

SERVICE *of* WORSHIP

Park Street Church | The Lord's Day, November 27, 2022

*The First Sunday of Advent*

***Welcome** to Park Street Church! We're glad you're worshiping with us today. If you're new, please take a look at the "NEW" section on the back cover for some ways to connect with our church.*

*This service booklet contains instructions (usually under the traditional symbol ☩, called a pilcrow) and explanations to aid the full participation of God's people in his worship. The People read **bold text** with a loud voice. Scripture lessons are from the English Standard Version.*

*Today begins the four-week season of **Advent**, a word derived from the Latin *Adventus*, which means "arrival" or "coming," and is considered the beginning of the Church year. During these four weeks, we highlight the fact that we are an expectant people awaiting the return of our King, Jesus, to his world and his people. We look back upon the first Advent, Christ's coming in humility, and we remember the anticipation and expectation of God's people awaiting the coming of the Messiah. The season is marked by hopeful waiting and renewed repentance.*

*Purple is the traditional color of preparation and penitence, and is used during Advent and Lent. Purple was historically the color of kings (the dye was extremely costly) so the color also emphasizes the royalty of Christ Jesus (cf. John 19).*

***Musical Note:** The Introits this Advent will be premieres, from a new collection by renowned composer Carol Barnett, sister of Park Street's own Elaine Phillips. The music ministry commissioned these works for the glory of God in honor of Michael Brescia's forty-five years of service to the choir.*

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## THE PRELUDE

¶ *Music is played upon the organ or by the musicians, preparing us in body and mind to enter into the Lord's worship.*

### INTROIT (II am)

*O Antiphons VI. O Rex Gentium (World Premiere – see p. 2)*

*O Rex Gentium:* O King of the nations, come.

O King of the nations, and their desire;

The Cornerstone, he who makest both one:†

Come, come and save mankind, whom thou didst fashion from clay.

† Christ is King both of Jew and Gentile.

Words: Traditional | Music: 2022, Carol Barnett (b. 1949)

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

¶ *After the candle is lit, the People stand.*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*from 1 Peter 1*

*Leader* Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

*People* According to his great mercy, he has given us new birth  
into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ  
from the dead!

*Leader* He has promised us an inheritance  
that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading,  
and we are being guarded by God's power for a salvation  
ready to be revealed in the last time.

*People* Though we have not seen him, we love him.  
Though we do not now see him, we believe in him.  
We are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy,  
for we are receiving the goal of our faith, the salvation of our souls.  
Let us worship the Lord of Hope!

# HYMN

## Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

PSALM 42



1. Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus  
 2. Yea, her sins our God will par - don, blot - ting out each  
 3. Hark! the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert  
 4. Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness,  
 dark mis-deed; all that well de - serv'd his an - ger  
 far and near, call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance,  
 plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn-ing 'neath their sor-rows' load; speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem  
 he will no more see nor heed. She has suf-fered man - y a day,  
 since the king-dom now is here. O that warn-ing cry o - bey!  
 as be - fits his ho - ly reign, for the glo - ry of the Lord



of the peace that waits for them; tell her that her  
 now her griefs have passed a - way, God will change her  
 Now pre - pare for God a way! Let the val - leys  
 now o'er earth is shed a - broad, and all flesh shall



sins I cov - er, and her war - fare now is o - ver.  
 pin-ing sad - ness in - to ev - er-spring-ing glad - ness.  
 rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him.  
 see the to - ken that his Word is nev - er bro - ken.

Words: Johann Olearius (1611-1684) trans. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)

Music: Psalm 42 | Genevan Psalter, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois

The Genevan Psalter was created to support worship as led by John Calvin: the 150 psalms were sung in unison, without accompaniment. Most well-known is the tune for psalm 100 (our Doxology tune). -NS

## INVOCATION, CONFESSION OF SIN, & THE LORD'S PRAYER

¶ *Led by the Elder*

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,  
for ever. Amen.

### THE PEACE

*Leader* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And with your spirit.

¶ *Greet one another in the peace of Christ. Following the Peace, the People sit.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & LIFE OF THE CHURCH

### ANTHEM (11 am)

#### The Prophecy of Zechariah

Now the time came, and Elizabeth bore a son,  
and he was named John.  
Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit,  
and spoke this prophecy:  
  
“And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,  
to give knowledge of salvation to his people,  
by the forgiveness of their sins.

By the tender mercy of our God,  
the dawn from on high will break upon us,  
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,  
to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

The child grew and became strong in spirit,  
and he was in the wilderness  
until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

Words: based on Luke 1 | Music: Kenneth Lowenberg (b. 1939)

### THE FIRST LESSON

*Leviticus 18:1-5, 18:24-19:2, 20:26*

*pew Bible p. 96*

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### HYMN

¶ *A Minister prays for the Children. The People stand; Children are dismissed to Children's Church during the hymn.*

Nº 567 Rise, My Soul, To Watch and Pray

STRAF MICH NICHT

¶ *The People sit.*

### THE SECOND LESSON

*Matthew 24:29-44*

*pew Bible p.830*

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### THE GLORIA PATRI

¶ *The People stand. (Hymn Nº 734)*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.

¶ *Following the prayer, the People sit.*

SERMON  
Be Ready, Be Holy

Mark Booker

HYMN

¶ *The People stand.*

N<sup>o</sup> 322 O Quickly Come, Dread Judge of All

MELITA

¶ *The People sit.*

THE PRAYERS

¶ *After all of the candidates have been baptized, the Minister leads the People in prayer, the People kneeling or sitting.*

OFFERTORY

¶ *The People sit. The offering plates are passed. Music is offered to the Lord.*

Recitative *from Messiah*

Thus saith the Lord, the Lord of hosts:

Yet once a little while and I will shake the heavens and the earth,  
the sea and the dry land. And I will shake all nations;  
and the desire of all nations shall come.

The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple,  
even the messenger of the Covenant, whom you delight in;  
behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts.

But who may abide the day of his coming, and who shall stand when he appeareth?  
For he is like a refiner's fire.

Words: Haggai 2:6–7; Malachi 3:1–2 | Music: G. F. Handel (1685–1759)

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

¶ *The People stand and sing as the offerings are brought forward by the ushers. A Minister then presents them to the Lord in prayer.*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## HYMN

Nº 198 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

## BENEDICTION

## THE POSTLUDE

¶ *The People sit or may leave quietly as a joyous work is played upon the organ. Please be respectful of those listening to the postlude in the sanctuary or via the livestream.*

Savior of the Nations, Come

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

*To mark the occasion of a new Church year and to call the world to “wake up” (see today’s New Testament reading), three bells are rung at the conclusion of the service.*

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## SERVICE LEADERS AND PARTICIPANTS

Mark Booker, *Senior Minister*

Nathan Skinner, *Director of Music*

ASSISTING MINISTER Damian Long, *Minister of Small Groups & Young Adults*

ELDERS 8:30 John R. Knight  
11:00 Lyford Beverage

LAY READERS 8:30 Eleanor Peltz  
11:00 Jill VanderWoude

ADVENT WREATH 8:30 The Douthit Family  
11:00 The White Family

MUSICIANS The Sanctuary Choir; Daniel Schmunk, *Director of Choral Music*  
Jonathan VanderWoude, *baritone*

*A complete staff directory can be found at [www.parkstreet.org/about-us/staff/](http://www.parkstreet.org/about-us/staff/)*

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## COLLECTIVE PRAYERS

*“Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!  
Give thanks to him; bless his name!  
For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever,  
and his faithfulness to all generations.”*

*Psalm 100:4–5*

### Let us pray for...

A spirit of thanksgiving to be over the people of God for the forgiveness of sins, the gift of the Spirit, and the promise of eternal life.

Peace and safety in Ukraine.

Comfort and care for those who have suffered from senseless acts of violence in our nation over the past few weeks, including Colorado Springs, the University of Idaho and the University of Virginia.

Our church to build growing relationships with Muslim Americans searching for spiritual truth.

Those isolated in nursing homes, that they would know God’s close love.

*Submit prayer requests to: [parkstreet.org/requestprayer](https://parkstreet.org/requestprayer) (or call 617-523-3383).*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sun, Dec 11 | 7:00 pm | A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

Mon, Dec 19 | 7:00 pm | Blue Christmas

Sat, Dec 24 | 3:00, 5:00 & 7:00 pm | Christmas Eve Services

Sun, Dec 25 | 11:00 am | Christmas Day Service

Sun, Jan 1 | 11:00 am | New Year's Day Service

### Advent Devotionals Available

Pick up your copy of Park Street Church's Advent Devotional in the sanctuary, or visit [parkstreet.org/advent](http://parkstreet.org/advent) to view daily entries.

### A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols | Sun, Dec 11 | 7:00 pm

A traditional service with music sung by the Sanctuary Choir and Congregation, and accompanied by the Park Street Orchestra. Seating limited to the sanctuary. Please register for childcare: [parkstreet.org/announcements](http://parkstreet.org/announcements).

### New Small Groups Open House | Sun, Dec 4 | after 11:00 am & 4:00 pm services

#### Downtown, Cambridge/Somerville and SW Boston/Brookline Regions

Join us for lunch (6th floor Conference Room), or for dinner (Common Room) if you are interested in joining or helping to form a new small group in one of these regions.

### Christian Formation Opportunities | [parkstreet.org/christian-formation](http://parkstreet.org/christian-formation)

*Continue to Cultivate the Soil of Your Heart* | Sun, Nov 27 (9:45 am & 5:30 pm)

What next steps will you take after our missions conference? Join an interactive, informal class to process, listen and consider ways you can serve locally and globally.

*JOY!! It's Not Just Meant for Christmas* | Sun, Dec 4, 11 & 18 | 9:45 am & 5:30 pm

How might your life be different if you knew your brain was fueled by joy? Learn how the ancient truths of Scripture are being acknowledged by modern science.

### Global Missions Conference 2022 Survey & Next Steps

Thank you for participating in the Global Missions Conference 2022: Seeds of the Kingdom. We hope you felt encouraged and informed about global missions. To give feedback and learn about next steps, visit [parkstreet.org/missions](http://parkstreet.org/missions).

### Park Street Church Library

Consider stopping by Park Street Church's library (right off the Welcome Center) to find great resources. The library is open most Sundays, 9:30 am–4:00 pm.

*For more details and announcements, or for registration links, please visit:*

[parkstreet.org/announcements](http://parkstreet.org/announcements)

*Sign up for regular updates at: [parkstreet.org/enews](http://parkstreet.org/enews)*

FINANCIAL UPDATE

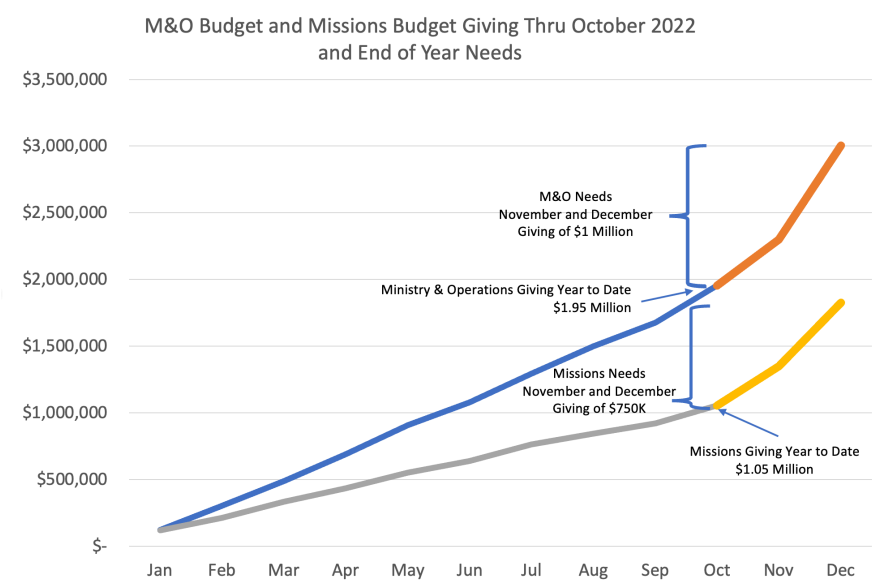
November Budget Update

The congregation approved solid budgets for both M&O and Missions last February. Through early November expenses are under control and giving to both M&O and Missions is pretty much equal to last year. We rejoice in that.

While the giving trend is positive, remember that giving tends to be seasonal, with a substantial increase in giving needed in the last two months of the year to finish the year in balance for each of our budgets.

Each year more than one-quarter of the annual budgets are funded by gifts given in the month of December alone. This means that giving in December is typically four times the amount in the average prior month of the year. The accompanying chart shows the needed giving as we approach the end of the year. The most important thing to remember is that God loves a cheerful giver. May each of us give as we are led.

Please also remember that gifts intended for Missions must be designated or identified as such—so when you give to Missions please make sure to note that in the memo line whether online or on the check.



## NEW ?

Welcome to Park Street Church! We're glad you are here, and we invite you to become a part of this community of Jesus' disciples. Our heart is to exalt Jesus above all in our community, in our city, and in the world, and our mission is to make disciples who become like Jesus together. We understand that we become like Jesus as we grow in the way of love: loving God, loving one another, loving our neighbors in Boston and beyond, and loving God's word. Wherever you're coming from and whatever questions you are asking, we welcome you to join us as we seek to become more like Jesus.

Here are some specific steps you can take to connect:

- Fill out a **Connect card** (in the pews or at [parkstreet.org](http://parkstreet.org)) and drop it in the offering plate or hand to an usher or minister. We'll be in touch.
- Meet an elder or minister at the **Info Desk** in the Welcome Center (one floor below the sanctuary).
- Pick up a **Welcome booklet** and an **Engage flyer** to take with you.
- RSVP to the invitation you receive for the **Newcomers' Lunch** on a third Sunday of the month. You can meet other newcomers and church leaders, hear about our community and ask questions.
- If you'd really like get to know us, consider joining a **New Members' Class** (taking the class does not mean you're required to become a member!), where you'll learn more about what we believe and how we live out the Christian life together. For more information, visit [parkstreet.org/newmembers](http://parkstreet.org/newmembers)



**PARK STREET CHURCH**  
*Evangelical. Congregational. International.*

