November 16, 2025

A Reflection Before the Service

Oh, we are marching
We are fighters without a cause
'Cause it's easier to be in the crowd
Than cry alone, crying out loud
You got to feel the pain, you got to see the suffering
Got to heed the cause

Oh, it's so heavy
Oh, mama, don't you know it's so heavy?
Lord, it's so heavy
I've got to let a little, let a little go

– Derek Trucks, "It's So Heavy" (track 7 on the 2013 album, ***Made Up My Mind*** by Tedeschi Trucks Band)

Oh yes, I'm well acquainted with the emotion of shame.

But the only thing productive/appropriate/corrective about falling on my face in shame, is that there is a mercy that can scoop me up. It's not hopeless, you see? There's a mend-ability. There's an antidote to shame; there's a balm for its burn. There's a bewildering love that banishes shame from within me – there's a rescue route from its toxic spiral.

The moment that shame is acknowledged, its presence verbalised, its power felt – is the very moment it needs to be neutralised. It cannot fester, it cannot be afforded the loudest, nor the last, say.

And so, to Jacob Elordi's interesting wish – that 'people could experience shame a little heavier', and to Zadie Smith's fascinating thesis that 'shame is a kind of productive thing to create change'- I hear you. I see what you're getting at. But I can only ever wish people to experience the heaviness of shame if it means that they are more sensitive to the feeling of it being undeservedly lifted off them. That's where change happens. That's the medicine.

– Belle Tindall, "We Need a Sense of Shame - But Need Mercy Even More (Shame may be necessary, but only if it can be defeated)" on ***Seen & Unseen*** (online magazine; https://www.seenandunseen.com)

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The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Call to Worship: *Lamentations* 3.17-26

My soul has been rejected from peace;
I have forgotten happiness.
So I say, "My strength has perished,
And so has my hope from the LORD."

Remember my affliction and my wandering,
the wormwood and bitterness.
Surely my soul remembers
And is bowed down within me.

This I recall to my mind,
Therefore I have hope.
The LORD'S lovingkindnesses indeed never cease,
For His compassions never fail.
They are new every morning;
Great is Your faithfulness.
"The LORD is my portion," says my soul,
"Therefore I have hope in Him."
The LORD is good to those who wait for Him,
To the person who seeks Him.
It is good that he waits silently
For the salvation of the LORD.

(Prayer)

The Opening Hymns of Praise

9:00 "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past" (vv. 1-3, 7) #30

"The Church's One Foundation" (vv. 1-2, 5-6) #347

11:15 "Our Song from Age to Age" -Sczebel

Oh God of power, Living Word, the One who made the stars,
Who with Your glory filled the earth, from dust made beating hearts;
You loved us when we fell away, poured mercy on our souls,
and promised grace would come to save, to loose death's iron hold.

You are our song from age to age,
our voices unite to recount Your praise again and again.

Oh God of promises fulfilled, the God who took on flesh,
Who did all that the Father willed, was humbled unto death;
You bore our cross of sin and shame, endured our agony.
With gladness we now bear Your name and worship at Your feet.

You are our song from age to age,
our voices unite to recount Your praise again and again.
You are our song from age to age.
We will proclaim Your power to save again and again.

Oh God who surely guides our steps through tempests and through trials,
our Shepherd King, Your way is best, though tears now veil our eyes.
Your steadfast love our perfect hope, our eyes are fixed on grace.
We have no doubt You'll lead us home to finally see Your face.
(Chorus)

Oh God of all of history, enthroned in realms of light,
what eyes of faith have strained to see will one day fill our sight.
With all the saints we'll lay our crowns before the Savior's feet
And sing as all the heav'ns resound for all eternity.
(Chorus)

11:15 "It is Well" - Spafford/Dimarco, Bliss

Grander earth has quaked before, moved by the sound of His voice
Seas that are shaken and stirred can be calmed and broken for my regard

Through it all, through it all my eyes are on You
Through it all, through it all it is well
Through it all, through it all my eyes are on You
And it is well with me

Far be it from me to not believe even when my eyes can't see
And this mountain that's in front of me will be thrown into the midst of the sea

Through it all, through it all my eyes are on You
Through it all, through it all it is well
Through it all, through it all my eyes are on You
And it is well, it is well

So let go my soul and trust in Him. The waves and wind still know His name
(Repeat)

The waves and wind still know His name

It is well with my soul. It is well with my soul
It is well with my soul. It is well, it is well with my soul
(Repeat)

It is well, it is well with my soul
It is well, it is well with my soul

A Confession of Sin*

Reader: O God of Grace, You have charged my sin to my Substitute, and have credited His righteousness to my soul, clothing me with a bridegroom's robe, decking me with jewels of holiness.

But in my daily Christian walk I am still in rags; my best prayers are stained with sin; my tears of contrition are only more impurity; my confessions of wrong only stir up more sin; my receiving the Spirit is permeated with selfishness. I need to repent of my repentance; I need my tears to be washed.

I have no robe to bring to cover my sins, no loom to weave my own righteousness; I am always standing clothed in filthy garments, and yet by grace am always receiving change of raiment, for You justify only the ungodly.

I am always going into the far country, and always returning home as a prodigal, always saying, 'Father, forgive me', and You are always bringing out the best robe. Every morning let me wear it, be married in it, be wound in death in it, stand before the Great White Throne in it, enter heaven in it shining as the sun.

Grant me never to lose sight of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, the exceeding righteousness of salvation, the exceeding glory of Christ, the exceeding beauty of holiness, the exceeding wonder of grace. Amen. **(Silent Confession)**

Reader: ***Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God... And your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. Pray, then, in this way, saying:*

All: **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 daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Paraphrased from *Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions*
** Galatians 4.6-7; Matthew 6.8-13

The Declaration of Faith and Offering:

(We use the declaration of faith and offering to "preach to ourselves" the reason for our hope. The Christian's confidence is in God's truth and in God's care. Because Park Road is a church for both convinced Christians and for people at different stages in their spiritual journey, we invite you to use this time and the musical reflection to think, pray, offer and consider what God is doing in your life.)

A Hymn to Christ: *St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians* 2.5-11

Reader: *Have this attitude in yourselves, which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped.*

People: ***But emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.***

Reader: *And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

People: ***Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,***

Reader: *That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth,*

All: ***And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*** **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.

9:00 "Perfect Peace" – Story

Stay close by my side
Keep your eyes on Me
Though this life is hard
I will give you perfect peace

In this time of trial
Pain that no one sees
Trust Me when I say
I will give you perfect peace

And you'll never walk alone
And you'll never be in need
Though I may not
Calm the storms around you
You can hide in Me

Burdens that you bear
Offer no relief
Let Me bear your load
'Cause I will give you perfect peace

Stay close by My side
And you'll never walk alone
Keep your eyes on Me
And you'll never be in need
Though this life is hard
Know that I will
Always give you perfect peace
I will give you perfect peace

11:15 "There was Jesus" -Beathard, Smith, Williams

Every time I tried to make it on my own,
Every time I tried to stand and start to fall
All those lonely roads that I have travelled on
There was Jesus

When the life I built came crashing to the ground
When the friends I had were nowhere to be found
I couldn't see it then, but I can see it now
There was Jesus

In the waiting, in the searching, in the healing and the hurting
Like a blessing buried in the broken pieces
Every minute, every moment of where I've been and where I'm going
Even when I didn't know it, or couldn't see it
There was Jesus

For this man who needs amazing kind of grace
For forgiveness at a price I couldn't pay
I'm not perfect, so I thank God every day
There was Jesus (There was Jesus)
(Chorus)

There was Jesus on the mountain, in the valleys
(There was Jesus) in the shadows of the alleys
(There was Jesus) in the fire, in the flood
(There was Jesus) always is and always was
No I never walk alone
You are always there

(Chorus)

There was Jesus (There was Jesus)
(There was Jesus)

The Scripture Reading: *2nd Kings* 25.1-10; 27ff

Now in the ninth year of his reign, on the tenth day of the tenth month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he and all his army, against Jerusalem, camped against it and built a siege wall all around it. [2] So the city was under siege until the eleventh year of King Zedekiah. [3] On the ninth day of the fourth month the famine was so severe in the city that there was no food for the people of the land. [4] Then the city was broken into, and all the men of war fled by night by way of the gate between the two walls beside the king's garden, though the Chaldeans were all around the city. And they went by way of the Arabah. [5] But the army of the Chaldeans pursued the king and overtook him in the plains of Jericho and all his army was scattered from him. [6] Then they captured the king and brought him to the king of Babylon at Riblah, and he passed sentence on him. [7] They slaughtered the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, then put out the eyes of Zedekiah and bound him with bronze fetters and brought him to Babylon.

[8] Now on the seventh day of the fifth month, which was the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem. [9] He burned the house of the LORD, the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem; even every great house he burned with fire. [10] So all the army of the Chaldeans who were with the captain of the guard broke down the walls around Jerusalem.

*[27] Now it came about in the thirty-seventh year of the exile of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, that Evil-merodach king of Babylon, in the year that he became king, released Jehoiachin king of Judah from prison; [28] and he spoke kindly to him and set his throne above the throne of the kings who were with him in Babylon. [29] Jehoiachin changed his prison clothes and had his meals in the king's presence regularly all the days of his life; [30] and for his allowance, a regular allowance was given him by the king, a portion for each day, all the days of his **life**.*

Reader: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks Be to God!

Hope In Disappointing Times | ***Second Kings***

The End? (Havoc and Hope)

The Closing Hymn

9:00 "I Will Sing of My Redeemer" (vv. 1-3) **#650**

11:15 "I Speak Jesus" - Benton, Dutton, Pratt, Prince, Reeves, Smith

I just want to speak the Name of Jesus over ev'ry heart and ev'ry mind
'Cause I know there is peace within Your presence, I speak Jesus

I just want to speak the Name of Jesus 'til ev'ry dark addiction starts to break
Declaring there is hope and there is freedom, I speak Jesus

('Cause) Your Name is power, Your Name is healing, Your Name is life
Break ev'ry stronghold, shine through the shadows, burn like a fire

I just want to speak the Name of Jesus over fear and all anxiety
To ev'ry soul held captive by depression, I speak Jesus

(Chorus)

Shout Jesus from the mountains, Jesus in the streets
Jesus in the darkness over ev'ry enemy
Jesus for my fam'ly, I speak the holy Name Jesus
(Repeat)

(Chorus)

I just want to speak the Name of Jesus over ev'ry heart and ev'ry mind
'Cause I know there is peace within Your presence, I speak Jesus

The Benediction and Amen

The Postlude

SUNDAYS at PARK ROAD

NEW SERMON SERIES STARTS NEXT WEEK

In Lonely Exile Here | Mourning and Thriving In Babylon
Good News from the Prophets: Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel

"O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns ***in lonely exile here,***
Until the Son of God appear"

Exile is a rich motif in the entire Bible. To be banished or expelled from one's home and sent into a strange place is considered a monumental trial starting with the first humans. The list of major Bible characters who undergo exile is too long to include here. Exile is also a pattern for the Christian Life (1 Peter 2.11). How can our ancestors in the faith inform our modern lives as aliens in the present world and how is this motif so tied to the Advent or arrival of Jesus Christ?

Nov 23 - ***A Love/Hate Relationship***	Jeremiah 29.4-14; Psalm 137
Nov 30 -***Sacred Sons in the Secular City***	Daniel 1.1-21

SUNDAY CLASSES | 10:10-11:05 AM

Minor Prophets/Major Impact | Led by Dr. John Stevenson | Fellowship Hall
Tucked away at the end of the Old Testament are these voices that thunder with messages that are anything but minor. They give us the heartbeat of God as He calls His people to repentance, justice, mercy, and hope. They speak into times of crisis, idolatry, and decay, yet their words blaze with timeless truth—revealing the God who both judges sin and restores with grace. Their ancient messages still ignite faith, confront complacency, and point forward to the coming of Christ, the ultimate fulfillment of every promise.

Inquirer's Class | Led by T. J. Campo | Library
This is our "Park Road 101" class where you have the opportunity to hear from TJ about the belief statements of our Church, the membership commitments, and foundational beliefs of the Christian faith. This 8-week class is required for anyone interested in membership at our Church.

Junior & High School Sunday Class | Meegan Dorn & Sky McNeill | Room #4 (2nd 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 (2nd floor)
Eliyah McNeill will be bringing her wonderful energy and deep love for sharing God's Word to our elementary kids this term.

THIS WEEK AT PARK ROAD PRESBYTERIAN

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

Sunday	9:00, 11:15 AM	Worship Service
	10:15 AM	Sunday Classes
Monday	6:30 PM	Men's Bible Study
	7:30-9:00 PM	Women's In-person Bible Study Contact Alexa @ alexa@parkroadpres.org
Tuesday	6:30 PM	PRYouth
	6:30-8:30 PM	Women's Online Bible Study Contact Mary Diaz at 954-249-6635
Wednesday	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Study on John (via Zoom) Contact Nate Dorn at ndorn1@gmail.com
	11:30 AM	S.A.L.T. : Movie & Italian Lunch (Fellowship Hall)
	6:30 PM	Cancer Support Group (Library)
	6:30—7:25 PM	Contemporary Worship Team Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	Christmas Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	9:15-11:00 AM	Women's In-person Bible Study Contact Grace Sked at Grace@parkroadpres.org
	11:15 AM	Women's Prayer Time via Zoom Contact Mary Diaz at 954-249-6635
	6:30 PM	ESL Classes
	6:30 PM	Young Adult Friendsgiving (McGinnis home)
Saturday	9:00 AM	Worship Team Group Practice

Invite Card for Upcoming Events

Stop by the Kiosk in the Narthex to get a few postcards to invite family and friends to November and December events at Park Road!

Orchid:

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.

S.A.L.T. Movie & Italian Food |Wed., Nov. 19 | 11:30 AM | Fellowship Hall

Meet upstairs in the Fellowship Hall to watch the movie "Nonna" while enjoying a family-style Italian meal. Suggested donation for the movie & the meal is $5.00. Please sign up on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form if you plan to attend.

Cancer Support Group | Wed., Nov. 19 | 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.

Y.A. Friendsgiving Potluck | Thurs., Nov. 20 | 6:30-9:00 PM

Come enjoy an evening of good food, great friends, and gratitude at our **Young Adults Friendsgiving!** Bring a dish to share as we gather at the **McGinnis' home** to celebrate the season and give thanks together. If you are planning on going, please let Andrew Cafiero (516-384-5362) know what dish you plan to bring.

Thanksgiving Eve Service | Wed., Nov. 26 | 7:00 PM

Come praise God and give thanks for His grace to you this year. Communion will be offered.

Church Office Holiday Schedule

The church office will be closed on Thursday, November 27th and Friday, November 28th.

Women's Ministry Advent Bible Studies. December 1st- December 22nd

This year the women's ministry will be doing a 4-week Bible study during the season of Advent to help prepare our hearts for Christmas Day. Join us Monday night, Tuesday online, or Thursday morning to go through "Awakening Wonder" by Daily Grace Co. Sign up on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form. Bible study books will be distributed mid-November. Childcare is provided. Contact alexa@parkroadpres.org if you have any questions.

Women's Ministry Christmas Event | Fri., Dec. 5 | 7:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

Join us for an evening of worship, meaningful discussion, and dinner. You can RSVP and volunteer by filling out the ***Keeping in Touch*** form.

S.A.L.T. Christmas Luncheon | Sat., Dec. 13 | 12:00 PM | Tropical Acres

Join the SALT group for their annual Christmas luncheon at Tropical Acres located at 2500 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale, 33312. The cost for the meal is $25.00 and is due by Sun., Dec. 7th. Please sign up on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form and note your meal choice: Salmon or Chicken Francese.

New Church Directory

If you are a member, please take a few moments to complete the *Church Directory Information* form in your bulletin. Drop it in one of the offering boxes in the back of the church. The new directory will be ready in January 2026.