



SERVICE *of* WORSHIP

Park Street Church | The Lord's Day, March 9, 2025

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 picrow 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 to prepare us in body and mind to enter the presence of God.*

INTROIT

(II AM)

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.*

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

ANTHEM

(II AM)

None Other Lamb

None other Lamb, none other Name,
None other hope in heaven or earth or sea;
None other hiding place from guilt and shame,
None beside thee!
My faith burns low, my hope burns low;
Only my heart's desire cries out in me
By the deep thunder of its want and woe,
Cries out to thee.

Lord, thou art life: though I be dead,
Love's fire thou art however cold I be;
Nor heaven have I, nor place to lay my head,
Nor home but thee.

Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894) | Music: Bob Burroughs (1929-2019)

THE FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 10:12-22

pew Bible p. 155

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 644 May the Mind of Christ My Savior

ST. LEONARDS

¶ *The People sit.*

THE SECOND LESSON

Revelation 2:1-7

pew Bible p. 1028

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

Recovering Love

Mark Booker

HYMN

 *The People stand.*

Christian Hearts in Love United

ABBOT'S LEIGH



1. Christ - ian hearts in love u - nit - ed: rest - ing in God's
 2. Come, then, come, O flock of Je - sus, cov - e - nant with
 3. Grant, Lord, that with thy dir - ec - tion, "Love each oth - er,"
 4. O that such may be our un - ion, as thine with the



ho - ly will. Let his love, in us ig - nit-ed, more and
 him a - new; un - to him who con - quered for us, pledge we
 we com - ply, aim - ing with un - feigned af - fec - tion thy love
 Fa - ther is, and not one of our com - mun - ion e'er for -



more our spir - its fill. Mem - bers— on our head de - pend - ing,
 love and ser - vice true; and should our love's u - nion ho - ly
 to ex - em - pli - fy; let our mu - tual love be glow - ing,
 sake the path of bliss; may our lives shine forth in brightness,



Lights— re - flect - ing him, our sun, Breth - ren— his com -
 firm - ly linked no more re - main, wait ye at his
 thus will all men plain - ly see, that we, as on
 with thy light through love made known. Thus the world will



mands at - tend - ing, we in him, our Lord, are one.
 foot - stool low - ly, till he draw it close a - gain.
 one stem grow - ing, liv - ing branch - es are in thee.
 bear us wit - ness: we be - long to thee a - lone!

Words: 1723 | Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf (1700-1760)

trans. 1789 | Frederick W. Foster (1760-1835), *alt.*

Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, 1941 | Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991) 87. 87. D

Music © 1942. Renewed 1970, Hope Publishing Company. Reprinted under Onelicense.net no. A-721487

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.*

Choral Dorian

J. Alain (1911-1940)

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 - bid with us, that so, this life of suf - fer - ing 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 - bid.
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

¶ *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 livestream.*

Allegro moderato e serio

F. Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

from Sonata in F minor; with the chorale “What My God Wills Is Always Done”

SERVICE LEADERS & PARTICIPANTS

Mark Booker, *Senior Minister*

Nathan Skinner, *Director of Music*

ASSISTING MINISTER Adam Herndon *Minister of Discipleship*

ELDERS 8:30 Mary Harvey

11:00 Kirstin Peltz

LAY READERS 8:30 Margaret Diffenderfer

11:00 Mike Ahearn

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

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

COLLECTIVE PRAYERS

“But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.” 2 Corinthians 4:7

Let us pray together...

- That God would draw us, as a community, to repentance and renewal as we begin the season of Lent together.
- That we would remember our first love: the living God who has expressed his love for us in his son Jesus.
- For our sister churches here in Boston, that they would be strengthened in their commitment to and proclamation of the gospel in our city, and that God would give us wisdom for how to be good partners with them.
- For our missionary care teams, that they would have wisdom and energy in serving our missionaries.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

More details at parkstreet.org/everything

* Indicates childcare available. Preregistration may be required.

Today

Sunday Worship* | 8:30 am, 11 am, & 4 pm | *Sanctuary*
Lenten Discipleship Initiative* | 9:45 am | *Fellowship Hall*
Children's Choir, Sunday School, and Youth | 9:45 am | *Various Rooms*
College Students Lunch | 12:30 pm | *Common Room*
Park Street International Fellowship | 12:30 pm | *Fellowship Hall*

This Week

Morning Prayer | Weekday mornings, 8:30 am | *parkstreet.org/morningprayer*
Café Young Adults | Tue & Wed, 7 pm | *Welcome Center*
The Men's Bible Study | Wed, 7:30 am | *Common Room*
Woman's Benevolent Society | Wed, 10 am | *Granary Room*
Life Together Women's Bible Study* | Wed, 10 am | *Terrace Room*
Midweek Lenten Service | Wed, 12:15 pm | *Sanctuary or online at parkstreet.org/live*
Home Ministry Outreach Meals | Thu, 5:45 pm & Sat, 8:30 am | *Fellowship Hall*
Friendship Bible Study | Thu, 7 pm | *Sky Room*
Friday Night Youth Group | Fri, 7 pm | *Youth Room*

General

Report on the Annual Meeting

We thank God for an encouraging Annual Meeting and for his faithfulness to his church. See parkstreet.org/everything for the report.

Lenten Discipleship Initiative | Sun, Mar 9–Apr 13, 9:45 am | *Fellowship Hall*
Hold Fast: Christ's Exhortations to the Church. Register today at parkstreet.org/ldi.

Midweek Lenten Services | Wed, Mar 12–Apr 16, 12:15 pm | *Sanctuary or online*
A meditative 30-minute service.

Missionary Care Team Equipping Seminar | Sun, Mar 16, 12:45 pm | *Welcome Center*
Register for this lunch event by Tue, Mar 11 at parkstreet.org/events or by scanning the QR code at the right.



2025 Short-Term Missions Opportunities
Consider joining an upcoming trip. Details at parkstreet.org/missions.

Carolyn Cummings Retirement Celebration | Sun, Mar 30, 12:30 pm | *Welcome Center*
Honoring Carolyn who served as a missionary in Kenya for 36 years. No RSVP required.

Family Ministry Easter Egg Hunt | Sat, Apr 19, 10:00 am | *Arnold Arboretum*
Register by Sunday, April 13 at parkstreet.org/everything.

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!





PARK STREET CHURCH