November 15, 2026

A Reflection Before the Service

On the whole, I do not find Christians, outside of the catacombs, sufficiently sensible of conditions. Does anyone have the foggiest idea what sort of power we so blithely invoke? Or, as I suspect, does no one believe a word of it? The churches are children playing on the floor with their chemistry sets, mixing up a batch of TNT to kill a Sunday morning. It is madness to wear, ladies' straw hats, and velvet hats to church; we should all be wearing crash helmets. Ushers should issue life, preservers, and signal flares; they should lash us to our pews. For the sleeping God may wake someday and take offense; or the waking God may draw us out to where we can never return.

– Annie Dillard, ***Teaching a Stone to Talk*** (1982, pp 58 – 59)

Enemy-occupied territory—that is what the world is. Christianity is the story of how the rightful king has landed, you might say, landed in disguise, and is call us all to take part in a great campaign of sabotage. When you go to church you are really listening-in to the secret wireless from our friends: that is why the enemy is so anxious to prevent us from going. He does this by playing on our conceit and laziness and intellectual snobbery. I know someone will ask me, 'Do you really mean, at this time of day, to re-introduce our old friend the devil—hoofs and horns and all?' Well, what the time of day has to do with it I do not know. And I am not particular about the hoofs and horns. But in other respects my answer is 'Yes, I do.' I do not claim to know anything about his personal appearance. If anybody really wants to know him better I would say to that person, 'Don't worry. If you really want to, you will. Whether you'll like it when you do is another question.'

— C.S. Lewis, ***Mere Christianity*** (New York: Scribner, 1952), p.36.

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The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Call to Worship: The One-Hundredth Psalm

Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth.
Serve the LORD with gladness;
Come before Him with joyful singing.
Know that the LORD Himself is God;
It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves;
We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.
Enter His gates with thanksgiving
And His courts with praise.
Give thanks to Him, bless His name.
For the LORD is good; His lovingkindness is everlasting
And His faithfulness to all generations.

(Prayer)

The Opening Hymns of Praise

9:00 "To God Be the Glory" (all 3 verses) **#55**

"Praise to the Lord the Almighty" (vv. 1-3, 5) **#53**

11:15 "Praise to the Lord the Almighty" Neander

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near,
Join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yes, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how all thy longings have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise the Lord! **(repeats)**

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the amen sound from His people again;
Gladly fore'er we adore Him.

Praise the Lord! **(repeats)**

11:15 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" Scriven

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged: take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness—take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

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:*

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

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.)

Consider Your Calling: 1 Corinthians 1.26 ff

Reader: *For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.*

People: ***But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;***

Reader: God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.

People: ***He is the source of our life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption.***

Reader: *Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."*

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 "How Great is the Lord" (based on Psalm 145) Choplin

I will exalt You, my God and mighty King,
for You are worthy of worship I will bring
I'll praise Your Name and forever I will sing,
"How great is the Lord!"
O Lord, You show us compassion from above,
You're slow to anger and full of constant love
Your streams of mercy will become a mighty flood.
How great is the Lord!

How great is the Lord and greatly to be praised,
for you are righteous and just in all Your ways.
Let all the earth lift up Your holy Name forever.
Your loving compassion and all Your gifts of grace,
abundant goodness, we come to celebrate.
Now hear Your children rise again to say,
"How great, how great is the Lord!"

One generation will share with the next
the wondrous story of all Your mighty acts
'til from the young we will hear it echo back,
"How great is the Lord!"
I will exalt You, my God and mighty King,
for You are worthy of worship I will bring.
I'll praise Your Name and forever I will sing,
"How great is the Lord!"
(Chorus)

You are faithful to ev'ry promise,
You uphold the ones who fall,
You will lift up those who are bowed down
and will save the ones who call.
(Chorus)

I will exalt You, my God and mighty King,
for You are worthy of worship I will bring
I'll praise Your Name and forever I will sing,
"How great, how great is the Lord!"

11:15 "Same God"

Lake, Brown, Barrett, Furtick

I'm calling on the God of Jacob, whose love endures through generations
I know that You will keep Your covenant

I'm calling on the God of Moses, the one who opened up the ocean
I need you now to do the same thing for me. For me, for me.

Oh God, my God, I need You. Oh God, my God, I need You now. How I need You now.
Lord Jesus, Rock of ages
I'm standing on Your faithfulness, on Your faithfulness

I'm calling on the God of Rahab who loves the outcast like the virgin
I lived in the house of shame, it's now His Sanctuary

I'm calling on the God of Mary whose favor rests upon the lowly
I know with You all things are possible

I'm calling on the God of David who made a shepherd boy courageous
I may not face Goliath, but I've got my own giants
(Chorus)

You heard Your children then. You hear Your children now
You are the same God. You are the same God.
You answered prayers back then and You will answer now
You are the same God. You are the same God.
You were providing then, You are providing now
You are the same God. You are the same God

You moved in power then. God move in power now
You are the same God. You are the same God.
You were a healer then. You are a healer now
You are the same God. You are the same God.
You were a Savior then, You are a Savior now
You are the same God. You are the same God.
(Chorus)

You freed the captives then. You're freeing hearts right now
You are the same God. You are the same God
You touched the lepers then, I feel Your touch right now
You are the same God. You are the same God.

I'm calling on the Holy Spirit. Almighty River, come and fill me again
Come and fill me again.

The Scripture Reading: *Nehemiah* 12.27ff

Now at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought out the Levites from all their places,
to bring them to Jerusalem so that they might celebrate the dedication with gladness, with hymns
of thanksgiving and with songs to the accompaniment of cymbals, harps and lyres. [28] *So the sons*
of the singers were assembled from the district around Jerusalem, and from the villages of the
Netophathites, [29] *from Beth-gilgal and from their fields in Geba and Azmaveth, for the singers*
had built themselves villages around Jerusalem. [30] *The priests and the Levites purified*
themselves; they also purified the people, the gates and the wall.

[31] *Then I had the leaders of Judah come up on top of the wall, and I appointed two great choirs,*
the first proceeding to the right on top of the wall toward the Refuse Gate. [32] *Hoshaiah and half*
of the leaders of Judah followed them, [33] *with Azariah, Ezra, Meshullam,* [34] *Judah, Benjamin,*
Shemaiah, Jeremiah, [35] *and some of the sons of the priests with trumpets; and Zechariah the son*
of Jonathan, the son of Shemaiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Micaiah, the son of Zaccur,
the son of Asaph, [36] *and his kinsmen, Shemaiah, Azarel, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel, Judah*
and Hanani, with the musical instruments of David the man of God. And Ezra the scribe went
before them. [37] *At the Fountain Gate they went directly up the steps of the city of David by the*
stairway of the wall above the house of David to the Water Gate on the east.

[38] *The second choir proceeded to the left, while I followed them with half of the people on the wall,*
above the Tower of Furnaces, to the Broad Wall, [39] *and above the Gate of Ephraim, by the Old*
Gate, by the Fish Gate, the Tower of Hananel and the Tower of the Hundred, as far as the Sheep
Gate; and they stopped at the Gate of the Guard. [40] *Then the two choirs took their stand in the*
house of God. So did I and half of the officials with me; [41] *and the priests, Eliakim, Maaseiah,*
Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah and Hananiah, with the trumpets; [42] *and Maaseiah,*
Shemaiah, Eleazar, Uzzi, Jehohanan, Malchijah, Elam and Ezer. And the singers sang, with
Jezrahiah their leader, [43] *and on that day they offered great sacrifices and rejoiced because God*
had given them great joy, even the women and children rejoiced, so that the joy of Jerusalem was
heard from afar.

[44] *On that day men were also appointed over the chambers for the stores, the contributions, the*
first fruits and the tithes, to gather into them from the fields of the cities the portions required by
the law for the priests and Levites; for Judah rejoiced over the priests and Levites who
served. [45] *For they performed the worship of their God and the service of purification, together*

with the singers and the gatekeepers in accordance with the command of David and of his son Solomon. [46] *For in the days of David and Asaph, in ancient times, there were leaders of the singers, songs of praise and hymns of thanksgiving to God.* [47] *So all Israel in the days of Zerubbabel and Nehemiah gave the portions due the singers and the gatekeepers as each day required, and set apart the consecrated portion for the Levites, and the Levites set apart the consecrated portion for the sons of Aaron.*

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

The Sermon

— T.J. Campo

Nehemiah | Not Just Another Brick in the Wall

Worship is War

The Closing Hymn

9:00 "The Church's One Foundation" (vv. 1-2, 5-6) **#347**

11:15 "Revelation 19:1" LaValley / Schrader

Hallelujah! Salvation and glory,
Honor and power unto the Lord our God.
(Repeat)

For the Lord our God is mighty,
And the Lord our God is omnipotent;
The Lord, our God, He is wonderful
(Repeat)

Hallelujah! Salvation and glory,
Honor and power unto the Lord our God.
For the Lord our God is mighty,
And the Lord our God is omnipotent;
The Lord, our God, He is wonderful.

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

Hallelujah! Salvation and glory,
Honor and power He is wonderful

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

He is wonderful

The Benediction and Amen

The Postlude

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)

Nov. 15—*Worship Is War* – Nehemiah 11.1-12.47
Nov. 22—*Why Can't They Just Be Good?* - Nehemiah 13.1-31

SUNDAY CLASSES

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."

Elementary Sunday School | Eliyah McNeill | Rooms 1 &2

Eliyah is continuing in the study of Gensis.

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	Sunday Classes
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
	6:30 PM	Session Meeting
	6:30 PM	Diaconate Meeting
	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. Thanksgiving Potluck/Bingo
	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	7:00 AM	Workday

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.

S.A.L.T. Thanksgiving Potluck & Bingo | Wed., Nov. 18 |11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Bring your favorite Thanksgiving comfort food to share. (casseroles, Mac and cheese, cornbread, pumpkin pie, cider, etc.) and a wrapped item you are willing to part with. (Our Bingo prizes). Please sign up on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form and note what food you'd like to bring.

LOOKING AHEAD AT PARK ROAD PRESBYTERIAN

Thanksgiving Eve Service | Wed., Nov. 25 |7:00 PM
Come praise God and give thanks for His grace to you this year. Communion will be offered.

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.

Christmas Concert | Fri., Dec. 4 | 7:00 PM
Please join us for a time of joyous worship and reflection. This is an excellent way to transition our busy lives and hearts into the real meaning of the Advent season.

Volunteers Needed for Homemade Cookies or Brownies: We are looking for homemade cookie or brownie donations for the reception after the Christmas Concert. Drop them off December 1st -4th between 9:00 am—5:00 pm. Sign up on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form.

Christmas Open House at Campos |Wed., Dec. 9 | 5-8 PM
Drop by between 5-8 PM to say "Hi." Park at the church and walk over to the manse located at 3418 Pierce Street.

Women's Ministry Christmas Event | Fri., Dec. 11 | 6-8 PM
Join us for an evening of worship, meaningful discussion, and dinner.

S.A.L.T. Christmas Luncheon |Sat. Dec. 12 | 12:00-2:00 PM | Tropical Acres
Join the SALT Group for their annual Christmas lunch at Tropical Acres, located at 2500 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale, 33312. The cost of the meal is $30.00 per person. The meal includes a garden salad, rolls, baked potato, vegetables, choice of entrée, Black Forest cake, coffee, tea, and soft drinks. Deadline to RSVP and pay is Sunday, December 6. Please sign up on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form and note your entrée choice: Sliced beef sirloin, Broiled salmon fillet, or Stuffed chicken breast.

Christmas Game Night | Sat., Dec. 19th | 4:00 to 7:00 PM.
Join us for an evening of holiday fun, games, laughter, and good cheer! Bring your family and friends for a joyful celebration of the Christmas season!

Book Talk Review | Tues., Jan. 12 | 10:00 AM-Noon | Church Library
Judi Ungar, retired librarian, will facilitate a review and discussion of "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi.

Save the Date! | Annual Camping Trip | Feb. 25-28, 2027 | Fisheating Creek, Palmdale, FL