



*joy*

DECEMBER 15, 2024  
+ THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT +  
A SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

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A SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

PRELUDE

Joy to the World  
Dave Brubeck  
Brian Ward, Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Isabel and Jeffrey Parker

No matter what troubles overwhelm us today, Isaiah reminds us that in all of our preparation and passionate pursuit of God's coming kingdom, we must not forget that God's salvation has come and is coming. "With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation." (Isaiah 12:3) With joy you will remember that God's salvation is already present among us.

**Faced with the troubles and the suffering of the world, we choose to live in joyful presence to God and one another. We will not turn away from the pain and the hurt in our world, and we will not stop rejoicing in God, whose salvation fills us to overflowing, that God's love might flow through us and flood our troubled world with hope, peace, and joy.**

We light this candle of joy as a sign of our commitment to be present to ourselves, our friends, our families, and our neighbors, that in sharing our vulnerable lives we might share in the glorious joy of God's salvation together.

*The third candle is lit.*

*We sing together verse 3 of hymn 122, O Zion, Acclaim Your Redeemer!*

Let us pray: **Lord Jesus, in the midst of our broken world, help us to live in the joy that is ours through you. Give us eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts open to the joys of Your Kingdom coming in and through us. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.**

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

OPENING HYMN 128

Prepare the Way, O Zion

*Please refrain from applause until the service has ended.*

+ THE FIRST LESSON +

Genesis 3:8-15

Rosie Boyd, Reader

*God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.*

\* CONGREGATIONAL SONG (Insert)

Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

arr. Brian Ward

*Led by Kristen Hunter, Anders Johnson, Sam Parnin, Brian Ward, and Ryan Wendt*

+ THE SECOND LESSON +

Genesis 22:15-18

Jeff Hunter, Reader

*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed.*

HYMN 120

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

+ THE THIRD LESSON +

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Kajsa Ward, Reader

*Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.*

ANTHEM

*Es ist ein Ros entsprungen*

(Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming)

Michaël Prætorius

*Uniting Voices Chicago–Albany Park*

*Alex Bravos, Director*

*Es ist ein Ros entsprungen  
aus einer Wurzel zart,  
wie uns die Alten sungen,  
von Jesse kam die Art  
und hat ein Blümlein bracht  
mitten im kalten Winter  
wohl zu der halben Nacht.*

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming  
from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming,  
as men of old have sung.  
It came, a flow'ret bright,  
amid the cold of winter,  
when half-spent was the night.

+ THE FOURTH LESSON +

Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

Jeffrey Parker, Reader

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.*

ANTHEM

This Little Babe

Robert Southwell and Benjamin Britten

This little Babe so few days old  
is come to rifle Satan's fold;  
all hell doth at his presence quake,  
though He himself for cold do shake;  
for in this weak unarmèd wise,  
the gates of hell he will surprise.

With ears he fights and wins the field,  
his naked breast stands for a shield.  
His battering shot are babish cries,  
his arrows looks of weeping eyes.  
His martial ensigns Cold and Need,  
and feeble Flesh his warrior's steed.

His camp is pitchèd in a stall,  
his bulwark but a broken wall;  
the crib his trench, haystacks his stakes;  
of shepherds he his muster makes;  
and thus, as sure his foe to wound,  
the angels' trumps alarum sound.

My soul, with Christ, join thou in fight;  
stick to the tents that he hath pight.  
Within his crib is surest ward;  
this little Babe will be thy guard.  
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy,  
then flit not from this heavenly Boy.

+ THE FIFTH LESSON +

Luke 1:26-35, 38

Jeanette Mottl, Reader

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

VOCAL SOLO

There Is No Rose of Such Virtue  
arr. Sting and Robert Sadin

*Barbara Hunt, Soprano; Sam Parnin, Organ*

There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu.  
For in this rose contained it was heaven and earth in little space.

*Alleluia.*

There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu.  
By that rose we may well see that he is God in persons three.

*Alleluia.*

There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu.  
The angels sungen the shepherds to:

*Gloria in excelsis deo. Alleluia.*

+ THE SIXTH LESSON +

Luke 2:1-7

Peter Sjoblom, Reader

*St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

ANTHEM

The Blessed Son of God  
Ralph Vaughan Williams

*Chancel Choir  
Brian Ward, Director*

The blessed son of God only in a crib full poor did lie;  
with our poor flesh and our poor blood was clothed that everlasting good.

*Kyrie eleison.*

The Lord Christ Jesu, God's son dear, was a guest and a stranger here;  
us for to bring from misery, that we might live eternally.

*Kyrie eleison.*

All this did he for us freely, for to declare his great mercy.  
All Christendom be merry therefore and give him thanks forevermore.

*Kyrie eleison.*

+ THE SEVENTH LESSON +

Luke 2:8-16

Martha Berg, Reader

*The shepherds go to the manger.*

## 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

Here Are We In Bethlehem  
Healey Willan

\* Doxology 48

\* Prayer of Dedication

### + THE EIGHTH LESSON +

Matthew 2:1-11

Riley Kiltz, Reader

*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.*

CHORAL ANTHEM

Three Kings of Orient  
arr. John Rutter

*Chancel Choir*

*Joel Piotrowski, Tenor; Roderick Smith, Baritone; Robert Johnson, Bass*

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star:

*Refrain:* O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;  
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a king on Bethlehem plain, gold I bring to crown him again;  
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign:

*Refrain*

Frankincense to offer have I, incense owns a Deity nigh,  
prayer and praising, all men raising, worship Him God most high:

*Refrain*

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone cold tomb:

*Refrain*

Glorious now behold him arise, King, and God, and sacrifice!  
Heav'n sings *Alleluia: Alleluia* earth replies:

*Refrain*

+ THE NINTH LESSON +

\* John 1:1-14

Libby Piotrowski, Reader

*St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

\* CLOSING HYMN 147

O Come, All Ye Faithful

*All sing verse 1; Choir inserts and sings a different verse 2;*

*Congregation sings remaining verses.*

PRAYER OF SENDING FOR ISABEL AND JEFFREY PARKER

\* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

French Carol Medley  
(People Look East, arr. Kristina Langlois  
and He Is Born, arr. Mary McDonald)

*\* 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.*



*All are invited to the parlors on the lower level for  
fellowship and refreshments following the service.*

# 2024 Christmas Greetings



By their gifts to camping scholarships,  
these members and friends of  
NorthPark Covenant Church  
express their warm wishes  
to one another – and to you – for the  
blessings of Christmas and joy in the new year!



Mary Ann Ahlgren

Sue & Kevin Anderson

Helen & Garry Arkema

Connie Barkley

Julie & David Bromley

Will & Nancy Bromley

Karen Darelius

Susan, Dave, & Krista Dawson

Wally & Nancy Ebner

Sandy Edstrom

Louise Hedstrom

The Hunter Family

Lori Johnson

Jim Meyer & Kristen Engebretson, Owen & Miles

Doug Nystrom & Jane Swanson-Nystrom

Ann-Marie Olson Frisk

Chuck & Jan Olson

Don & Kay Olson

Joline & Steve Paska

Pete & Lynn Pearson

The Piotrowski Family

David & Carol Schlensker

Mark, Hannah, & Sophie Schukas

Christian & Paula Schuetz and Family

Bruce & Ann Marie Strom

Eileen Thorpe

Sue Vandervoort

Bill & Ruthanne Werner

Joyce Viken

## O Zion, Acclaim Your Redeemer!

1 O Zi - on, ac - claim your Re - deem - er! Je - ru - sa - lem, wel - come your King!  
 2 He comes from the joys of the a - ges, he leaves his do - min - ion sub - lime;  
 3 He comes as a ran - som most ho - ly, he dies on the cross for the world;  
 4 He comes from the tomb as a vic - tor, the shad - ows of death clear a - way;  
 5 He comes to the sor - row - ing spir - it and life is re - newed by his hand;

Strew palms on the way for the Sav - ior, his prais - es ex - ul - tant - ly sing.  
 from glo - ry to Beth - le - hem's man - ger he comes in the full - ness of time.  
 re - demp - tion from sin is ac - com - plished, his ban - ner of light is un - furled.  
 the slum - ber - ing saints are a - wak - ened, a - roused from their sleep in the clay.  
 he comes to es - tab - lish a King - dom that shall thro' e - ter - ni - ty stand.

*Refrain*

Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce in your Sav - ior and King!

Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce! Ac - claim him your Sav - ior and King!

## Prepare the Way, O Zion!

1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on! Ye aw - ful deeps, rise high;  
 2 O Zi - on, he ap - proach - es, your Lord and King for aye;  
 3 Fling wide your por - tals, Zi - on, and hail your glo - rious King;  
 4 The throne which he as - cend - ed is fixed in heav'n a - bove;

sink low, ye loft - y moun - tains, the Lord is draw - ing nigh.  
 strew palms where he ad - vanc - es, spread gar - ments in his way.  
 his ti - dings of sal - va - tion to ev - 'ry peo - ple bring,  
 his ev - er - last - ing king - dom is light and joy and love.

The righ - teous King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
 God's prom - ise fail - eth nev - er, ho - san - na sound for - ev - er:  
 who, wait - ing still in sad - ness, would sing his praise with glad - ness:  
 Let us his praise be sound - ing for grace and peace a - bound - ing:

O blest is he that came in God the Fa - ther's name.

# Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

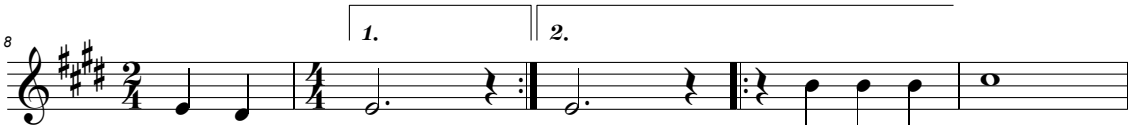
arr. Brian Ward



Come, thou long - ex - pec - ted Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:  
Born thy peo - ple to de - li - ver, born a child and yet a king.  
By thine own e - ter - nal spi - rit, rule in all our hearts a - lone.



from our fears and sins re - lease us. Let us find our  
dear de - sire of e - v'ry na - tion, joy of e - v'ry  
Born to reign in us for - e - ver, now thy gra - cious  
By thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy



rest in thee. We wait for you,  
long - ing heart.  
king - dom bring. throne.  
glor - ious



for you to come and now we try to spread your love in your king -



- dom. Come, thou long - ex - pec - ted Je - sus, born to set thy



peo - ple free, from our fears and sins re - lease us. Let us find our



rest in thee. Let us find our rest in thee.

## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

120

*In unison*

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2 O come, thou Day - spring, come and cheer our spir - its by thine  
 3 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, and or - der all things,  
 4 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind all peo - ples in one

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, un - til the Son of  
 ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and death's dark shad - ows  
 far and nigh; to us the path of knowl - edge show, and cause us in her  
 heart and mind; bid now our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our

*In harmony* *In unison*

God ap - pear.  
 put to flight.  
 ways to go. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -  
 King of peace.

man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

## Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 48

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment of chords and single notes.

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

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It features similar rhythmic patterns and chordal structures, maintaining the hymn's steady and reverent character.

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

The third system concludes the piece. The melody ends with a final cadence, and the accompaniment provides a solid harmonic base. The lyrics are completed with 'A - men.' and the music ends with a double bar line.

## O Come, All Ye Faithful

147

*Alternate harmonization and descant for stanza 3 on next pages.*

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
 2 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, O  
 3 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing, O

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove;  
 Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n;

come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
 glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

*Refrain*

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord.

WORDS: John F. Wade, 1711-1786, tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880

MUSIC: John F. Wade's *Cantus Diversi*, 1751;

alt. arr. and desc. David Willcocks, 1919-, © 1961 Oxford University Press

Irregular  
ADESTE FIDELES



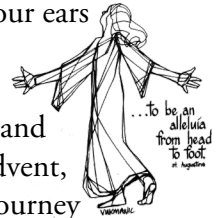
# *Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online!* *We're glad you're here.*

## *For your prayers this week:*

- **Peter Joly**, Rosemary Slaughter's building manager, anticipating chemotherapy treatment
- **Sophia and Eli**, a couple from Ukraine who have been in Chicago for a couple of months and are in need of housing
- **Sharon Johnson**, Anders Johnson's mom, hospitalized after a fall last Tuesday in which she broke her pelvis
- **Sandy Edstrom**, experiencing severe sciatica and pain in her knees
- **Greg Mesimore**, retired Covenant pastor, recuperating after surgery to relieve headaches and pain related to the brain tumor he has been fighting
- **Kevin Wendt**, Ryan's dad, as he undergoes chemotherapy treatments
- Marti Hindaileh's godson, **Brandon Baglayan**, anticipating six weeks of once-weekly chemo
- **Pia and Eugenio Restrepo**, as Pia's brother Manolo battles cancer
- **Anna and Peter Kim**, missionaries in Taiwan, as they prepare for home assignment and all of the arrangements that come with that

## 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 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 welcome Uniting Voices Chicago—Albany Park's** Allegro and Vivace choirs, along with their director, Alex Bravos, and program assistant, Aubry Nelson, to our service today. Thank you for sharing your musical gifts with us!

**Dear Church, thank you so much** to all of you who prepped, participated, cleaned up, and prayed for our Little Town of Bethlehem event. It really does take a village to build a town, and I am so very grateful for the gifts and energies you all bring! We had more than 200 people visit (comprising 64 family units), and we heard lots of wonderful comments throughout the evening. Thank you! Thank you!

**This afternoon, Vida Plena Covenant Church invites you** to a service at 1:30 pm, with a festive Christmas Posada to follow from 2:30 to 5 pm. If you have questions, please call Pastor Dany Flores at 872-357-9080.

**Christmas Music at Covenant Living of Northbrook:** On Sunday, December 15, a Christmas Carol Hymn Sing will be held at Covenant Living of Northbrook (2625 Techny Road, Northbrook, IL). The program will be held in the North and South Village Rooms in the Town Center and will begin at 4 pm. The event has been planned by Royce Eckhardt and Charles Olson and will feature our own Ann Boyd as guest soloist. Join us for this time of singing some of the season's favorite carols.

**Lectionary texts for  
Sunday, December 22:**

Micah 5:2-5a  
Luke 1:46b-55  
Hebrews 10:5-10  
Luke 1:39-55

**On Monday, December 16, we invite you to a Blue Christmas worship service.** We recognize that Advent and Christmas can be difficult seasons for many in our community, so we hold this Blue Christmas service as an invitation to pray through the grief, sadness, and disappointment of our real lives. We welcome you, whether you find yourself in this difficult place or you want to be a source of support for those who do. Come to the south chapel at 7 pm for this time of contemplative worship.

**All are invited to join us for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** on Tuesday, December 24, at 5 pm. This whole-family celebration of Christmas will center on singing Christmas carols together and reading a Christmas story with all the children, and we'll close with a candlelit singing of *Silent Night*. The livestream of this service will be projected in the parlors, should extra seating be required.

**And you're invited to return on Christmas morning, Wednesday, December 25,** at 6:30 am for our traditional Julotta service. It's early, we know. But you'll be glad you came—trust us! We invite you to join us for worship (which will take place mostly in English, but with a little Swedish thrown in), followed by coffee and a continental breakfast (the Swedes call it *fika*). Reservations are required for the breakfast so we can plan ahead and seat those who are there. To RSVP, please [fill out this form by Wednesday, December 18](#).

**Gifts for our Missionaries:** Throughout the year, we as a church support missionaries in five areas of the world via a percentage of General Fund donations. Now it's time to remember these missionary servants with a special Christmas gift. To make a special donation, write "missionary gift" in the memo line on your check or select "Missionary Gift" from the drop-down menu at [www.npcovenant.org/give](http://www.npcovenant.org/give). The deadline for these gifts is Tuesday, December 31. Thank you!

**From our church co-chairs, Susan Dawson and Nancy Ebner:** Here at North Park Covenant Church, we have long traditions of generosity, and one way we practice generosity is to express our thanks and love to our church staff with gifts of money at Christmas. How does God bless, challenge, and grow you in your walk with Jesus at NPCC? In more ways than we might realize, our gifted and dedicated staff members' ministries are part of God's ongoing work in our lives. You can contribute to this gift at [www.npcovenant.org/give](http://www.npcovenant.org/give), by selecting "Staff Gift" from the drop-down menu, or by mailing or bringing your gift to church. Label your envelope "staff gift," and if you write a check, please designate "staff gift" on the memo line. Put it in the offering plate (using the green envelopes in the pews) or drop it off at the church office after worship today. Money received will be divided among the staff members. We ask that all contributions reach the church by the end of the day today. May the Spirit of God move among us all this Advent season, as we wait and pray: "Come, Lord Jesus."

**It's time to clear out the Lost & Found!** If you think you may have misplaced something here at the church, please feel free to reach out to me to ask if that item is in our lost and found. Anything not claimed by Wednesday, January 15, will be donated or tossed.

**There is money to help kids go to camp!** Registration for summer camps at [Covenant Point](#) and [Covenant Harbor](#) is underway! 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!

**Volunteers are needed for childcare and hospitality!** If you're able to help out in the toddler room or by serving refreshments after Sunday worship, please [sign up for a Sunday or two here](#).

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## 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, December 16*

- 9:15 am Women's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
- 10:30 am Staff Meeting (Staff Conference Room)
- 7 pm Blue Christmas Worship Service (South Chapel)
- 7:30 pm Centering Prayer (Staff Conference Room)

### *Tuesday, December 17*

- 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 Executive Council Meeting (Large Conference Room)

### *Wednesday, December 18*

- 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 Knit or Not (Parlors)  
Middle-school Youth Group (Youth Room near the Gym)
- 7:15 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

### *Thursday, December 19*

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

### *Friday, December 20*

- 10:15 am NPCCP Caterpillars Holiday Party (Gym)
- 1 pm Prayer Gathering (South Chapel Prayer Corner)
- 2:15 pm NPCCP Butterflies Holiday Party (Gym)

### *Saturday, December 21*

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

### *Sunday, December 22*

- 9:15 am Bible Journaling (Art Room)
- 10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 1:30 pm Vida Plena Covenant Church Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 7 pm AA Meeting (Parlors)

**North Park Covenant  
Church Staff**

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ext. 525

Libby Piotrowski, Co-pastor  
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ext. 515

*To reach both Jeff and Libby, please use  
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Chancel Choir Director  
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Sam Parnin, Organist  
sparnin@npcovenant.org

Linnea Olfelt, Chancel Handbell Choir Director

Joline Paska, Treasurer  
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Christian Schuetz, Custodian  
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Ann-Marie Olson Frisk, Church Administrator  
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**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  
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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.*