

NORTH PARK COVENANT CHURCH

JANUARY 26, 2025 + THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY +

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PRELUDE

CHORAL INTROIT

Menuet Gothique from Suite Gothique

Léon Boëllmann

Sam Parnin, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Hunter and Libby Piotrowski

*

God Almighty, We Adore You (20)

*

Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

* CALL TO WORSHIP 788, with sung response 1

Psalm 19

* OPENING HYMN 56 For the Beauty of the Earth All sing verses 1, 3, and 5; Women sing verse 2; Men sing verse 4.

- * 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

Kevin Anderson, Reader Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Old Testament Reading New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a Luke 4:14-21

* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

CHORAL ANTHEM The Gift of Love (581)

American melody arr. Hal H. Hopson

MESSAGE Libby Piotrowski

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

His Mercy Is More Matt Boswell, Matt Papa

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> Led by Anders Johnson, Jeanette Mottl, Sam Parnin, Brian Ward, and Ryan Wendt

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

Partita on "Azmon" Alfred V. Fedak

- * Doxology 48
- * Prayer of Dedication
- * CLOSING HYMN 194

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

* RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

Return to families, work, and leisure, committed to the way of justice and peace.

We want to discern God's word and signs, that we may see clearly and serve faithfully. Be alert to the cloud of witnesses God sends, that you may be empowered to run a good race.

We want to work with God and God's people for a better world, responsive to truth.

God sees your hearts and minds and will provide all the help you seek and need.

The grace of God rests on us and will provide our vision and empowerment.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

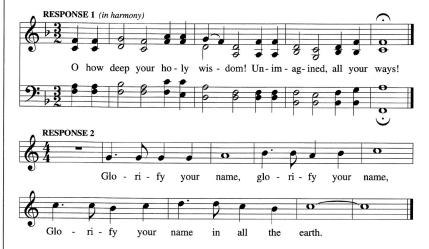
Amen.

* POSTLUDE

Toccata on Austrian Hymn (Praise the Lord! O Heavens, Adore Him [62]) Joel Raney

* 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.



I The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

tyet their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.

RESPONSE 1 OR 2

- II In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

 5which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
 and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

 6Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
 and its circuit to the end of them;
 and nothing is hid from its heat.
- The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- ALL ¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

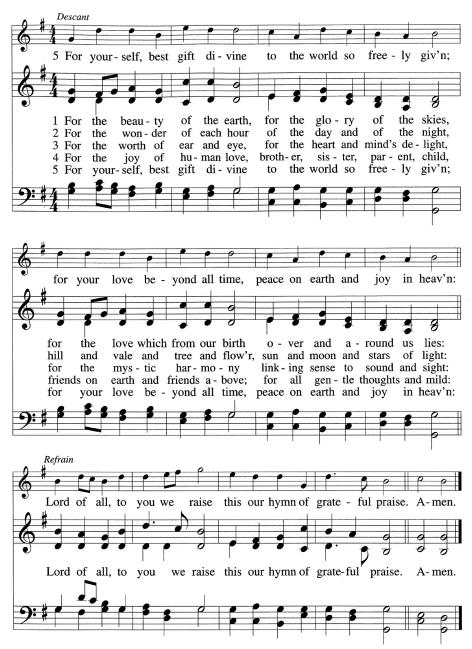
RESPONSE 1 OR 2

II 11 Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.
12 But who can detect their errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.
13 Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me.
Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

ALL ¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

RESPONSE 1 OR 2

For the Beauty of the Earth



WORDS: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.

MUSIC: Adapt. 1861 from a chorale by Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872; desc. Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875-1947

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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

His Mercy Is More

Matt Boswell and Matt Papa



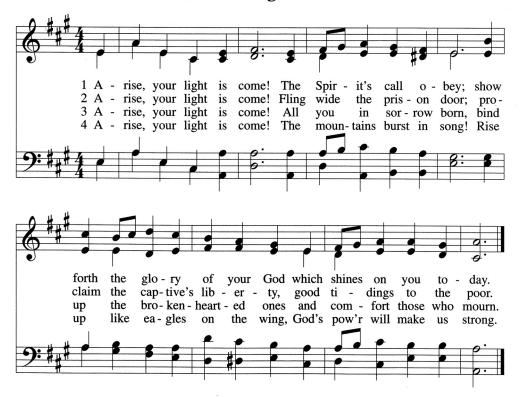
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Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 48



Arise, Your Light Is Come!

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WORDS: Ruth Duck, 1947-, © 1992 GIA Publications MUSIC: William H. Walter, 1825-1893

S.M. FESTAL SONG

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

For your prayers this week:

- **our neighborhood**, specifically the east side of the 5200 block of N Spaulding and the north side of the 3200 block of W Foster
- residents of Los Angeles, many of whom have lost everything in the wildfires
- Paul Wargaski, as he continues on his faith journey, complete with its human successes and failures
- Roderick Smith, undergoing knee-replacement surgery tomorrow
- Keith Chase-Ziolek, recuperating after having a pacemaker inserted on January 21
- Robert Johnson, recuperating at home after a back procedure on Monday, January 13
- Sally Engebretson, recuperating well after successful knee replacement surgery on January 8
- the Boyd family, mourning the passing of Jon's father, Bill, on January 4
- the Hunt family, mourning the passing of Francis' sister, Barbara, on January 4
- Sandy Edstrom, struggling with a broken foot in addition to the pain of sciatica
- Diane Haglund, undergoing radiation through January 27
- Kevin Wendt, Ryan's dad, undergoing chemotherapy and struggling with congestive heart failure
- Marti Hindaileh's godson, Brandon Baglayan, undergoing chemotherapy, which has been difficult



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) during the service for any wee ones age 5 and under needing a place to wiggle

and play. We always happily welcome children in the service but recognize that sometimes parents need a break to focus on worship.

Vida Plena, a Spanish-speaking Covenant Church plant that meets here, invites you to worship every Sunday at 1:30 pm. For more information, contact Pastor Dany Flores at 872-357-9080.

It's Annual Meeting Time! After worship today, there will be a light lunch followed by the first half of the Congregational Annual Meeting. Items on the agenda include annual reports; approval of the 2025 budget; first vote on Building with Faithfulness tithe options; vote on bylaw changes presented at the November congregational meeting; and the presentation of proposed by-law changes to be voted on at the second half of the annual meeting in April. All are invited to attend, but only members may vote.

The North Park Readers will resume for the new year. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 28, at 7 pm, at Helen Arkema's house (5837 N Bernard St). We will be reading *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson. The book relates a story about a traveling librarian named Cussy Mary Carter, who also happens to be from a Kentucky family whose skin is a shade of blue. If you have any questions, please email Helen at helen.arkema@gmail.com.

The Coffeehouse Returns! All are invited to join us on Saturday, February 22, at 6:30 pm for this all-church talent show. Can you sing, dance, play an instrument, tell funny jokes, or recite poetry? Reach out to emcee Joel Piotrowski, and he'll add you to the program. You won't want to miss it!

Lectionary texts for Sunday, February 2:

Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Luke 4:21-30 **New Year, New Resolutions!** Did you resolve to find more joy in your life? Are you looking for a way to serve at NPCC in 2025? Make 2025 the year you hang out with the littlest in our community—<u>sign up to help with childcare</u> during an upcoming service.

Volunteers are always welcomed to help serve refreshments during the coffee hour after worship. If you're looking for a low-key way to get involved on a Sunday or two, please consider this opportunity. The

sign-up sheet can be found here, and if you have questions about what this task entails, please <u>reach</u> out to Ann Marie Strom.

Learning Liturgy: Why Do We Have a Call to Worship <u>and</u> an Invocation? And What's the Difference?

You'll notice that worship here at NPCC follows a pretty specific pattern in each service, from elements of Gathering to those of Word and ending with elements of Response to the Good News. Each Sunday, we include both a Call to Worship and an Invocation, and you might be wondering why. Here's a brief explanation:

The Call to Worship is included as a reminder to those gathered about why we have come together. They are words firmly and gladly spoken (and sometimes sung) that remind us that we are in God's presence and that we have come to worship, with Christ as our host. We often use the morning's Psalm as the Call to Worship as the Psalms are a wonderful collection of poetry that speak to all of human experience and emotion.

The Invocation, or opening prayer, is an invitation to God to help open the heart, eyes, and ears of each worshiper. It does not call God into the service, as God is already there, but it is a spoken confidence that the Spirit is at work and moving. At NPCC, the Invocation often ends with the Lord's Prayer; familiar words that Jesus taught his disciples to pray in praise, supplication, and adoration of our Triune God.

The Church Calendar This Week

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

	8 1 8
9:15 am 10:30 am 4 pm 6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Monday, January 27 Women's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room) Staff Meeting (Staff Conference Room) Tutoring (Parlors) Geezerball (Gym) Centering Prayer (Large Conference Room)
8 am 4:30 pm 6 pm	Tuesday, January 28 Men's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room) Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary) Cudahy Basketball (Gym)
10 am 6 pm 6:30 pm 7 pm 7:15 pm	Wednesday, January 29 Women's Bible Study (Edstrom Home) Gather Dinner (Parlors) Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Side Balcony, Sanctuary) Contemporary Music Rehearsal (Choir Room) Knit or Not (Parlors) Middle-school Youth Group (Youth Room near the Gym) Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
8 am 4 pm	Thursday, January 30 East Wall Project Progress Meeting (Large Conference Room) Uniting Voices Chicago Winter Showcase (Sanctuary)
1 pm 4:30 pm	Friday, January 31 Prayer Gathering (Edstrom Home) Middle-school CHBC Winter Camp Departure (South Garden)
8 am 10 am	Saturday, February 1 Geezerball (Gym) Cudahy Basketball (Gym)
9 am 9:15 am	Sunday, February 2 Confirmation (Staff Conference Room) Sunday School for Preschool - 6th Grade (Junior Chapel) Adult Formation (Parlors)
10:30 am 12 pm 7 pm	Bible Journaling (Art Room) Worship (Sanctuary) Children's Choir Rehearsal (Junior Chapel) Middle-school CHBC Winter Camp Return (South Garden) High-school Youth Group (The Attic Youth Room) AA Meeting (Parlors)

North Park Covenant	North Park Church
Church Staff	Cooperative Preschool
Jeff Hunter, Co-pastor libby Piotrowski, Co-pastor jhunter@npcovenant.org lpiotrowski@npcovenant.org ext. 525 ext. 515 To reach both Jeff and Libby, please use copastors@npcovenant.org or ext. 510.	Becky Edwards Administrative Director Lyndsey Wellner Head Teacher/Educational Director
Jeanette Mottl, Director of Youth Ministry jmottl@npcovenant.org	Jennifer Glazier Assistant Teacher
Brian Ward, Music Ministry Coordinator/ Chancel Choir Director bward@npcovenant.org	(773) 463-0055, ext. 520 preschool@npcovenant.org www.npcovenant.org/npccp
Sam Parnin, Organist sparnin@npcovenant.org	
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Ann-Marie Olson Frisk, Church Administrator afrisk@npcovenant.org, ext. 500

Letha Kerl,

Christian Schuetz, Custodian

cschuetz@npcovenant.org

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justin@friendshipcenterchicago.org

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(773) 907-6338

James and Rachel Ventress, Alaska

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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