

Service of Worship
Park Street Church
The Lord's Day, February 25, 2024
The Second 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.

THE PRELUDE

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

INTROIT

Lighten Our Darkness

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this life; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Words: Gelasian Sacramentary (8th century) | Music: 2007, Alexander L'Estrange (b. 1974)

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

Leader O praise the LORD with me; and let us magnify his Name together.

People O taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.

Leader Great are the troubles of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

People The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

HYMN

Nº 30 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

St. Anne

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.

 \P Greet one another in the peace of Christ. Following the Peace, the People sit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & LIFE OF THE CHURCH

ANTHEM

Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul

Dear refuge of my weary soul, on thee, when sorrows rise; On thee, when waves of trouble roll, my fainting hope relies.

To thee I tell each rising grief, for thou alone canst heal;

Thy Word can bring a sweet relief, for every pain I feel.

But oh! When gloomy doubts prevail, I fear to call thee mine; The springs of comfort seem to fail, and all my hopes decline Yet gracious God, where shall I flee? Thou art my only trust, And still my soul would cleave to thee though prostrate in the dust.

Hast thou not bid me seek thy face, and shall I seek in vain? And can the ear of sovereign grace be deaf when I complain? No still the ear of sovereign grace attends the mourner's prayer; O may I ever find access to breathe my sorrows there.

While hope revives, though pressed with fears, and I can say, my God, Beneath thy feet I spread my cares, and pour my woes abroad. Thy mercy seat is open still, here let my soul retreat, With humble hope attend thy will, and wait beneath thy feet.

Words: Anne Steele (1717-1778)

Music: Timothy A. Mills (b.1990), former member, Sanctuary Choir

THE FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 29:16-20

pew Bible p. 171

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.

Christ Is Mine For Evermore

Mine are days that God has numbered;
I was made to walk with him,
Yet I look for worldly treasure
and forsake the King of kings;
But mine is hope in my Redeemer:
though I fall, his love is sure,
For Christ has paid for every failing.
I am his for evermore.

Mine are tears in times of sorrow—darkness not yet understood.

Through the valley I must travel where I see no earthly good,

But mine is peace that flows from heaven and the strength in times of need.

I know my pain will not be wasted:

Christ completes his work in me.

Mine are days here as a stranger, pilgrim on a narrow way.

One with Christ, I will encounter harm and hatred for his name,

But mine is armor for this battle strong enough to last the war,

And he has said he will deliver safely to the golden shore.

And mine are keys to Zion city, where beside the King I walk, For there my heart has found its treasure:

Christ is mine for evermore.

Come rejoice now, O my soul, for his love is my reward. Fear is gone and hope is sure: Christ is mine for evermore. (repeat)

And mine are keys to Zion city, where beside the King I walk, For there my heart has found its treasure: Christ is mine for evermore.

Words & Music: Jonny Robinson and Rich Thompson Lyrics reprinted under CCLI no. 402487

¶ The People sit.

THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 12:12-17

pew Bible p. 1009

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE 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

Let No One Miss the Grace of God

Mark Booker

HYMN

¶ The People stand, sitting after the hymn.

Nº 535 O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

EBENEZER

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE CONGREGATION

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 SONG

 \P The People stand and sing. The offering plates are passed while music is offered to the Lord.

I Will Follow

When the sea is calm and all is right, When I feel your favor flood my life: Even in the good, I'll follow you.

(sung twice)

When the boat is tossed upon the waves, When I wonder if you'll keep me safe: Even in the storms, I'll follow you.

Chorus:

I believe everything that you say you are;
I believe that I have seen your unchanging heart.
In the good things, and in the hardest part,
I believe — and I will follow you.
I believe — and I will follow you.

When I see the wicked prospering When I feel I have no voice to sing Even in the want, I'll follow you.

Chorus

When I find myself so far from home, And you lead me somewhere

I don't want to go:

Even in my death, I'll follow you.

When I come to end this race I've run, And I receive the prize

that Christ has won,

I will be with you in Paradise.

Chorus

Music: Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, & Reuben Morgan | Words: Ruth 1:16; Job 11:7-12; Ps 61:2, 108:4 Lyrics reprinted under CCLI no. 402487

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

¶ The People 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.

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

REPTON



5 Breathe through the heats of our desire Thy coolness and Thy balm; Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm.

Words: 1872, John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892) Music: *Repton*, 1888 | C. H. H. Parry (1848-1918)

BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

 \P 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

Assistant Minister Adam Herndon, Minister to Families

Elder Jason Abraham, Moderator

Lay Reader Mike Ahearn

Musicians The Sanctuary Choir; Daniel Schmunk, Director of Choral Music

Emily Mitchell & Jason Peter, voice/guitar

Leonard Mosiah, percussion

Samuel Bigus, bass

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

NEW MEMBERS

Each of these candidates has been elected to membership at a meeting of the Membership Committee, and is today presented to the Congregation in accordance with our Bylaws.

Kaleb Abraham María José Guerrero Gabriel E. Avilés-Rivera Mark Halvorson Sama'ila Ayuba Alex Ip Miguel Barbosa Jennifer Joyce Derek Bediakoh **Emily Lim** Douglass Allen Bryant Mia Laki Luo Xiaowei Cai Jeanette Marasi Chun Wang Ivan Chan Joshua Morla Catherine Choi Chris Nichols Chih-Chi (Jimmy) Chu Ellen K. Nichols Sarah Kimberly Fox Sammi Sung Raluca Ioana Gligor Kai Wang Cosette Yungton John A. Goempel

COLLECTIVE PRAYERS

"Give attention to the sound of my cry, my King and my God, for to you do I pray."

Psalm 5:2

Let us pray together...

- For the world, that God's goodness would be seen and recognized in his creation.
- For the Church, that the Holy Spirit would build us up together in faith.
- For Park Street Church, that we would see the course laid out for us, and walk in it alongside Jesus.
- For the new members who have joined us, that they would experience the love of God though this community.
- For the sick and the suffering, that God would bring healing in body and soul.

Send your prayer requests to pastoralcare@parkstreet.org or call 617-523-338

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2024 Annual Meeting | Today | 12:45 pm

After service, there will be a light lunch downstairs from 11:45 am - 12:30 pm. The Annual Meeting will begin promptly at 12:45 pm in the Sanctuary.

See parkstreet.org/annualmeeting to view the meeting's materials.

Lenten Discipleship Initiative/World Relief 80th Anniversary

LDI will resume its regular meeting times and locations on Mar 3. 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. Visit parkstreet.org/ldi for more information and to see where your regional fellowship meets each Sunday.

Midday Lenten Services | Wednesdays until Mar 27 | 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Give 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 are 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 for links to give online.

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 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.

Couples Retreat Registration is Open | May 17-19 | Boothbay Harbor, Maine This year, we will gather at Linekin Bay Resort for a weekend celebrating marriage! The weekend will provide time alone and with other couples, building one another up, learning from one another, and enriching everyone's marriages. Cost is \$450 per couple (\$225/person). Childcare will be provided for ages 0-4 at an additional fee per child. Scholarships are available. Find the link to register at parkstreet.org/events. Registration closes Apr 21. Questions? Email Adam at aherndon@parkstreet.org.

WORLD RELIEF: LOOKING BACK & LOOKING FORWARD

The following announcement appeared in the bulletin on January 8, 1942.

The Self Denial Campaign began in the fall and continued through Maundy Thursday. \$12 then is equivalent to \$260 today. As this shows, relief efforts were global in scope.

The Self-Denial Campaign gains momentum from week to week. Many have already signed up for this helpful spiritual discipline. Let your objective be to save enough to support a Chinese orphan for a year, namely twelve dollars.

As you fast during Lent, please consider this week's prayer request from World Relief:

Pray for World Relief Cambodia as they expand into Mondulkiri, working alongside Khmer churches to engage and serve one of the most unreached people groups in the world. Only 0.4% of Khmer individuals identify as Christian.

Despite a rapidly growing economy, economic inequality continues to grow, increasing food insecurity, especially in rural areas. Inadequate access to food and a lack of diverse nutritional sources have resulted in stunted growth for a third of Cambodian children under five. With many parents being forced to migrate from rural to urban areas in search of economic opportunities, many children also experience extended periods of time without the care of their parents. As a result, child protection, family strengthening and economic empowerment are keys focuses for the Cambodia team.

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.