

SERVICE *of* WORSHIP  
Park Street Church  
The Lord's Day, February 18, 2024  
*The First Sunday in Lent*

***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.*

*Lent is the period of forty days (Sundays are excluded) leading up to Easter. Historically, this was a period of preparation for those planning to be baptized at Easter. It later became a time of penitence and self-examination for all Christians. The word Lent means "springtime" and much like the new life that comes after a cold winter, Lent is rooted in repentance and conversion, putting off the old self and putting on the new. This is not simply a one-time event or something exclusive to the Lenten season (though it is highlighted in Lent). Rather, it is a continuous action as the Christian way of discipleship entails a constant turning away from sin and a reorientation to God. All of this is aimed at the renewal of our life in Christ.*

*The forty days of Lent symbolize the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness being tempted by Satan. By observing Lent, we follow Jesus into the wilderness, resist temptation, pray, and proceed "on the way" to Jerusalem and to the cross of Good Friday. Throughout the history of the church, many Christians have used the forty days of Lent to restore vibrancy, life, passion, and vision in their walks with God, primarily through a renewed focus on various spiritual disciplines, including prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.*

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## THE PRELUDE

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

### INTROIT

(II am)

*Chorale, from St. Matthew's Passion*

Once I loved from thee to wander, now I seek thy face again.  
All the more, whenever I ponder on my dying savior's pain.  
Lo, my guilt do I confess; yet thy grace and righteousness,  
Blessed truth, are far excelling all the sin within me dwelling.

Words: Johann Rist (1607–1667) | Music: J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

¶ *Immediately at the conclusion of the Introit, the People stand.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*from Psalm 119*

*Leader* I will praise you, LORD, with an upright heart  
as I learn your righteous laws.

*People* May my lips overflow with praise,  
for you teach me your decrees.

*Leader* Many are the foes who persecute me,  
but I have not turned from your statutes.

*People* I wait for your salvation, LORD,  
and I follow your commands.

## HYMN

Nº 508 Jesus Lover Of My Soul

ABERYSTWYTH

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)

### O Love The Will Not Let Me Go

O love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee.

I give thee back the life I owe,  
that in thine ocean depths its flow  
may richer, fuller be.

O joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee.

I trace the rainbow through the rain  
and feel the promise is not vain  
that morn shall tearless be.

Words: George Matheson (1842–1906) | Music: arranged by John Ness Beck (1930–1987)

## THE LESSON

*John 15:1–11*

*pew Bible p. 901*

*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 646 Jesus Thou Joy Of Loving Hearts

QUEBEC

¶ *The People sit.*

## THE PSALM

80: 7–14a

*pew Bible p. 491*

## 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

Lenten Joy?

Scott Arbeiter

## HYMN

¶ *The People stand.*

In Christ Alone



- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 In Christ alone my hope is found;<br>he is my light, my strength, my song;<br>this cornerstone, this solid ground,<br>firm through the fiercest drought and storm.<br>What heights of love, what depths of peace,<br>when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!<br>My comforter, my all in all—<br>here in the love of Christ I stand. | 3 There in the ground his body lay,<br>light of the world by darkness slain;<br>then bursting forth in glorious day,<br>up from the grave he rose again!<br>And as he stands in victory,<br>sin's curse has lost its grip on me;<br>for I am his and he is mine—<br>bought with the precious blood of Christ.  |
| 2 In Christ alone, who took on flesh,<br>fullness of God in helpless babe!<br>This gift of love and righteousness,<br>scorned by the ones he came to save.<br>Till on that cross as Jesus died,<br>the wrath of God was satisfied;<br>for every sin on him was laid—<br>here in the death of Christ I live.                                 | 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death—<br>this is the pow'r of Christ in me;<br>from life's first cry to final breath,<br>Jesus commands my destiny.<br>No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,<br>can ever pluck me from his hand;<br>till he returns or calls me home—<br>here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand. |

Words: 2001, Stuart Townend (b. 1963) alt. Stuart Townend and Keith Getty

Music: *In Christ Alone*, 2000 | Keith Getty (b. 1974) LMD

Words and music © 2001 Kingsway Thankyou Music. CCLI no. 402487

## 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.*

Largo, from *Sonata in C major*

J.S. Bach (1685–1750)

## 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

Lord Who Throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN

1. Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us didst fast and pray,  
2. As thou with Sa - tan didst con-tend, and didst the vic - tory win,  
3. As thou didst hun - ger bear, and thirst, so teach us, gra-cious Lord,  
4. And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through thy Pas-sion - tide,  
5. A - bide with us, that so, this life of suf-fering o - ver - past,

1. teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.  
2. O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to con-quer sin.  
3. to die to self, and chief - ly live by thy most ho - ly word.  
4. yea, ev - er - more in life and death, Je - sus! with us a - bide.  
5. an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last.

Words: Claudia Frances Hernaman (1838-1898)

Music: St. Flavian, melody 1562; arr. Richard Redhead (1820-1901)

## BENEDICTION

## THE POSTLUDE

Allegro moderato e serio

F. Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

*from Sonata in F minor; with the choral "What My God Wills Is Always Done"*

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

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## SERVICE LEADERS AND PARTICIPANTS

Mark Booker, *Senior Minister*  
Nathan Skinner, *Director of Music*

GUEST PREACHER Scott Arbeiter, *Former President of World Relief*

ELDERS/CANDIDATES 8:30 Richard Ibekwe, *Elder-candidate*  
11:00 Daniel Vogelzang, *Elder-candidate*

LAY READERS 8:30 Alex Ichimura  
11:00 Josephine Ziegler

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

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

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## COLLECTIVE PRAYERS

*“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.” John 17:20-21*

Let us pray together for our upcoming Annual Meeting, that God, our good shepherd, would protect and correct us. That he would guide us. That he would help us to approach each other with an open spirit, willing to genuinely listen to each other. That we would be able to discern what is true and right. That we would see first the log in our own eye before we point out the speck in the eye of others. That we would be united in our love for God and love for each other. That this church would be on the forefront of God’s work to renew the world and reconcile all things. That the light of God’s goodness would shine through Park Street Church to Boston and the world. And let us pray together that above all, Jesus would be glorified in our words and actions, both individually and as a body. Send your prayer requests to [pastoralcare@parkstreet.org](mailto:pastoralcare@parkstreet.org) or call 617-523-338

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **2024 Annual Meeting Time and Modified Sunday Service Schedule | Sun, Feb 25**

Due to the Annual Meeting, there will be a single worship service at 10:30 am on Sun, Feb 25, followed by a light lunch and fellowship from 11:45 am to 12:30 pm. The Annual Meeting will begin at 12:45 pm in the Sanctuary.

See [parkstreet.org/annualmeeting](https://parkstreet.org/annualmeeting) for more info, childcare registration, and materials to review before the meeting.

### **Lenten Discipleship Initiative/World Relief 80th Anniversary**

LDI begins today! For this year's Lenten Discipleship Initiative (Sun, Feb 18 - Sun, Mar 24), we are using a devotional prepared by World Relief entitled "He Was There," which considers how believers can walk in the footsteps of Jesus. It's not too late to join a group. See [parkstreet.org/ldi](https://parkstreet.org/ldi) to register or simply join your regional fellowship on a Sunday (see map on page 10 of this bulletin). Note there is now a virtual option available over Zoom. There is also a table in the Welcome Center with information and hard copies of the devotional booklet.

### **Give Your Lunch Money to World Relief with Fasting Envelopes | Feb 11 - Mar 30**

Back when World Relief was still forming, Park Street Church contributed by encouraging congregants to fast one meal a week during Lent and to donate the money they would have used for that food using a "fasting envelope." Throughout this coming Lent, we will once again be encouraging everyone to consider fasting and donating. Fasting envelopes are available in the Welcome Center and donations can also be made online or in the Church Center App.

See [parkstreet.org/ldi](https://parkstreet.org/ldi) for links to give online.

### **Midday Lenten Services | Wednesdays, beginning Feb 21 | 12:15 pm | Sanctuary**

This Lent, consider spending your lunch break with us. We will gather for a 30-minute service of prayer, reflection on scripture, and hymns. The services will also be streamed at [parkstreet.org/live](https://parkstreet.org/live).

### **Wilson House Room Openings**

Park Street's residential college ministry house has an opening for a male resident starting April 4 and openings for both men and women starting June 1. Twenty-somethings with a heart for undergraduate ministry are encouraged to apply! Six volunteer hours per week are required. Email [catrice.conover@cru.org](mailto:catrice.conover@cru.org) for an application.

### **Suffering Well Amid Ambiguous Loss | Wed, Mar 6 | 10:00 - 11:30 am**

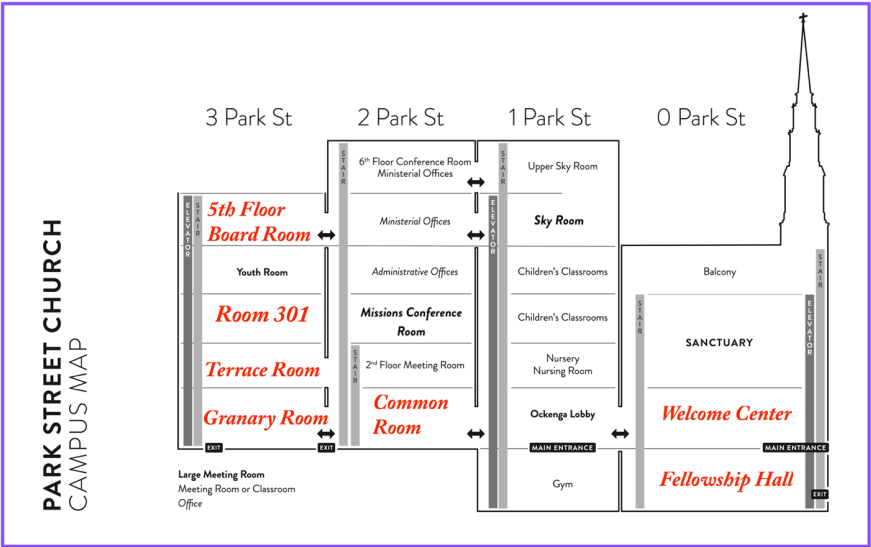
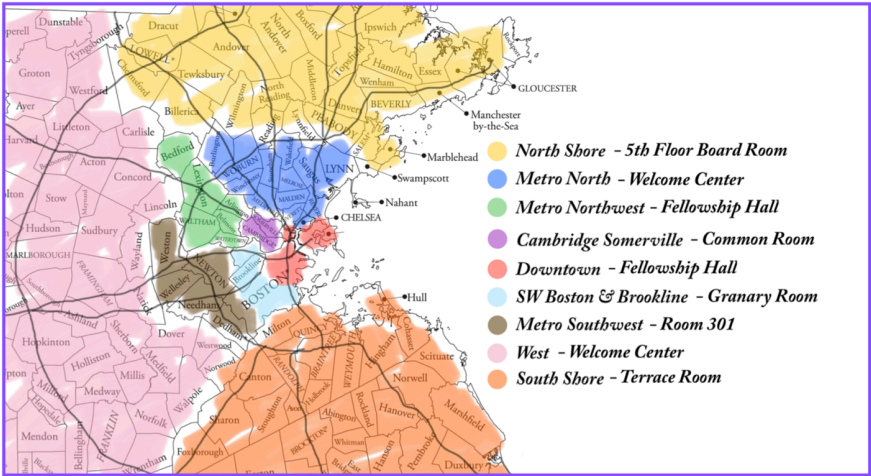
Join the Life Together Women's Bible Study as they hear from guest speaker Tammy McLeod. Childcare will be available. Register for childcare by emailing [LifeTogetherBiblestudy@parkstreet.org](mailto:LifeTogetherBiblestudy@parkstreet.org).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

# LDI 2024: World Relief

## Meeting Locations

- 1. Find your Regional Fellowship on the map of MA
- 2. Find your meeting location on the church map



WORLD RELIEF:  
LOOKING BACK & LOOKING FORWARD

From the bulletin, February 16, 1941

**Horrible Appalling Human Need!** The world is in dire straits. Calls are coming from country after country to America for food. Your pastor is a member of the National Committee on Food for the Five Small Democracies. They must be fed. The following message was cabled Mr. Hoover from seventeen prominent Norwegians, including the President of the Norwegian Red Cross, "We fervently appeal to all friends of Norway to come to our help. Speedy action is necessary if serious and lasting harm to the health of the present generation is to be avoided." Belgium's plight has already reached an acute stage. Let us pray that public opinion will speed the working of the Hoover Plan (Mr. Hoover will speak over WEEI Sunday evening, February 16, at 10:30 P. M.)

Meanwhile the Congregational Denomination is asking contributions for assistance to war victims in England, France, Greece, China and for homeless refugees. All is handled through reputable organizations. We must do something large. Your pastor recommends the following to you: Fast for at least one main meal a week between now and Maunday Thursday. Save this money in an envelope. We have taken a collection on Maunday Thursday before. This year while celebrating

**As you fast during Lent, please consider this prayer request from World Relief:**

Pray for World Relief Ukraine as they invest heavily into partnerships with local churches build out their capacity as a provider of mental health and psychosocial support resources.

According to the World Health Organization, a staggering 22% of individuals who have endured the harrowing effects of war or conflict within the past decade may grapple with mental health challenges such as post-traumatic stress disorder or anxiety. Applying this data to the Ukrainian context, approximately 10 million people in Ukraine may be in need of vital mental health support.

## 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](http://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.



PARK STREET CHURCH