

MORNING WORSHIP

8:30 & 11:00 am

PRELUDE Nathan Skinner, organ

INTROIT Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming Words: 15th Century carol (trans. 1894 Theodore Baker) Music: arr. Michael Prætorius (1571–1621)

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 floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,
when half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to men a Savior,
when half-spent was the night.

CANDLE OF LOVE Dedeke Family 8:30 AM
* CALL TO WORSHIP from 1 John 4 Rutledge Family 11:00 AM

Leader: Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.
People: Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.
Leader: This is how God shows his love among us: he sent his one and only son into the world that we might live through him.
People: This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.
All: Let us worship the God of Love!

* HYMN Hark, a Thrilling Voice is Sounding Merton

INVOCATION, CONFESSION & LORD'S PRAYER
Our Father who art in heaven; Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our coming day's bread;
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
And lead us not into trial, but deliver us from the Evil One.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* PEACE

LIFE OF THE CHURCH Charles Peltz, Elder 8:30 AM
David Rix, Moderator 11:00 AM

Middle East Team Report 8:30 AM
Dedication administered by Chris May, Minister to Women 11:00 AM

[omitted in web version]

Financial Update Mike Ahearn, Church Administrator

ANTHEM O Come, O Come, Immanuel Words: 18th century Latin Sanctuary Choir Music: plainsong, arr. John Rutter (b. 1945)

O come, O come, Immanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.

O come, thou Key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.

OLD TESTAMANT READING Marty Lindemann 8:30 AM
Zephaniah 3:14–20 Dianna Bennett 11:00AM

* HYMN No. 324 Christ is Coming Neander

PSALTER READING Andrea Zvara, Dir. of Global Outreach
Psalm 103

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymn No. 734)
8:30 AM children ages 3–12 are dismissed; 11:00 AM children ages 3 to 3rd grade are dismissed.

SERMON “Abounding in Love” [omitted in web version]

* HYMN No. 76 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven Lauda Anima

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER Andrea Zvara

OFFERTORY Church Sonata in F major W. A. Mozart (1756–1791)
Park Street Orchestra

* DOXOLOGY (Hymn No. 731)

* HYMN Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending Helmsley

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending James Vivian (b. 1974)
Nathan Skinner, organ

Next Sunday, December 15 will be Phil Thorne's last Sunday as Interim Senior Minister of Park Street Church. Please join us next week in offering our heartfelt gratitude for Phil and Cindi's service to us at receptions following each worship service.

* Congregation standing as able

If you would like to find out more about becoming a Christian, or if you desire prayer for any reason, come to the front right of the sanctuary following the service and we'd be happy to pray for you.

LIFE of the CHURCH

ANGEL TREE FOR THE ROOT CELLAR TODAY, Ockenga Lobby. Give a jack-et, boots, and a toy to one or more kids in connection with the Root Cellar in Lewiston, ME. Gifts will be collected at the family ministry check-in area through DEC 15. ✉ aherndon@parkstreet.org.

DIVORCECARE: SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS SAT DEC 14, 9:30–12:00 PM. If you are separated or divorced, the holidays can a lonely, stressful, depressing time. Join us for an encouraging seminar that will help you discover new ways to enjoy them again. For a special program for children ages 5–12, RSVP TODAY to ✉ divorcecare@parkstreet.org.

BLUE CHRISTMAS FRI DEC 20, 7:00–8:30 PM. A Blue Christmas service to bring comfort and offer hope. There will be jazz, a reading of *The Ragman* parable, singing and a time of prayer. ✉ cmay@parkstreet.org.

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS SUN DEC 15, 7:00 PM. A liturgical service retelling the story of humanity's fall and redemption, and the birth of the Messiah. Music by the Park Street Orchestra and the Sanctuary Choir. Child-care and other information available at ☎ www.parkstreet.org/lessonsandcarols.

CHRISTMAS EVE TUE DEC 24, 3:00, 5:00 & 7:00 PM. Families with young children are especially invited to our 3:00 PM service, which includes a live nativity and a tree to decorate with donated mittens. Services at 5:00 and 7:00 PM are traditional, with carols and lights.

CHRISTMAS WELCOME Hundreds of guests attend our special Christmas services, and we want to make sure they receive a warm welcome! Please join our team of greeters, ushers, and servers at Lessons and Carols and/or Christmas Eve services by signing up at ☎ www.parkstreet.org/christmasvolunteers.

PRAYER & PRAISE

"Who is he, this King of Glory? – the LORD Almighty" (Psa. 24:10).

Pray for the Congregation:
• for the senior minister search, knowl-edge, wisdom and joy (Ecc. 2:26);
• for healthy attitudes toward wisdom (Prov. 23:23);
• for the fruit of the Spirit of self-control (Gal. 5:23).

Pray for the People:
• [omitted in web version]
• Heavenly wisdom and direction for those battling doubt; courage to walk in the Light of Christ;
• Hope for those struggling with anxiety and depression; grace to seek and find help;
• Mercy for those searching for affordable housing and gainful employment.

Pray for mercy and grace:
• comfort and relief for all who endure long-term illness;
• grace to all care providers and trust in God's loving care;
• reliance on Jesus who knows our weak-ness.

[Some items are omitted in the online version of the bulletin. To have a complete electronic copy of the bulletin sent to you weekly, email ✉ bulletin@parkstreet.org.]

If you have a personal prayer request that you would like printed for congregational prayer, please contact Pat Chen ☎ 617.523.3383 ext. 215 or ✉ pchen@parkstreet.org.
Send confidential prayer requests to ✉ wingsprayer@parkstreet.org.

BULLETIN REQUESTS can be made by noon on the Tuesday before publication. ☎ parkstreet.org/request.