



NORTH PARK
COVENANT CHURCH

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

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PRELUDE

Menuet Gothique from *Suite Gothique*
Léon Boëllmann
Sam Parnin, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Hunter and Libby Piotrowski



CHORAL INTROIT

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

Old Testament Reading

New Testament Reading

* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Kevin Anderson, Reader
Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21

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

2016 Getty Music Hymns and Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Getty Music Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Love Your Enemies Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

Messenger Hymns (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

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.*

RESPONSE 1 (*in harmony*)



O how deep your ho-ly wis-dom! Un-im-ag-ined, all your ways!

RESPONSE 2



Glo-ri-fy your name, glo-ri-fy your name,
Glo-ri-fy your name in all the earth.

- I ¹The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
²Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.
³There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;
⁴yet 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,
⁵**which 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.
- I ⁷The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;
the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;
⁸the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;
⁹the 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 ¹¹Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
¹²But who can detect their errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.
¹³Keep 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

Descant

5 For your-self, best gift di-vine to the world so free-ly giv'n;

1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the glo-ry of the skies,
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the worth of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de-light,
 4 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
 5 For your-self, best gift di-vine to the world so free-ly giv'n;

for your love be-yond all time, peace on earth and joy in heav'n:

for the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies:
 hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
 for the mys-tic har-mo-ny link-ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth and friends a-bove; for all gen-tle thoughts and mild:
 for your love be-yond all time, peace on earth and joy in heav'n:

Refrain

Lord of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise. A-men.

Lord of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise. A-men.

WORDS: Follitt S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt.
 MUSIC: Adapt. 1861 from a chorale by Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872; desc. Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875-1947
 © Hope Publishing Company

7.7.7.7.7.7.
 DIX

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

His Mercy Is More

Matt Boswell and Matt Papa

Largo (♩ = 45)



What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done; om -
What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam; What
What rich - es of kind - ness He la - vished on us; His



ni - scient, all know - ing, He counts not their sum. Thrown
Fa - ther so ten - der, is call - ing us home. He
blood was the pay - ment, His life was the cost. We



in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore; Our
wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor; Our
stood 'neath a debt we could ne - ver af - ford; Our



sins they are ma - ny, His mer - cy is more. Praise the Lord!
sins they are ma - ny, His mer - cy is more.
sins they are ma - ny, His mer - cy is more.



His mer - cy is more.



Stron - ger than dark - ness, new ev - ry morn; Our



sins they are ma - ny, His mer - cy is more.

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 maintains the same musical structure and key signature.

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

The third system of music concludes the piece. It features a final cadence with a double bar line and repeat dots at the end of both staves.

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

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1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey; show
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door; pro -
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born, bind
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song! Rise

The first system of the musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both are in the key of A major (indicated by three sharps: F#, C#, G#) and 4/4 time. The melody is primarily in the upper staff, with the lower staff providing harmonic support through chords and bass lines.

forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.
up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

The second system of the musical score continues with two staves in the same key and time signature. The melody in the upper staff concludes with a final cadence, while the lower staff provides a sustained harmonic accompaniment.

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—[sign up to help with childcare](#) 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 [reach out to Ann Marie Strom](#).

LEARNING LITURGY:

WHY DO WE HAVE A CALL TO WORSHIP AND 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.

Monday, January 27

- 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 (Large Conference Room)

Tuesday, January 28

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

Wednesday, January 29

- 10 am Women's Bible Study (Edstrom Home)
- 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, January 30

- 8 am East Wall Project Progress Meeting (Large Conference Room)
- 4 pm Uniting Voices Chicago Winter Showcase (Sanctuary)

Friday, January 31

- 1 pm Prayer Gathering (Edstrom Home)
- 4:30 pm Middle-school CHBC Winter Camp Departure (South Garden)

Saturday, February 1

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

Sunday, February 2

- 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)
Middle-school CHBC Winter Camp Return (South Garden)
- 7 pm High-school Youth Group (The Attic Youth Room)
AA Meeting (Parlors)

