

October 18, 2026

A Reflection Before the Service



— **Walt Kelly**, *Pogo*. April 22, 1971, Ink and
Blue Pencil on paper; Pogo Collection

What binds us together is not common education, common race, common income levels, common politics, common nationality, common accents, common jobs, or anything of the sort. Christians come together, not because they form a natural collocation, but because they have been saved by Jesus Christ and owe him a common allegiance. In the light of this common allegiance, in light of the fact that they have all been loved by Jesus himself, they commit themselves to doing what he says—and he commands them to love one another. In this light, they are a band of natural enemies who love one another for Jesus's sake.

— D.A. Carson, *Love in Hard Places* (2002, p. 61)

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Call to Worship: St. Paul's Letter to Ephesus Ch 2, vv. 17ff

AND HE CAME AND PREACHED PEACE TO YOU WHO WERE FAR AWAY, AND PEACE TO THOSE WHO WERE NEAR; for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. 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 “Brethren, We Have Met to Worship” (vv. 1-2,4)

#381

“Though I May Speak” (all 3 verses)

#597

11:15 “Come Ye Sinners”

Hart/Smith

Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched, weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus, ready, stands to save you, full of pity, joined with power.
He is able, He is able; He is willing; doubt no more.

Come ye needy, come, and welcome, God’s free bounty glorify:
True belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh.
Without money, without money come to Jesus Christ and buy.

Come, ye weary, heavy laden, bruised and broken by the fall.
If you tarry ‘till you’re better, you will never come at all.
Not the righteous, not the righteous; sinners Jesus came to call.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;
All the fitness He requires is to feel your need of Him.
This He gives you, this He gives you, ‘tis the Spirit’s rising beam.

Lo! The Incarnate God, ascended, pleads the merit of His blood.
Venture on Him; venture wholly, let no other trust intrude.
None but Jesus, none but Jesus can do helpless sinners good.
None but Jesus, none but Jesus can do helpless sinners good.

11:15 “Holy, Holy, Holy/Cornerstone”

Heber/ Mote, /Liljero, Myrin, & Morgan

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' Name.

Christ alone! Cornerstone!
Weak made strong in the Savior's love.
Through the storm, He is Lord
Lord of all

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found;
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne
Faultless to stand before the throne.

Chorus (2x)

God in three persons, blessed Trinity

The Sacrament of Baptism: 11:15 Service

Noah and Miriam Meneely receive God's promises on behalf of their son, Brighton Douglas (08/25/2026) who unites with the church as a non-communing member.

The Prayers of God's People:

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12.1-2)

Our Father, we praise You for Your story and all Your people included in it, all those witnesses who believed You in this life who have now joined the Church Triumphant: **(silence)**

We thank You for Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of our faith, our High Priest who endured the Cross and whose saving work is finished: **(silence)**

We pray against our own unbelief, and we pray for others entangled in unbelief, free them to trust You and Your Good News: **(silence)**

We pray for Craig and Heather Gahagan in Pucalpa, Peru; Father, bless, protect and use their marriage, family and work to glorify Yourself and help people: **(silence)**

Now together we pray as our Savior granted us to pray, saying:

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.

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 of Christ: St. Paul’s Letter to the Philippians, Ch 2

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.**

Response: The Gloria Patri

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!

9:00 “Build My Life”

Yunker, Martin, Kaple, Redman, Barrett

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You

Jesus the Name above ev'ry other name
Jesus the only One who could ever save
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
We live for You

Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

When all I see is the battle You see my victory
When all I see is a mountain You see a mountain moved
And as I walk through the shadow Your love surrounds me
There's nothing to fear now for I am safe with You

**So, when I fight, I'll fight on my knees with my hands lifted high
O God the battle belongs to You
And every fear I lay at Your feet I'll sing through the night
O God the battle belongs to You**

And if You are for me who can be against me
For Jesus there's nothing impossible for You
When all I see are the ashes You see the beauty
When all I see is a cross God, You see the empty tomb
(Chorus)

Almighty Fortress You go before us
Nothing can stand against the power of our God
You shine through the shadows, You win every battle
Nothing can stand against the power of our God
(Repeat)

(Chorus)

O God the battle belongs to You

The Scripture Reading: Nehemiah CH 5

Now there was a great outcry of the people and of their wives against their Jewish brothers.² For there were those who said, "We, our sons and our daughters are many; therefore let us get grain that we may eat and live."³ There were others who said, "We are mortgaging our fields, our vineyards and our houses that we might get grain because of the famine."⁴ Also there were those who said, "We have borrowed money for the king's tax on our fields and our vineyards."⁵ "Now our flesh is like the flesh of our brothers, our children like their children. Yet behold, we are forcing our sons and our daughters to be slaves, and some of our daughters are forced into bondage already, and we are helpless because our fields and vineyards belong to others."

⁶ Then I was very angry when I had heard their outcry and these words. ⁷ I consulted with myself and contended with the nobles and the rulers and said to them, "You are exacting usury, each from his brother!" Therefore, I held a great assembly against them. ⁸ I said to them, "We according to our ability have redeemed our Jewish brothers who were sold to the nations; now would you even sell your brothers that they may be sold to us?" Then they were silent and could not find a word to say. ⁹ Again I said, "The thing which you are doing is not good; should you not walk in the fear of our God because of the reproach of the nations, our enemies?" ¹⁰ "And likewise I, my brothers and my servants are lending them money and grain. Please, let us leave off this usury. ¹¹ "Please, give back to them this very day their fields, their vineyards, their olive groves and their houses, also the hundredth part of the money and of the grain, the new wine and the oil that you are exacting from them." ¹² Then they said, "We will give it back and will require nothing from them; we will do exactly as you say." So I called the priests and took an oath from them that they would do according to this promise. ¹³ I also shook out the front of my garment and said, "Thus may God shake out every man from his house and from his possessions who does not fulfill this promise; even thus may he be shaken out and emptied." And all the assembly said, "Amen!" And they praised the LORD. Then the people did according to this promise.

¹⁴ Moreover, from the day that I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year to the thirty-second year of King Artaxerxes, for twelve years, neither I nor my kinsmen have eaten the governor's food allowance. ¹⁵ But the former governors who were before me laid burdens on the people and took from them bread and wine besides forty shekels of silver; even their servants domineered the people. But I did not do so because of the fear of God. ¹⁶ I also applied myself to the work on this wall; we did not buy any land, and all my servants were gathered there for the work. ¹⁷ Moreover, there were at my table one hundred and fifty Jews and officials, besides those who came to us from the nations that were around us. ¹⁸ Now that which was prepared for

each day was one ox and six choice sheep, also birds were prepared for me; and once in ten days all sorts of wine were furnished in abundance. Yet for all this I did not demand the governor's food allowance, because the servitude was heavy on this people. ¹⁹ Remember me, O my God, for good, according to all that I have done for this people.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks Be to God!

The Sermon

— T. J. Campo

Nehemiah | Not Just Another Brick in the Wall
When the Enemy is Among Us

The Closing Hymn

9:00 “Take My Life and Let it Be” (vv. 1-2,4,6)

#585

11:15 “Victory Belongs to Jesus”

Dulaney

Who can stand against the Lord? No one can, no one will.

Who can stand against the King? No one can, no one will.

Oh, oh, oh! Oh, oh, oh!

The victory belongs to Jesus. The victory belongs to Him.

(Repeat)

Who can stand against the Lord? No one can, no one will.

Who can stand against the King? No one can, no one will.

Oh, oh, oh! Oh, oh, oh!

The victory belongs to Jesus. The victory belongs to Him.

(Repeat)

So we put our trust in You. We put our hope in You.

You will deliver, You're my Provider, I find my victory in You.

Forever victorious, forever we win, I find my victory in You.

(Repeat)

The victory belongs to Jesus. The victory belongs to Him.

The victory belongs to Jesus. The victory belongs to Him.

(Repeat x2)

Oh, oh, oh! Oh, oh, oh!

The victory belongs to Jesus. The victory belongs to Him.

(Repeat)

The Benediction and Amen

The Postlude

SUNDAYS at PARK ROAD

SERMON SERIES

Nehemiah | Not Just Another Brick in the Wall

The *Book of Nehemiah* narrates the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem following the Babylonian Exile. The work was spiritually motivated but intensely physical in nature. The story helps answer questions about deliberate, intentional planning and leadership in the church and in our lives **while also** being led by God's Spirit. Is spontaneity and spiritual freedom compatible with strategy and organization? This fast-paced, divine-human adventure will aid us to discover liberated leadership and Spirit-led creativity in our lives, family, church and mission and more importantly shows the God who tells His people, "*Behold, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; Your walls are always before Me.*" (Isaiah 49.16)

Oct. 25—*Finishing What God Has Given Us to Do* –Nehemiah 5.1-19

OCTOBER SUNDAY CLASS | 10:10-11:05 AM

All Church Sunday School | Fellowship Hall

Join us for hot coffee, delicious pastries, and great community. Tables will be equipped with sample ice breakers to get us talking OR your table may decide to "freestyle" and just chat. This is a great opportunity to connect with new friends and families at Park Road. Nursery care is available for children 3 and younger. We encourage your children to join you for our Combined Sunday Class.

NEW SUNDAY CLASSES BEGIN NOVEMBER 1

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. Please join us or invite others! If you would like to be a part of this class.

Archaeology & the Bible | Led by John Stevenson & Sky McNeill | Fellowship Hall

We'll turn stones into bread each week as we explore by sight and sound the many finds and excavations of the Biblical past that open up our understanding of the Bible. Come and join us, you'll "dig it."

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
	10:10 AM	All-Church Sunday Class (Fellowship Hall)
Monday	6:30-8:00 PM	Men's Bible Study Contact David King at ironaeus@aol.com
	7:15-9:00 PM	Women's In-person Bible Study (Rec Room) Contact Kristen at kescobar97@gmail.com
Tuesday	6:30 PM	Park Road Youth
	7:00-9:00 PM	Women's Online Bible Study Contact Mary Diaz at 954-249-6635
Wednesday	6:30-7:30 AM	Men's Online Bible Study Contact Nate Dorn at ndorn1@gmail.com
	11:30 AM	S.A.L.T. @ Rendezvous
	7:30-8:30 PM	Christmas Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	9:00-11:00 AM	Women's In-person Bible Study Contact Grace at Grace@parkroadpres.org
	11:15 AM	Women's Prayer Time via Zoom Contact Mary Diaz at 954-249-6635
	6:30-8:30 PM	ESL Classes
Saturday	9:30 AM	Moms Connect (Rec Room)

S.A.L.T. Lunch Gathering | Wed., Oct. 21 | 11:30 AM | Rendezvous Restaurant

Join the SALT group for lunch on Wed., Oct. 21st at Rendezvous, located at 2525 Marina Bay Drive W, Fort Lauderdale, 33312. Sign up on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form if you plan to attend. If you would like to carpool, please contact Mary Diaz or Jane Green.

Moms Connect | Sat., Oct. 24 | 9:30-1:30 AM Rec Room

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

LOOKING AHEAD AT PARK ROAD PRESBYTERIAN

SALT (Senior Adults Living Triumphantly) Lunch Bunch | Sun., Oct. 25 | 1:00 pm

Once a month on Sunday after the 11:15 AM service, the SALT group goes out to lunch! Join them on Sun., Oct. 25 at Millers Ale House located at 3215 Oakwood Blvd., 33020.

Fall Market & Chili Cook-Off | Sat., Nov. 7 | 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Join us for an afternoon of swapping, snacking, and fellowship! Our Fall Market is a chance to share something you love & take home a few treasures from your church family.

How the market works: Bring 12 of one item to share. When you arrive, set out your dozen, then browse the tables & trade. You'll go home with a variety of goodies from friends and neighbors.

Not sure what to bring? Here are some ideas:

- **Something Baked:** Little bags of cookies, mini loaves, muffins, fudge, caramel corn
- **Something Crafted:** Cocoa mix jars, homemade spice rubs, candles, sugar scrubs, ornaments
- **Something You Love:** No baking or crafting required! Bring 12 of your favorite things: individually wrapped chocolates, teas, pens, small jars of honey, seasonal treats from the store

Chili Cook-Off: Do you have a recipe worth bragging about? Bring a batch of your best chili and enter the cook-off! Everyone who attends will vote for their favorite, so come hungry and ready to taste. Sign up on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form if you plan to enter the contest.

Fall Fun: Kids can enjoy lawn games and face painting, and we'll have snacks and drinks for all.

Bring a dozen, bring a friend, and come enjoy the season with us! *Questions? Contact Jennifer.*

Advent Devotional Bible Study: The Women's Ministry Team is planning an Advent Bible Study this December. For those of you who participated last year, the devotional is from the same company. This year's study is entitled, *Joy of Every Longing Heart: Sustained by Jesus in Our Waiting and Weariness*. To help us with ordering if you are interested in participating, please fill out the ***Keeping in Touch*** form.

Hope Women Centers needs slightly used baby clothing and baby accessories for women who do not have the financial means to purchase these items. Drop off your items at the church office. Questions? Call Lisa at 954-773-3737.

Orchid: If you would like to purchase (\$30) an orchid for 2026 to be placed in the Sanctuary for a special occasion, fill out your request on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form.

