



MARCH 23, 2025  
+ THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT +

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PRELUDE

*Jesu, Meine Freude*  
(Jesus, Priceless Treasure)  
J.S. Bach  
Sam Parnin, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Hunter and Libby Piotrowski



INTROIT

There Is a Balm in Gilead  
(Traditional Spiritual)  
Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 63 and Isaiah 55

Come into the sanctuary and look around.  
Behold the beauty and splendor of God's people.  
All of us desperately hanging on.  
**Behold the beauty and splendor of God's people.**

We believe God's steadfast love is better than life,  
so let our lips praise God as long as we live.  
**We also often doubt God's love.**  
**We often doubt that God will really provide when it matters.**

But this is what matters today:  
God said, "Come, all who are thirsty, come to the water,  
and you that have no money, come, buy and eat."  
All of us desperately hanging on.  
**So with faith—both bold and timid—let us worship God!**

\* OPENING HYMN 420

Teach Me Your Way, O Lord

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

written by Rev. Eliza Buchakjian-Tweedy

God of abundance, you have promised to provide us with more than mere survival; in seeking to satisfy our deepest hungers, we shall find an even more profound sustenance than human imagination could envision.

**In your holy love, you have given us so much: talents and treasure in unlimited supply.  
But often, we spend these on superficial needs. We throw away our plenty on little**

hungers and petty desires. We seek the fleeting delight of novelty, of prettiness, and of veneer. We follow the urges to momentary importance; to the notice of a fickle society more interested in noise and sparkle than in mundane sturdiness. We chase after happiness while neglecting joy; we chase after romance while neglecting love; we skim the surface while fearing the depths.

God of grace, we are hungry. God of mercy, quench our thirst.

**Forgive us, we pray, for our fearfulness, as we rely more upon our own human illusions of control and satisfaction, even though we know that these illusions separate us from you. Forgive us for not trusting in your grace, in your abundance, in the covenant promises that you have renewed with every generation. In Christ, may we learn to love you more than we love ourselves. Amen.**

\* WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

May 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.**

Emily Kiltz, Reader

Isaiah 55:1-9

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

CHORAL ANTHEM

Come to the Water

John Foley

O let all who thirst, let them come to the water.

And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord:  
without money, without price.

Why should you pay the price, except for the Lord?

And let all who seek, let them come to the water.

And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord:  
without money, without strife.

Why should you spend your life, except for the Lord?

And let all who toil, let them come to the water.

And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord:  
all who labor without rest.

How can your soul find rest, except for the Lord?

And let all the poor, let them come to the water.  
Bring the ones who are laden, bring them all to the Lord:  
bring the children without might.  
Easy the load and light: come to the Lord.

## WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

## MESSAGE

Libby Piotrowski

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, USING THE PRAYER TREE

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Blessed Be Your Name  
Beth Redman, Matt Redman  
2002 Thankyou Music Ltd (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)  
Led by Kristen Hunter, Anders Johnson,  
Sam Parnin, Brian Ward, and Ryan Wendt

## GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory

Meditation on “The Lord’s My Shepherd”

Mary McDonald

Brian Ward, Organ

\* Doxology 48

\* Prayer of Dedication

## \* CLOSING HYMN 331

Just as I Am

## \* BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

Toccata: Aberystwyth  
(Jesus, Lover of My Soul [369])  
David Bednall

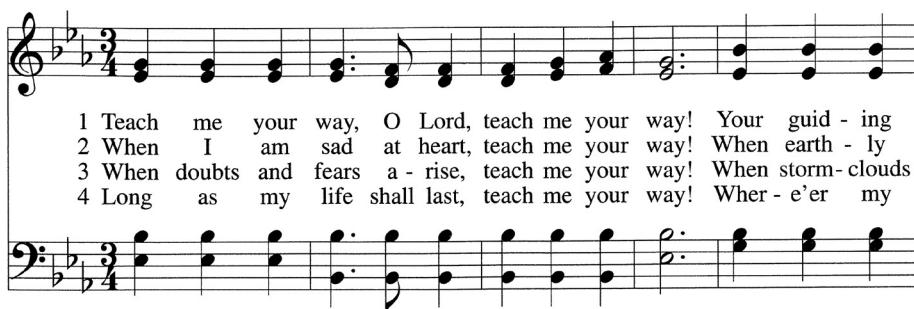
*Please remain seated for the postlude, pausing as the light of Christ is carried out  
and imagining how you might carry that light into the world this week.*

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

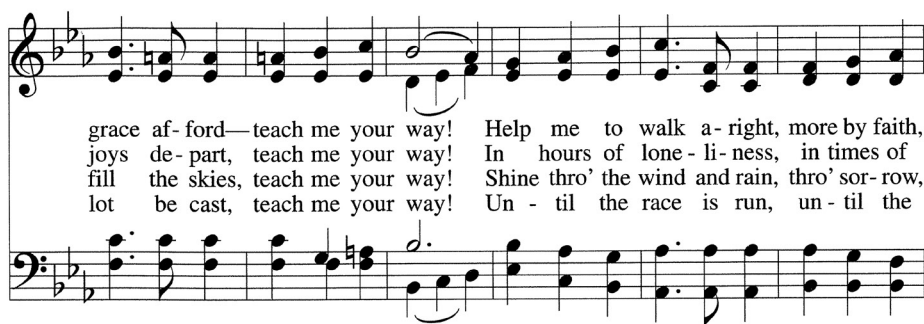
*Prayer is offered in the south chapel after the service.  
In addition, if you have prayer requests to be shared confidentially with the pastors,  
there is a prayer box located in the narthex, as well as slips of paper and a pen  
in the box’s drawer for your use.*

## Teach Me Your Way, O Lord

420



1 Teach me your way, O Lord, teach me your way! Your guid - ing  
 2 When I am sad at heart, teach me your way! When earth - ly  
 3 When doubts and fears a - rise, teach me your way! When storm-clouds  
 4 Long as my life shall last, teach me your way! Wher - e'er my



grace af - ford—teach me your way! Help me to walk a - right, more by faith,  
 joys de - part, teach me your way! In hours of lone - li - ness, in times of  
 fill the skies, teach me your way! Shine thro' the wind and rain, thro' sor - row,  
 lot be cast, teach me your way! Un - til the race is run, un - til the



less by sight; lead me with heav'n - ly light—teach me your way!  
 dire dis - tress, in fail - ure or suc - cess, teach me your way!  
 grief, and pain; make now my path - way plain—teach me your way!  
 jour - ney's done, un - til the crown is won, teach me your way! A - men.

# Blessed Be Your Name

Matt and Beth Redman

Bless - ed be Your name in the land that is plen -  
Bless - ed be Your name when I'm found in the des -

ti - ful place, where Your streams of a - bun -  
ert place, though I walk through the wild -

dance flow; bless - ed be Your name.  
er - ness, bless - ed be Your name.

E - very bless - ing You pour out I'll turn back to praise.

When the dark - ness clos - es in, Lord, still I will say: "Bless - ed be the

name of the Lord. Bless - ed be Your name. Bless - ed be the

name of the Lord. Bless - ed be Your glor - i - ous name."

27

Bless - ed be Your name when the sun's shin - ing down  
 Bless - ed be Your name on the road marked with suf -

30

on me, when the world's "all as it should be," bless - ed be Your name.  
 - fer-ing though there's pain in the off - er - ing bless - ed be Your name.

34

E - very bless-ing You pour out I'll turn back to

39

praise. When the dark-ness clos-es in, Lord, still I will say:

44

"Bless - ed be the name of the Lord. Bless - ed be Your name.

48

Bless - ed be the name of the Lord. Bless - ed be Your glor - i - ous name."

53

You give and take a - way, you give and take a - way. My

58

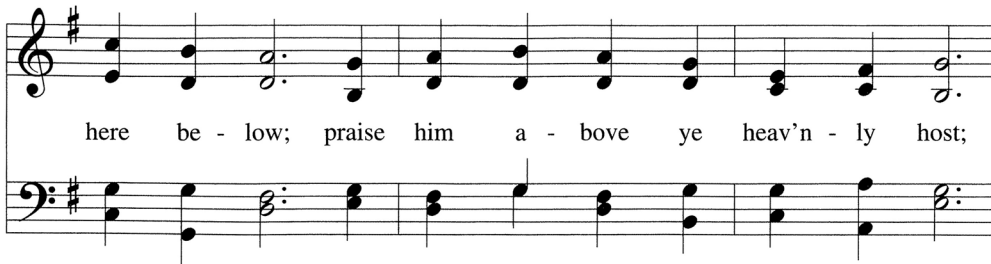
heart will choose to say, "Lord, bless-ed be Your name." You

# Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 48



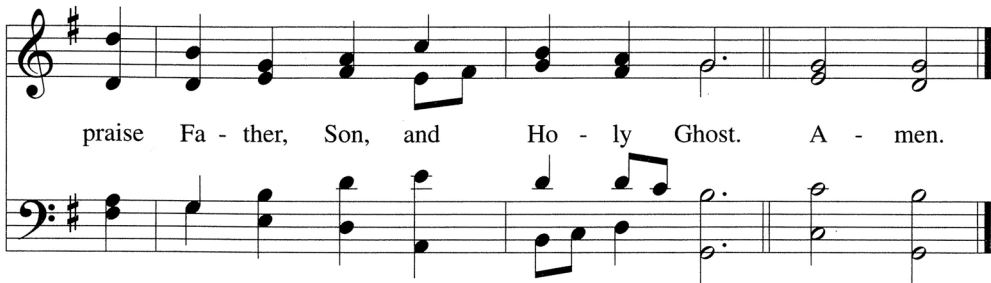
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures

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



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

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, while the bass staff uses chords and single notes to support the harmony.



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

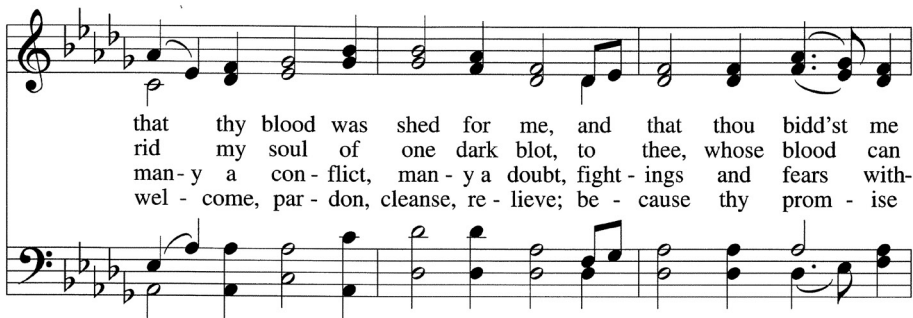
The third system concludes the piece. The treble staff ends with a double bar line, and the bass staff also concludes with a double bar line. The melody for 'Ho - ly Ghost' is written with eighth notes, and 'A - men' is written with a half note.



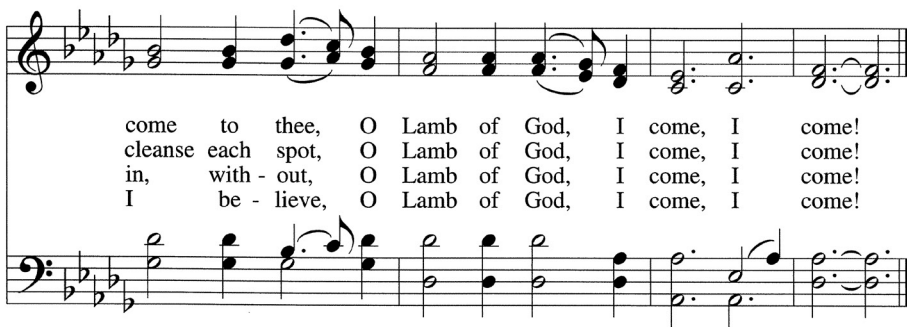
## Just as I Am



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but  
 2 Just as I am, and wait - ing not to  
 3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with  
 4 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt



that thy blood was shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me  
 rid my soul of one dark blot, to thee, whose blood can  
 man - y a con - flict, man - y a doubt, fight - ings and fears with -  
 wel - come, par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise



come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!  
 cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!  
 in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!  
 I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

# *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 St Louis and the north side of the 3400 block of W Foster; *"We pray that God would unveil within our neighbors and ourselves the unlimited riches of his glory and favor until supernatural strength floods their and our innermost beings with his divine might and explosive power."* (Ephesians 3:16)
- **Brandon Baglayan**, Marti Hindaileh's godson, awaiting results after an ultrasound on his thyroid
- **Lauren Wargaski**, recuperating after recent surgery
- **Diane Haglund**, struggling with fatigue, which is affecting her ability to work
- **Evelyn Haglund**, Diane Haglund's mother, diagnosed with pneumonia but doing well
- **Larry H. Knipp**, recuperating after knee-replacement surgery on March 4
- **family and friends of Marcia Knudson**, former member here, who passed away on March 11
- **Christian Schuetz and family**, mourning the passing of his mother, Joan Schuetz, on February 25
- **family and friends of Joan Van Note**, who passed away on February 22
- **Sandy Edstrom**, healing after breaking her foot
- **Sheryl and Paul Noren**, as they put retirement on hold to return to Congo



**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.

**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.

**Staff Away:** Ann-Marie will be out of the office on Monday and Tuesday, March 24 and 25, but will return on Wednesday, March 26.

**Join in a Lenten Prayer Vigil on April 12:** On Saturday, April 12, all are invited to participate in a Virtual Lenten Prayer Vigil. Between the hours of 7 am and 7 pm, we invite you to sign up for a half hour (or more) to be in prayer for our church, our community, and our world. Prayer materials will be made available for those who sign up as the day draws near. [Please sign up here.](#)

**Lenten Music Playlist Available:** We thought it might be nice to share some of the music you'll hear during our worship services this season, some of which might be new to you. To that end, Jeanette has set up [a Lenten playlist](#) on Spotify. You don't need a Spotify account to listen, but if you don't, you can expect to have ads pop up from time to time. We invite you to give it a listen!

**For our March selection, the North Park Readers** have picked *The Strange Case of Dr. Couney* by Dawn Raffel. This book tells the story of a Coney Island doctor who revolutionized neonatal care more than 100 years ago by using incubators to keep fragile newborns alive, all while displaying them at venues across the nation. We will meet on Tuesday, March 25, at 7 pm at Tre Kronor (3258 W Foster).

**Vida Plena Covenant Church invites you** to a Spanish-language workshop on depression in the NPCC parlors on Friday, March 28, at 6:45 pm. Depression is one of the most commonly experienced mental health concerns. While depression is common, each person's individual experience is unique. Therefore, it is important to recognize the symptoms and have tools and strategies to recognize when we need help. This workshop explores our understanding of depression, influencing factors, and tools to help us process. Please RSVP to Rev. Dany Flores and Rev. Sergio Gonzalez at 872-357-9080.

**Lectionary texts for  
Sunday, March 30:**

Joshua 5:9-12

Psalm 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

**New Members Class Saturday, April 5!** Have you been wondering about membership at North Park Covenant Church and what it might mean? Do you have questions about the church and/or the Covenant denomination? Would you like to learn more, without the obligation to join the church? Join us in our next New Members Class, which will take place on Saturday, April 5, from 9 am to 1 pm. Please let Pastor Libby or Pastor Jeff know if you're interested, and they will add your name to the list and be in touch!

**The Nominating Committee needs your help!** If you are a member and looking for an opportunity to serve in our life together as a church, there are openings on the Trustee, Deacon, and Christian Formation boards; the Human Resources, Memorials, Mutual Ministry, Hospitality, and Stewardship committees; and in the role of Church Treasurer. If you're interested in any of these opportunities, reach out to Nancy Ebner at [nancylebner@gmail.com](mailto:nancylebner@gmail.com).

**Mark your calendars for June 16-20**, because VBS will be here before we know it! This year, we'll discover how Jesus invites us to Step Right Up into some marvelous and extraordinary things! We need lots of help to make VBS possible, so if you're interested in volunteering for all or some of the week, [please let Jeanette know](#). Registration for students will open the first week in May!

**An invitation from the congregation of Iglesia del Pacto Evangélico de Albany Park:** We invite you to join us weekly for our new English-language church services every Sunday from 9 to 10:30 am, a time of worship for any believer who does not fear being in the trenches with Latino worshipers, and as a secondary service to be supportive of the core Spanish church, whose service follows at 11:30 am. We will serve a free breakfast from 7:30 to 8:30 am. Until we attract new worshipers, all ministries are available: ushers, worship, music, dance, kitchen, etc. We are located at 4516 N. Kedzie Ave.

**The church library book display for March** is focused on prayer. We all need to have a prayer recharge from time to time. The library has many books to help you connect with God and enjoy your time of prayer. Come peruse the book display this month to find your next read.

## 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, March 24*

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

### *Tuesday, March 25*

8 am	Men's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
6 pm	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

### *Wednesday, March 26*

10 am	Women's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
12-4 pm	Confirmation Costco Trip
3-6 pm	Jeanette's "Office Hours" (Outdoor Cafe, Bryn Mawr at Spaulding)
6 pm	Gather Dinner: Missionaries Kim and Joel Delp, Special Guests (Parlors)
6:30 pm	Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Side Balcony, Sanctuary)
	Contemporary Music Rehearsal (Choir Room)
7 pm	Knit or Not (Parlors)
7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

### *Friday, March 28*

1 pm	Prayer Gathering (South Chapel Prayer Corner)
6:30 pm	Vida Plena Covenant Church Mental Health Workshop (Parlors)

### *Saturday, March 29*

8 am	Geezerball (Gym)
10:15 am	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

### *Sunday, March 30 - The Fourth Sunday in Lent*

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)
1:30 pm	Vida Plena Covenant Church Worship Service (Parlors)
6 pm	Lenten Worship Service (South Chapel)
7 pm	AA Meeting (Parlors)

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Jeff Hunter, Co-pastor  
jhunter@npcovenant.org  
ext. 525

Libby Piotrowski, Co-pastor  
lp Piotrowski@npcovenant.org  
ext. 515

Jeanette Mottl, Director of Youth Ministry  
jmottl@npcovenant.org

Sam Parnin, Organist  
sparnin@npcovenant.org

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

Ann-Marie Olson Frisk, Church Administrator  
afrisk@npcovenant.org, ext. 500

Becky Edwards  
Administrative Director

Jennifer Glazier  
Assistant Teacher

(773) 463-0055, ext. 520  
preschool@npcovenant.org  
www.npcovenant.org/npcpp

2711 West Lawrence Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60625  
(773) 907-6338

info@friendshipcenterchicago.org  
www.friendshipcenterchicago.org

Letha Kerl,  
Regional Co-coordinator for Europe

James and Rachel Ventress, Alaska

Eugenio and Pia Restrepo,  
Latin America

*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.*

5250 NORTH CHRISTIANA AVENUE • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60625  
NPCC@NPCOVENANT.ORG • (773) 463-0055 • WWW.NPCOVENANT.ORG