



Welcome to Park Street Church!

SERVICE *of* WORSHIP

Park Street Church

The Lord's Day, November 26, 2023

Sunday Next before 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 us.*

*This bulletin contains instructions (usually next to the pilcrow symbol ¶) and explanations meant to help us fully participate in our worship of God. The People read **bold text** with a loud voice. Scripture lessons are from the English Standard Version.*

Today is the last Sunday of the Church Year (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, etc.). On this Sunday, it is customary to emphasize the kingship of Christ and to close the service with a setting of the ancient hymn "Te Deum."

THE PRELUDE

¶ *Music is played by the musicians to prepare us in body and mind to enter the presence of God.*

INTROIT (II am)

God Be In My Head

God be in my head and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes and in my looking;
God be in my mouth and in my speaking;
God be in my heart and in my thinking;
God be at my end and at my departing.

Words: Sarum primer, 1514 | Music: John Rutter (b. 1945)

¶ *Immediately after the introit, the People stand.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 45

Leader My heart overflows with a noble song;
I will sing my words to the King;
my tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

People Your throne, O God, endures for ever;
the scepter of your kingdom is a righteous scepter.

Leader In your majesty be victorious; ride out for the sake of truth,
to bear witness to righteousness.

People I will make your Name to be remembered
from one generation to another;
therefore the peoples shall praise you, world without end.

HYMN

N^o 310 Rejoice, The Lord is King

DARWALL

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)

Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be;
help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee;
and, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal;
and, with actions bold and meek, for Christ, my Savior, speak.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be;
help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee;
and, with wisdom kind and clear, thy life in mine appear;
and, with actions brotherly, speak Christ's sincerity.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be;
show thy mercy tenderly, make me more like Thee;
separate from sin, I would and cherish all things good,
and whatever I can be, give him who gave me thee.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be;
help me now thy pow'r to see, I would be like thee;
'gainst all weapons hell can wield, be thou my strength and shield;
let thy word my weapon be, Lord, thine the victory.

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like Thee!

Words: sts. 1-3 Thomas T Lynch (1818-1871), alt. | st. 4 K.L.S.

Music: K. Lee Scott (b. 1950)

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 29:13-24

pew Bible p. 590

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.*

Praise to the Holiest In the Height

GERONTIUS

1. Praise to the Ho - liest in the height, and in the
 2. O lov - ing wis - dom of our God! When all was
 3. O wis - est love! that flesh and blood (which did in
 4. O gen-erous love! that he, who smote in man for
 5. and in the gar - den sec - ret - ly, and on the
 6. Praise to the Ho - liest in the height, and in the

depth be praise; in all his words most
 sin and shame, a sec - ond Ad - am
 Ad - am fail) should strive a - fresh a -
 man the foe, the dou - ble ag - o -
 cross on high, should teach his breth - ren,
 depth be praise; in all his words most

won - der - ful, most sure in all his ways!
 to the fight and to the res - cue came.
 gainst the foe, should strive and should pre - vail.
 ny in man for man should un - der - go;
 and in - spire to suf - fer and to die.
 won - der - ful, most sure in all his ways!

Double agony refers to Christ's agony of body and of soul; the latter is particularly connected with his time alone in the Garden of Gethsemane (cf. Matt. 26:38; Luke 22:44).

Words: John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

Music: *Gerontius* | John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

¶ *The People sit.*

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:17-25

per Bible p. 952

GLORIA PATRI

¶ *The People stand. (Hymn № 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

The Power and Wisdom of God

Mark Booker

¶ *The People stand.*

HYMN

Nº 44 How Great Thou Art

O STORE GUD

THE PRAYERS

¶ *The People kneel or sit. A Minister leads the People in prayer for the world, the church, the sick, and the suffering.*

OFFERTORY

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

The Call

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life;
Such a Way as gives us breath,
Such a Truth as ends all strife,
Such a Life as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength;
Such a Light as shows a Feast,
Such a Feast as mends in length,
Such a Strength as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart;
Such a Joy as none can move,
Such a Love as none can part,
Such a Heart as joys in love.

Words: George Herbert (1593–1633) | Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

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

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

GROSSER GOTT

1. Ho - ly God, we praise thy name; Lord of all, we bow be - fore thee!
2. Hark! the loud ce - les - tial hymn An - gel choirs a - bove are rais - ing,
3. Lo! the a - pos - tol - ic train join thy sac - red Name to hal - low;
4. Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it, Three we name thee;

All on earth thy scep - ter claim, all in heav'n a - bove a - dore thee;
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim, in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing;
proph - ets swell the glad re - frain, and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low;
while in es - sence on - ly One, un - di - vid - ed God we claim thee;

in - fi - nite thy vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is thy reign.
fill the heav'ns with sweet ac - cord: ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord.
and from morn to set of sun, through the Church the song goes on.
and a - dor - ing bend the knee, while we sing this mys - ter - y.

Words: based on Te Deum, 4th century, attr. St. Ambrose; attr. Ignace Franz (1719-1790)
Music: Grosser Gott, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, ca. 1774

BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

☪ *The People may sit or leave quietly. Please be respectful of those listening to the music.*

SERVICE LEADERS AND PARTICIPANTS

Mark Booker, *Senior Minister*

Nathan Skinner, *Director of Music*

ASSISTING MINISTERS Damian Long, *Minister to Small Groups & Young Adults*

ELDER David Murgatroyd

LAY READERS 8:30 Randall Wetzig

11:00 Christine Vasko

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

Jonathan VanderWoude, *baritone*

A complete staff directory can be found at parkstreet.org/about-us/staff

COLLECTIVE PRAYERS

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Let us pray together...

- That those without family during the holidays would know the presence of God, and that Park Street would be a true family to all members.
- For Park Street’s homeless neighbors as winter approaches, that the Lord would continue caring for them through the ministries of the church, and that he would provide stable housing for them.
- That Jesus, our great shepherd, would lead us in all life circumstances to become more like him.

Send your prayer requests to pastoralcare@parkstreet.org or call 617-523-3383

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent Around the World | Sun, Dec 3, 10 & 17 | 9:45 am & 5:30 pm

In this Christian Formation series, learn how Christians live out their faith and engage with Advent in very different situations through Scripture reading, guest speakers, and interaction. Registration optional: parkstreet.org/announcements.

Ongoing Pastoral Care

The ministers of the church have prayed over all the prayers submitted at our last night of prayer. Thank you for sharing what is on your hearts. We are available for individual appointments for prayer, to listen, and to answer questions you may have. Please email info@parkstreet.org, or a minister directly, if you would like to schedule a time with one of our pastors. We would also like to invite you one of the following gatherings:

Fri, Dec 1 – All-Church Prayer (with dedicated prayer for the church)

Mon, Dec 4 – Blue Christmas

Fri, Dec 15 – A seminar walking through trial and grief with guest lecturer Dr. Karen Mason from Gordon-Conwell Seminary (more info soon).

Blue Christmas | Mon, Dec 4 | 7:00–8:00 pm | Sanctuary

A service that acknowledges suffering and offers hope, with music and the reading of a parable. Seekers welcome. Contact: cmay@parkstreet.org.

A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols | Sun, Dec 10 | 7:00 pm

Music by choir and congregation, accompanied by orchestra. Register for child-care: parkstreet.org/announcements.

Morning Worship | Sun, Dec 24 | 11:00 am only

Join us for our fourth Sunday of Advent service on Dec. 24 at 11:00 am. (No 8:30 am service.) Nursery and children's church will be available.

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

Candlelight services: 3:00 pm (a simple service with hymns and organ), 5:00 & 7:00 pm (music led by choir, brass and organ, also livestreamed: parkstreet.org/live). Please note: no nursery or children's church.

All-Church Prayer Schedule: December

Fri, Dec 1 | 7:00 pm | All-Church Prayer | *PSC*

Sat, Dec 9 | 8:30–9:30 am | All-Church Prayer | *Virtual Only (Via Zoom)* - Missions Prayer

4 PM Service Audio/Video Volunteers Needed

We are in need of volunteers to help run audio, slides, and the livestream for the 4 pm service, including this coming Sunday. If you're interested, please email: info@parkstreet.org.

Short-Term Mission Info Session | Tue, Dec 12 | 7:00 pm | *Zoom*

Attend our Short-Term Mission (STM) info session to learn about our 2024 STMs. Consider serving alongside our missionaries and partners locally or globally to support their long-term work. All are welcome; no commitment required. Contact missions@parkstreet.org for Zoom registration link.

Mission Conference 2023 Survey & Next Steps

Thank you for participating in the Mission Conference. We hope you felt encouraged! Give feedback and learn about next steps at: parkstreet.org/missions.

Wondering where your gifts to missions go?

When you give to Park Street Missions, you are touching lives here in Boston and around the globe. Visit parkstreet.org/give-to-missions to learn more.

Family Ministry Programs | Today

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, there will be no Sunday school or choir. Children's church and nursery will still be available.

NEW?

Welcome to Park Street Church! We're glad you're here, and we invite you to become a part of this community of Jesus' disciples. 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 and hand it to an usher or drop it in the offering plate. You can also visit parkstreet.org or scan the **QR** code to the right. We'll be in touch.
- Meet an elder or minister at the **Info Desk** in the Welcome Center (one floor below the sanctuary) and pick up a **Welcome booklet**.
- RSVP to the invitation you receive for the **Newcomers' Lunch** on a third Sunday of the month, where you can meet other newcomers and church leaders, hear about our community and ask questions. We look forward to knowing you better.

