



August 17, 2025

A Reflection Before the Service

“I love humanity,” he said, “but I wonder at myself. The more I love humanity in general, the less I love man in particular. In my dreams,” he said, “I often make plans for the service of humanity, and perhaps I might actually face crucifixion if it were suddenly necessary. Yet I am incapable of living in the same room with anyone for two days together. I know from experience. As soon as anyone is near me, his personality disturbs me and restricts my freedom. In twenty-four hours I begin to hate the best of men: one because he’s too long over his dinner, another because he has a cold and keeps on blowing his nose. I become hostile to people the moment they come close to me. But it has always happened that the more I hate men individually the more I love humanity.”

– Fyodor Dostoyevsky, *The Brothers Karamazov* (1879)

How often we have tried somehow to love somebody that we can’t stand! The harder we try to love, the more difficult it becomes. We get super-frustrated and angry at the other person for making love so difficult. All our human efforts to try to love others are bound to fail because the more we put ourselves under a performance principle, the more our failures make us feel guilty and caused us to love less. This is the corollary to the central message of God’s freeing love throughout ... the book of Romans: that all human efforts, all performance principles, will only bring failure and despair. Only when we are set free from the demands of the law can we discover the hilarity of living in love through faith. Indeed, this is not of ourselves but a gift of grace.

Can we grow in love by trying to love more? No, our attempts to love will only end in more frustration and less love. The solution... is to know God better. This is so simple that we miss it all the time: our means for becoming more loving is to know God better.

– Marva Dawn, *Truly the Community: Romans 12 and How to Be the Church* (1992; pp 145-146)

## **The Prelude**

## **The Welcome and Announcements**

### **The Call to Worship: *The Letter to the Ephesians 2.19-22***

*So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,*

*Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone,*

*in Whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, in Whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.*

**(Prayer)**

## The Opening Hymns of Praise

**9:00 “The Church’s One Foundation” (vv. 1-2, 5-6)**

**#347**

**“I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord” (vv. 1-4, 6)**

**#353**

**11:15 “Jesus, My Great High Priest”**

-Watts, 1709/Barnes, 2012

Jesus, my great High Priest,  
Offered His blood and died, offered His blood and died;  
My guilty conscience seeks  
No sacrifice beside, no sacrifice beside.  
**(Repeat verse)**

His pow’rful blood did once atone,  
And now it pleads before the throne,  
His pow’rful blood did once atone,  
And now it pleads before the throne.

To this dear Surety’s hand  
Will I commit my cause, will I commit my cause;  
He answers and fulfills  
His Father’s broken laws, His Father’s broken laws.

Behold my soul at freedom set;  
My Surety paid the dreadful debt,  
Behold my soul at freedom set;  
My Surety paid the dreadful debt.

**(Women sing/men repeat):**

My Advocate appears  
For my defense on high, for my defense on high;  
The Father bows His ears  
And lays His thunder by, and lays His thunder by.

Not all that hell or sin can say shall turn His heart, His love away,  
**(Repeat 3 times)**

**11:15 “Everlasting God”**

-Brown, 2008

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord. We will wait upon the Lord  
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord. We will wait upon the Lord

Our God, You reign forever. Our Hope, our strong Deliv'rer.

You are the everlasting God, the everlasting God  
You do not faint, You won't grow weary  
You're the Defender of the weak; You comfort those in need.  
You lift us up on wings like eagles.

**(Repeat song from beginning)**

Our God, You reign forever. Our Hope, our strong Deliv'rer.

You are the everlasting God, the everlasting God  
You do not faint, You won't grow weary.  
You're the Defender of the weak; You comfort those in need  
You lift us up on wings like eagles.

**(Repeat)**

## **A Corporate Confession of Sin:**

Reader: Gracious God, we confess that we dishonor You in our words, thoughts and deeds. Depending on our own strength, we stumble. Glorifying in our own righteousness, we reject You. Turning our faces from You, we desire the things of this world to satisfy us.

**All: Our Father, give us a true sense of our sin; give us a proper grief and hatred of sin; grant us a vision of Your mercy in Jesus Christ; cleanse the darkness from our lives, and turn our hearts back towards You. Renew in us that obedience that comes by faith. Amen.**

### **(Silent Confession)**

## **The Promise of Pardon and New Grace for All Who Believe the Gospel:**

*"I have wiped out your transgressions like a thick cloud and your sins like a heavy mist. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you."* (Isaiah 44.22)

## **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Request:**

Holy Spirit, help us to believe that You have indeed forgiven us and have erased our record of guilt in Jesus Christ: we pray for the proclamation of Your Good News; give us ears to hear and hearts to receive and rest: **(Silence)**

We pray for people in need, near and far: **(Silence)**

We pray for teachers and for students returning to school: **(Silence)**

We pray for Craig and Heather Gahagan; as they are here among us, give them rest and healing and bless them as they prepare to return to their work in Peru: **(Silence)**

## **The Declaration of Faith and Offering: The Nicene Creed \***

**We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;  
by Whom all things were made;  
Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,  
and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered and was buried;  
and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;  
Whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life,  
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son;  
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;  
Who spoke by the prophets;  
and we believe in one holy catholic\* and apostolic church;  
we acknowledge one baptism\*\* for the remission of sins;  
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **Response: "The Doxology"**

**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 Nicene Creed originated at the Council of Nicaea (325), and an expanded form was adopted by the Council of Chalcedon (451). It was formulated to answer false teachings that denied the biblical doctrine of the Trinity and of the person of Christ. \* Catholic means international \*\*Baptism refers to the inner work of the Holy Spirit regenerating and forgiving all who trust in Jesus Christ.

**9:00 "Revelation 19"**

-LaValley, ar. Schrader

Hallelujah!  
Salvation and glory  
Honor and power  
Unto the Lord, our God  
For the Lord our God is mighty  
For the Lord our God is omnipotent  
The Lord our God, He is wonderful

All praises be to the King of kings and the Lord of lords  
He is wonderful

**11:15 "Revelation 19"**

-LaValley

Hallelujah! Salvation and glory,  
Honor and power to the Lord our God  
For the Lord our God is mighty  
Yes, the Lord our God is omnipotent  
The Lord our God, He is wonderful

All praises be to the King of kings  
And the Lord of lords  
God, He is wonderful

Hallelujah! Salvation and glory  
honor and power. He is wonderful

Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah!  
He is wonderful

## **The Scripture Reading: St Paul's Letter to Rome 12.1-2, 9ff**

*Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.<sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.*

*Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.<sup>10</sup> Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor;<sup>11</sup> not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;<sup>12</sup> rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer,<sup>13</sup> contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.*

*<sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.<sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.<sup>16</sup> Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation.<sup>17</sup> Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men.<sup>18</sup> If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.<sup>19</sup> Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord.<sup>20</sup> "BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD."<sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks Be to God!**

## **The Sermon**

- T.J. Campo

***The Letter to Rome*** | Slaves Freed to Love  
***"Life in the Body (Pt. 2)"***

## The Closing Hymn

9:00 “May the Mind of Christ My Savior” (all 5 verses)

#644

11:15 “Abide with Me”

- Cohen, Monk, Lyte

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide  
The darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee  
Help of the helpless abide with me

Thou on my head in early youth didst smile  
And though rebellious and perverse meanwhile  
Thou hast not left me though I oft left Thee  
On to the close, Lord, abide with me

I need Thy presence every passing hour  
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be  
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless  
Ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness  
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?  
I triumph still, abide with me

Hold out Thy cross before my closing eyes  
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies  
Heav'n's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee  
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me

In life, in death, Lord, abide with me

## The Benediction and Amen

## The Postlude

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## SUNDAYS at PARK ROAD

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### **SERMON SERIES**

***The Letter to Rome*** | Slaves Freed to Love

One author called it “the greatest letter ever written”, another titled it “The Explanation”.

***St. Paul’s Letter to the Romans*** is undoubtedly one of the most influential documents ever produced. The basic theme (the gift of God’s righteousness through faith in Jesus Christ) is a power we need to discover and daily re-discover as it impacts all relationships, decisions and desires in our lives. It’s about slaves (sin) freed (salvation) to love (service) – tune in!

Aug. 24—Romans 13

The Christian and Civil Authority

Aug. 31—Romans 14-15

Grey Matters

Sept. 7—Romans 16

“This is the Church; This is the Steeple...”

### **SUNDAY CLASSES | 10:10-11:05 AM**

**Sovereign Grace: A Study of God’s Plan, Purpose, and Work of Predestination | Fellowship Hall**

The Bible says some startling things about God’s overarching sovereignty and His work in the world. It speaks of God’s “chosen people” and of how certain events and people have been “predestined.” We will look at this topic and ask some of the tough and heart-felt questions and objections that such statements bring about. Join Dr. John Stevenson in the Fellowship Hall.

**The Gospel-Centered Life | T. J. & Missy Campo | Library**

***The Gospel-Centered Life*** is intended to help Christians understand how the gospel shapes every aspect of life and conduct. Colossians 1.6 says that “the gospel is continually bearing fruit and increasing” in and among us even after we first believe it. How does this happen? Why is a continual re-discovery and re-application of the gospel so important? How will our personal growth and mission life be stunted if we don’t grasp the gospel deeply? These are the questions that *The Gospel Centered Life* seeks to answer.

**Junior & High School Sunday Class | Meegan Dorn & Sky McNeill | Room #4 (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)**

Join us this semester as Senior and Junior High listen to the bold voices of the Old Testament prophets calling for change in the hearts of Israel and Judah. These original “rebels” with a purpose call out corrupt kings and nefarious nations to turn back to God.

**Elementary Sunday School (Grades K-5) Fall Session – Rooms #1 & 2 (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)**

This fall, our elementary kids will explore what it means to truly worship God—both in heart and action. We invite all children in grades K-5 to join Eliyah McNeill for this meaningful and interactive learning experience.

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## THIS WEEK AT PARK ROAD PRESBYTERIAN

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Welcome to Park Road Pres! We are glad to have you with us today.

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<b>Sunday</b>	9:00, 11:15 AM	Worship Service
	10:15 AM	Sunday Classes
<b>Monday</b>	6:30 PM	Men's Bible Study
<b>Tuesday</b>	6:30 PM	PRYouth
<b>Wednesday</b>	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Study on John (via Zoom) Contact Nate Dorn at ndorn1@gmail.com
	11:30 AM	SALT Summer Music Fest Guitar Concert & Lunch
	6:30 PM	Cancer Support Group (Library)
	6:30—7:25 PM	Contemporary Worship Team Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thursday</b>	10:00 AM	Women's Prayer Time via Zoom Contact Mary Diaz at 954-249-6635
<b>Friday</b>	9:30-11:30 AM	Snail Mail Kick-Off (Fellowship Hall)
<b>Saturday</b>	9:30 AM	Moms Connect (Rec Room)

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**The love and concern of the congregation** is extended to Kade McKim and his family on the recent passing of his father. If you would like to send your condolences, his address is: 1629 Mayo Street, Hollywood, 33020.

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## UPCOMING at PARK ROAD

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### **Cancer Support Group | Wed., Aug. 20 | 6:30-7:30 PM | Library**

This peer support group is for anyone affected by cancer. Join us on the third Wednesday of each month from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm to share experiences and offer support, encouragement, and prayer. Any questions contact Joanne Gulum at jgulum007@aol.com

### **S.A.L.T. Summer Music Fest Guitar Concert/Lunch | Wed. Aug 20 | 11:30 AM**

Enjoy a light lunch in the church library. Our guest guitarist and singer, Timothy LaRogue, will entertain us with songs from the Beatles, Paul Simon, Jim Croce, Cat Stevens. Donation: \$10 per person. Please sign up on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form.

### **Snail Mail Kick-off | Fri., Aug. 22 | 9:30 —11:30 AM | Fellowship Hall**

The Women's Ministry invites you to come & learn more about our Snail Mail Ministry. This ministry writes letters to members of our Church for the purpose of encouragement & prayer for them during specific life circumstances and trials. It is a tangible way to show the love of the gospel to fellow brothers and sisters in Christ within the Church. Coffee & pastries will be provided! Please sign up on the ***Keeping in Touch*** Form to let us know you are coming. Questions? Email Judi Ungar at jaungar90@gmail.com

### **Moms Connect | Sat., Aug. 23 | 9:30—11:30 AM | Rec Room**

All moms are invited to join Meegan Dorn at the church in the Rec Room (2nd floor) for a time of prayer and fellowship. Moms of all different seasons of life are invited and childcare is provided.

### **S.A.L.T. Movie: *The Chosen* | Wed., Aug. 27 | 11:30 AM | Library**

Join the S.A.L.T. group as they gather on Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> to watch Season 5, episodes 7 & 8 of *The Chosen*. Bring your own snack to enjoy. Sign up on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form if you plan to attend.

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## UPCOMING at PARK ROAD

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### **ESL Ministry – Volunteer Informational Meeting | Thurs., Aug. 28 | 6:30 PM**

The goal of our church's ESL (English as a Second Language) ministry is to teach our students English while building relationships that open doors to share the gospel by our words and actions. To volunteer, no special language skills are required—all you need is the ability to speak English and a heart to serve.

There is a list of volunteer positions in the Narthex. Some roles last just a few weeks while others are for the entire year—there's a place for everyone! If you're interested in learning more, sign up on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form or just come! Your English and your Love-in-action can be the bridge to the gospel.

### **Worship Team Group Practice | Sat. Aug. 30 | 9:00 –11:00 AM**

We invite musicians and singers to join us as we gather for two hours to rehearse music for the Contemporary Service.

### **Parent Meeting – Elementary Ministry | Sun., Aug. 31 | Immediately After 2nd Service**

Parents of elementary-aged children, we invite you to join us for an important meeting with church leadership right after the second service on Sunday, August 31st. This will be a valuable time to connect, share ideas, and explore how we can best support and minister to our school-age kids together.

### **SALT (Senior Adults Living Triumphantly) Lunch Bunch | Sun., Aug. 31 | 1:00 pm**

Once a month on Sunday after the 11:15 AM service the SALT group goes out to lunch! Join them on August 31 at DiSalvos located at 4190 N. 46 Ave. Hollywood, 33021

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## UPCOMING at PARK ROAD

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### **Christmas Concert Choir Rehearsals Begin Wed. Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>**

The Park Road choir welcomes you to sing with them at this year's Christmas Concert on Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. These weekly, 30-minute Christmas Choir rehearsals will begin Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 pm. We would love to have you join the choir for this year's songs that will be accompanied by piano, flute, violin, cello and percussion. Audio recordings will be provided to help you learn the songs more easily. No vocal audition required. Email Dwight Taylor for more information: [dwight@parkroadpres.org](mailto:dwight@parkroadpres.org)

### **Orchid:**

Today's orchid is given by Uwa Alexis in celebration of her husband, John's birthday today.

If you would like to purchase (\$30) an orchid for 2025 to be placed in the Sanctuary for a special occasion, fill out your request on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form

