup>7</sup>who executes justice for the oppressed;  
**who gives food to the hungry.**

## RESPONSE

- III   The LORD sets the prisoners free;  
<sup>8</sup>**the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.**  
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;  
**the LORD loves the righteous.**  
<sup>9</sup>The LORD watches over the strangers;  
he upholds the orphan and the widow,  
**but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.**
- ALL   <sup>10</sup>The LORD will reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, for all generations.  
**Praise the LORD!**

## RESPONSE

# God of Wonders

Marc Byrd and Steve Hindalong



Lord of all cre - a - tion of wa-ter, earth, and sky.  
Ear-ly in the mor - ning I will cel-e-brate the light.



The hea-vens are your ta-ber-na - cle. Glo-ry to the Lord on high  
As I stum-ble in the dark - ness I will call Your name by night.



God of won - ders be-yond our ga-la - xy, You are ho - ly, ho - ly the



u - ni-verse de-claims Your ma-je - sty. You are ho - ly, ho - ly.



Lord of hea-ven and earth. Lord of hea-ven and earth.



Hal - le-lu - jah to the Lord of hea-ven and earth. Hal - le-lu - jah to the



Lord of hea-ven and earth, Hal-le-lu - jah to the Lord of hea-ven and earth.

## 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 written on the upper staff, and the lyrics are placed below it. The lower staff contains a piano accompaniment. The lyrics for both staves are: "I stand to praise You, but I fall on my knees. My".

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 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 written on the upper staff, and the lyrics are placed below it. The lower staff contains a piano accompaniment. The lyrics for both staves are: "spir - it is will - ing, but my flesh is so weak. Light the fire".

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 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 written on the upper staff, and the lyrics are placed below it. The lower staff contains a piano accompaniment. The lyrics for both staves are: "in my soul; fan the flame make me Lord, You know" and "Light the fire in my wear-y soul; fan the flame make my spir - it".

14

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 -

Detailed description: This system contains two staves of music. The top staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. It starts with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The bottom staff continues with a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, a quarter note F#3, a quarter note E3, a quarter note D3, and a quarter note C3.

17

gain. Light the fire in my heart a - gain. I feel Your arms a -  
gain. Light the fire in my heart a - gain. I feel Your arms a -

Detailed description: This system contains two staves of music. The top staff starts with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The bottom staff continues with a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, a quarter note F#3, a quarter note E3, a quarter note D3, and a quarter note C3.

21

round me as the power of Your heal - ing be - gins. You  
round me as the power of Your heal - ing be - gins. You

Detailed description: This system contains two staves of music. The top staff starts with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The bottom staff continues with a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, a quarter note F#3, a quarter note E3, a quarter note D3, and a quarter note C3.

24

breathe new life right through me like a might - y rush-ing wind. Light the fire  
breathe new life right through me like a might - y rush-ing wind.

Detailed description: This system contains two staves of music. The top staff starts with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The bottom staff continues with a quarter note E4, a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, a quarter note B3, a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, a quarter note F#3, a quarter note E3, a quarter note D3, and a quarter note C3.



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.*

## I With You Would Begin

1 I with you would be - gin, O my Sav - ior so dear,  
 2 I with you would be - gin— and go forth in your name,  
 3 Let your Word all di - vine be my lamp, in whose light  
 4 I with you would be - gin— yes, and hear one more prayer,

on the way that I still must pur - sue; I with you would be -  
 which a - lone does sal - va - tion be - stow; fold me close to your  
 I may con - stant - ly keep to your way; and each day keep and  
 I would close with you too my brief day; and when day - light has

gin ev - 'ry day grant - ed here, as my ear - nest re - solve I re -  
 breast, where found joy all who came: there is ref - uge for me too, I  
 cleanse me a - new, make me pure in the blood shed for me on that  
 failed let me sleep in your care, un - til wak - ing your child you then

new: to be and re - main yours for - ev - er.  
 know, though all in this world is con - fu - sion.  
 day the cross you did suf - fer, Lord Je - sus.  
 say, "Come, live with me ev - er in heav - en!"

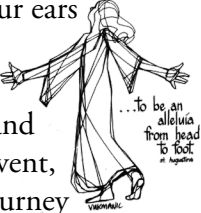
# *Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online!* *We're glad you're here.*

## *For your prayers this week:*

- **Peter Joly**, Rosemary Slaughter's building manager, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer
- **Kevin Wendt**, Ryan's dad, diagnosed with multiple myeloma and heart issues
- **The Mohammed Amin family**, who NPCC sponsored last summer, in need of new and affordable housing in the next few weeks, as their building they live in is being sold
- **Diane Haglund**, diagnosed with breast cancer and anticipating surgery on November 14
- **Craig Johnson**, Pastor Libby's dad, back in rehab after another hospitalization due to blood clots in his lungs
- **Dorothy Schmidt**, in search of a new apartment; and her nephews **Jeff Kohn** and **David Schmidt**, anticipating medical procedures
- **Craig Wickstrom**, missionary to Congo, as he and his wife, Cheryl, continue to seek God's will, and as they make plans to move to Oregon and imagine their future; and for CEUM leadership, as they prepare for the biennial business meeting and elections in January

## Neighborhood Prayer in 2024

As we come to the end of both the calendar year and the church year, we are encouraged to pray with our eyes and our ears for our neighborhoods and communities. As we are



bombarded with the sights and sounds of Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas; and as we journey to the stable, may we also live with eyes wide open and ears attuned to the cares and needs of our neighbors, that they, too, would come to know Jesus as Lord and Savior of their lives.

*But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. Truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, but did not see it and to hear what you hear but did not hear it. - Matthew 13:16-17*



**Welcome to North Park Covenant Church!** If you're new here today, we invite you to scan the QR code 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.

**There will be a congregational meeting** following the church service today. The agenda includes:

1. Vote on the pastoral search committee for our minister for community outreach.
2. Presentation of proposed by-law changes to be voted on as part of the annual meeting (Part 1) in January.
3. Encouragement and question answering around guidelines for proposals for the 10% tithe from the BWF contributions.

**Today is the last day to order your Christmas greens!** The money raised helps to support the youth ministries at NPCC. You can [place your order via Realm](#) or by using the paper forms found in the narthex and parlors. They'll arrive at church for pick-up in the alley parking lot on Sunday, November 24. If you have any questions, please reach out to Jeanette!

**You are invited to an open house** this afternoon from 2-4 pm at the home of Karen Darelus (2708 W Balmoral Ave - Apt 1E). Come for fellowship, food, and fun!

**There is money to help kids go to camp!** Registration for summer camps at [Covenant Point](#) and [Covenant Harbor](#) opens on Tuesday, November 12, at 7 am! If you need financial assistance or if your child has a friend who would like to go to camp and needs financial help, please reach out to Libby, Jeff, or Jeanette. Scholarship monies are available!

**Global Partnerships Fundraiser at Gather!** This coming Wednesday, November 13, students from North Park University will be making our Gather dinner as a fundraiser for University Ministries' Global Partnerships efforts, which allow NPU students to explore what God is doing around the world. Join us at 6 pm, as usual, and know that funds received during this dinner will assist students in financing a trip to Chile over their winter break. For more details, please reach out to Ben Swihart at [btswihart@northpark.edu](mailto:btswihart@northpark.edu).

**Help us wrap and pack gifts for the Ventresses!** Our church supports the Ventress family in Nome, Alaska. They work with youth and in community development through a bike repair shop between the tundra and the Bering Sea. (You can see a picture and read more on the bulletin board in the parlors.) At Christmas time in past years, we have sent them a box of Christmas surprises to brighten the long winter days. Would you consider purchasing an item for this project? We will wrap gifts after Gather on Wednesday, November 20. [A list of suggestions can be found here.](#) Please put your name next to the item/s you are willing to purchase and bring them with you to Gather on the 20th. Thank you!

**November 24 is Christ the King Sunday!** While Sunday School, Confirmation and Adult Formation will happen as regularly scheduled, we invite all who would like to participate to gather in the columbarium at 9:45 am 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!

**Covenant World Relief and Development Sunday is November 24!** 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 on Sunday, November 24, or to the Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday, November 27. Soup labels and lids are available in the narthex. 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.

**Lectionary texts for  
Sunday, November 17:**

1 Samuel 1:4-20  
Psalm 16  
Hebrews 10:11-14,  
(15-18), 19-25  
Mark 13:1-8

**Would you like offering envelopes for 2025?** If you are not currently on our list to receive a box of envelopes but would like to be, please let me know. And if you are currently on our list but would rather not be because you give online, please let me know that, too! Thanks!

**Join us for a Thanksgiving Service and Pie Social:** On Wednesday, November 27, we will not share in our weekly Gather dinner. Instead, all are invited to join us for a Thanksgiving Eve worship service at 7 pm in our sanctuary, 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!

**With Thanksgiving approaching, The Friendship Center has two upcoming events:**

- *Free Thanksgiving meal box distribution:* The Friendship Center will be giving away Thanksgiving meal boxes on Saturday, November 23, from 2-5 pm at their pantry (2711 W Lawrence Ave, Chicago, IL 60625). For more information, [visit their Facebook event page](#).

- *Thanksgiving Day lunch:* The Friendship Center is partnering with St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church of Chicago to help spread the word about their free Thanksgiving lunch on Thursday, November 28, from 11 am - 1 pm at their parish (2727 W Winona St, Chicago, IL 60625). No tickets are required, and all are welcome. More information is available at their [Facebook event page](#).

**It's a Little Town of Bethlehem Year!** This Christmas, everyone is invited to experience the sights and sounds of Bethlehem. North Park Covenant Church will be transformed into the streets and markets of Jesus' birth, complete with costumed vendors, musicians and townspeople. Members of our congregation will dress in costume and take on the role of various local characters; each pointing the way to the manger where they hear that a very special child has been born.

The event will take place on Sunday, December 8, from 4-6 pm, but we need lots and lots of help before that to make it happen! Committees are being organized, and there is a spot for everyone: advertising, recruiting, costumes, props for shops, and set design. You may receive a call from someone asking for you to help. If you don't get that call but are interested in jumping on board, please contact either Lisa Applequist or Pastor Libby. We need people with all kinds of gifts and all kinds of time to give! Also, be sure to invite your neighbors, friends, and family—spread the word!

**Church Library Art Deadline Extended!** Calling all K-8 student artists! The church library is looking for art to display, and the deadline has been extended! Choose one of the coloring sheets from the blue basket in the library, color it, write your name on it, and place it in the box labeled "Completed Coloring Sheets" by December 29. Coloring sheets (and blank paper, if you prefer to create your own design) will also be available in the parlors on Wednesday nights at Gather and on Sundays after the service. Completed art will be posted on the bulletin board in the coatroom outside the parlors.

## 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, November 11*

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, November 12*

8 am	Men's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
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)
	Board of Trustees Meeting (Large Conference Room)
7:30 pm	Board of Christian Formation Meeting (Hybrid/Parlors)

### *Wednesday, November 13*

10 am	Women's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
6 pm	Gather Dinner - NPU Global Partnerships Fundraiser (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, November 14*

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

### *Friday, November 15*

12:15 pm	NPCCP Parent/Teacher Conferences (Staff Conference Room)
1 pm	Prayer Gathering (South Chapel Prayer Corner)

### *Saturday, November 16*

8 am	Geezerball (Gym)
10 am	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

### *Sunday, November 17*

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  
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/  
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  
afrisk@npcovenant.org, ext. 500

## 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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