



SERVICE *of* HOLY COMMUNION

Park Street Church | The Lord's Day, January 5, 2025

The Second Sunday of Christmastide

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 pincrow 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*

White and gold are the colors of the twelve-day season of Christmastide, during which the Church observes an extended celebration of Christ's Incarnation.

THE PRELUDE

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

INTROIT

(II AM)

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

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 flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter when half-spent was the night.

Words: German Traditional, Isaiah 11:1 | Music: Cologne Gesangbuch

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 97

Leader A light has sprung up for the righteous,
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

People Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy Name.

Leader Alleluia! Unto us a child is born.

People O come, let us adore him. Alleluia!

HYMN

Nº 218 Angels, From the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

INVOCATION & 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

ANTHEM

(II AM)

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Swift are winging angels singing, tiding bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil 'till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.

Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you.

Words & Music: Traditional Polish Carol, arr. Howard Helvey (b. 1968)

THE FIRST LESSON

Matthew 2:13-23

pew Bible p. 808

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 213 What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

¶ *The People sit.*

THE SECOND LESSON

Luke 8:40-56

pew Bible p. 866

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

Anything Can Happen On The Way

Chris May

HYMN

¶ *The People stand. Children return during the hymn.*

Nº 676 Day By Day, and With Each Passing Moment

BLOTT EN DAG

APOSTLES' CREED

¶ *Standing, the People say together*

I believe in God the Father, Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

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

CONFESSION OF SIN

from Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words
and blameless in your judgment.
Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.
Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,
and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.
Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.

OFFERTORY

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

What Child Is This

arr. D. Faris (b. 1992)

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.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

¶ *All baptized believers, along with their baptized children, are invited to partake of the Sacrament by proceeding up to the front (as directed by the ushers) to receive the elements, which should be consumed immediately. Gluten-free wafers are available.*

During the distribution of the elements, the People sing the following hymns:

N^o 230 Thou Who Wast Rich

QUELLE EST CETTER ODEUR AGREABLE

N^o 229 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

¶ *After Communion, the People stand.*

HYMN

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen[†] (*the refrain follows each stanza*)

1 God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay.
For Jesus Christ our Savior
Was born on Christmas Day;
To save us all from Satan's power,
When we were gone astray.

*O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy*

2 From God our heavenly Father,
A blessed angel came.
And unto certain shepherds,
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name.

3 "Fear not," then said the angel,
"Let nothing you affright,
This day is born a Savior,
Of virtue, power, and might;
To free all those who trust in him
from Satan's power and might."

4 The shepherds at those tidings,
Rejoicéd much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding,
In tempest, storm, and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway,
The Son of God to find:

5 Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood,
Each other now embrace
This holy tide of Christmas,
all others doth deface.[†]

[†]*God rest you merry* was a contemporary phrase of blessing, appearing in Shakespeare's "As You Like It" and elsewhere.

deface: *outshine* (archaic)

Words & Music: traditional English carol

BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

¶ *The People may sit or leave quietly during the postlude. Please be respectful of those listening to the music in the sanctuary or via the live stream.*

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

SERVICE LEADERS & PARTICIPANTS

Mark Booker, *Senior Minister*

Nathan Skinner, *Director of Music*

PREACHER Chris May, *Minister to Women*

ASSISTING MINISTER Dan Verrengia, *Interim Assistant Minister*

ELDERS 8:30 David Murgatroyd

11:00 Jason Abraham, *Moderator*

LAY READERS 8:30 Eleanor Peltz

11:00 Jill VanderWoude

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

Daniel Farris, *violin*

Staff directory: parkstreet.org/about-us/staff

COLLECTIVE PRAYERS

“But Jesus on hearing this answered him, ‘Do not fear; only believe, and she will be well.’”

Luke 8,50

Let us pray together...

- For our church, that God would increase our faith as we look to the new year, so that we can be healed and can follow where he leads us.
- For our neighbors, that they would see the goodness of God in us as we learn to be like Jesus.
- For our nation and our world, that the Prince of Peace would bring peace as only he can.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Family Ministry Programs Schedule

Today | No Sunday School or Youth.

Nursery & Children's Church are available.

Fri, Jan 10 | 7 – 9 pm | Friday Family Night

Reception for Chris May

Today | after the 11 am service | *Welcome Center*

Our Minister to Women, Chris May, is retiring. Come celebrate her ministry among us.

Missionary Receptions for Greg and Amy

Jan 12 | after all services | *Terrace Room*

Join us in sending off PSC missionaries Greg and Amy, as they are preparing to return to their ministry in the Middle East and North Africa soon.

New Members Class

Jan 12, 19, & 26 | 12:30 – 4 pm

Interested in learning more about the church? Join us three Sundays for lunch and an exploration of the community life, theological convictions, and unique priorities of Park Street Church. Register at parkstreet.org/newmembers by Tue, Jan 7. Space is limited.

DivorceCare

Winter session meets weekly from January 16 to April 10. Registration required; for Zoom link email divorcecare@parkstreet.org.

Candidate Slate for 2025 Annual Meeting

Church Clerk Debbie Gallagher sent an email on Dec. 19 publishing the slate of candidates who have been nominated to be officers, elders, and members of the Nominating Committee. We encourage you to review the slate before the Annual Meeting (Sun, Feb 23); the slate can be accessed at parkstreet.org/candidates. Paper copies are at the back of the sanctuary.

More information: parkstreet.org/announcements

Jesus Above All

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** at 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**, where you can meet other newcomers and church leaders, hear about our community and ask questions. We look forward to knowing you better!

