



PARK AVENUE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

A Christian Community
that Embraces the
Divinity of Difference
parkavenuechristian.com

Second Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2017

THE PEOPLE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

+Please rise in body or in spirit, as you are able.

The congregation is invited to read and sing all text printed in bold.

WELCOME

GATHERING

Méditation from *Thaïs*
Hirona Amamiya, violin

Jules Massenet (1842 – 1912)

+HYMN

Come! Live in the Light!

1. Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the
2. Come! O - pen your heart! Show your mer - cy to
3. Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when

love of the Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to
all those in fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so
all will be one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as

Refrain

live in the free - dom of the ci - ty of God. We are called
ha - tred and vio - lence will be no
sis - ters and bro - thers u - ni - ted in love.

to act with jus - tice; we are called to love ten - der - ly; we are
called to serve one an - oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

TEXT: David Haas, 1988; © 1988 GIA Publications, Inc.

MUSIC (WE ARE CALLED, Irregular): David Haas, 1988; © 1988 GIA Publications, Inc

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we confess before you that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your son, Jesus, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us and lead us, so that we may walk in your way and delight in your will, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Over the next 60 seconds, you are invited to offer silent prayers of confession.

RESPONSE**Give Me a Clean Heart**

Give me a clean heart so I may serve thee. Lord, fix my heart so that
 I _____ may be used _____ by-thee. For I'm not wor - thy of all these bless -
 ings. Give me a - clean heart _____ and I'll fol low thee. _____

WORDS: Margaret J. Douroux

MUSIC: Margaret J. Douroux; harm. Albert Denis Tessier

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**RESPONSE****Thank you, Lord**

1. Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord,
 2. Been so good, been so good,
 thank you. Lord, I just want to thank you, Lord.
 been so good, I just want to thank you, Lord.

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Children are invited to come forward to the chancel steps for a brief time of sharing. Following this, children may stay in worship with their parents or go with their teachers to Sunday School.

SONG OF PREPARATION**The Steadfast Love of Our God**

The stead-fast love of our God nev-er ceas - es, God's mer-cies nev-er
 come to an end. They are new ev-'ry morn - ing, new ev-'ry morn - ing,
 great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God, great is Thy faith - ful - ness.

WELCOME OF VISITORS

Please note the fellowship pads in the pews. We are especially interested in hearing from all of our visitors. If you are able, please stand if you are a first time visitor so that we may give you a welcome card. Completed cards may be placed in the offering plate.

THE PEOPLE HEAR GOD'S WORD

+THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lay Me Low

Daniel Schwandt

Lay me low, where God can find me.

Lay me low, where God can hold me.

Lay me low, where God can bless me.

Lay me low, oh, lay me low.

+GOSPEL READING

John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

ANTHEM

God Will Make a Way
Eric Lindsey, *Soloist*

Don Moen (b. 1950)
arr. Mark Hayes

THE SERMON

THE PEOPLE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

THE INSTALLATION OF THE REV. SYDNEY M. AVENT

+HYMN

We Won't Leave Here Like We Came

We won't leave here like we came, in Je - sus' name. _____

5 Bound, op-pressed, af - flict-ed, sick or lame. For the Spir - it of the

10 Lord is still the same. _____ We won't leave here like we came, in Je-sus' name. _____

Text: Rev. Maceo Woods, ©
Tune: Rev. Maceo Woods, ©; arr. by Nolan Williams, Jr. b.1969, © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc.
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THE PEOPLE CELEBRATE GOD'S GRACE

THE FEAST OF THE EUCHARIST

THE INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

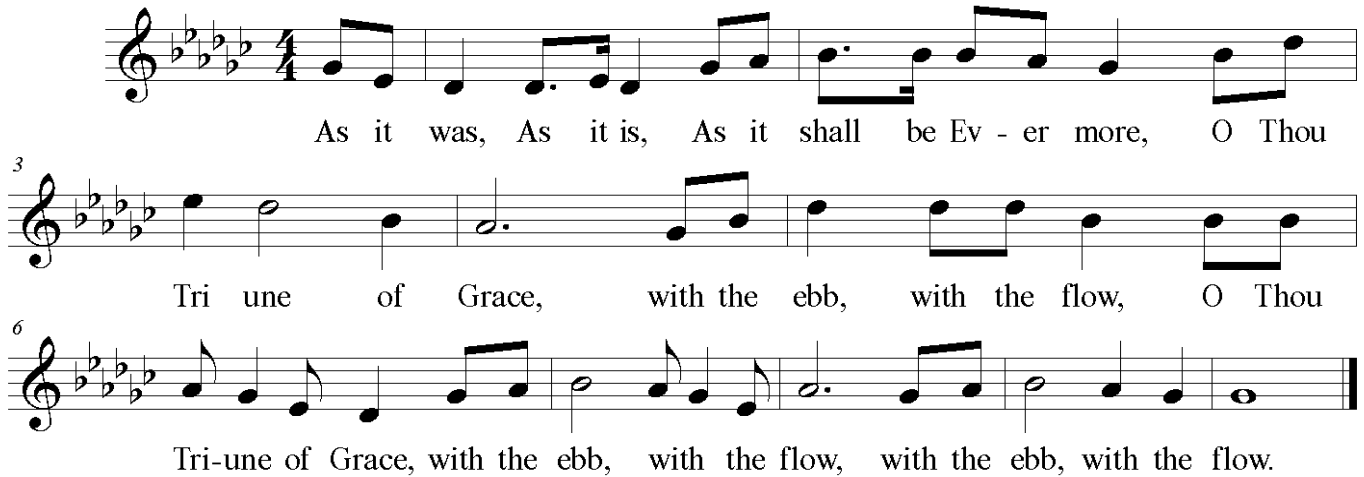
OFFERTORY

God So Loved the World

John D. Horman (b. 1946)

DOXOLOGY

As it was, As it is



As it was, As it is, As it shall be Ev - er more, O Thou

3
Tri une of Grace, with the ebb, with the flow, O Thou

6
Tri-une of Grace, with the ebb, with the flow, with the ebb, with the flow.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PROPER PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God most high.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy
That we should, in all times and in all places,
Give thanks and praise to you, Almighty God.
Lord, have mercy.

BLESSING THE ELEMENTS AND THE PASTORAL PRAYER

CHRIST'S PRAYER

We invite you to use the words to the prayer you know best, in the language that resonates most with you.

In the name of Christ, who taught us to pray . . .

Our God in heaven, hallowed be Your name.

Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins/debts/trespasses, as we forgive those who sin/debt/trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

And so we recall that on the night of betrayal and desertion, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, gave thanks for it, broke it and said:

“Take and eat, this is my body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

In like manner after supper, Jesus took the cup, blessed it and gave it to them saying: “This is the cup of the new covenant in my blood poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink of it for the remembrance of me.”

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

And so we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

Ministering to you in the name of Jesus Christ, I offer you this bread and this cup.

Anyone wishing to know the presence of Christ is invited to come forward to receive communion. If you need to remain in your seat, a deacon will bring the elements to you. Matzo bread, wafers, gluten-free wafers, and grape juice are served.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION Love is Little from *Shaker Songs*

arr. Kevin Siegfried

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

HYMN

What Wondrous Love Is This

1. What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what
2. When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
3. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to
4. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

5
won - drous love is this, O my soul! What
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down; when
God and to the Lamb I will sing! To
9 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on! And

13
won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to
I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous frown, Christ
God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I AM," while
17 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful be, and

bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my soul, to
laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ
mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing, while
17 through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
laid a - side his crown for my soul!
mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!
through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on!

THE BLESSING

THE POSTLUDE

Capriccio in F

G. F. Handel

SHARING A SIGN OF GOD'S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And always with you.

Please share gestures of Christ's peace with your neighbors.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Preaching: The Rev. Kaji S. Douša; **Liturgist:** The Rev. Ismael Sánchez; **Lector:** Hannah Taylor; **Elders:** The Rev. Dr. Richard Sturm and Rebecca Stanton; **Deacon Leads:** Hannah Taylor and Lee Grisham; **Director of Music Ministry:** Saya Callner, conductor; **Organist:** John Austin Clark, piano, organ.

Today's flowers honor/celebrate justice, freedom, equality, diversity and human rights.

Flowers may be given in memory or in honor of someone in your life or to celebrate a special occasion. Call the church office at 212-288-3246, ext. 102 to place your order.

This Week's Mission Offering: New Sanctuary Coalition of NYC. *A gift to the New Sanctuary Coalition of NYC will support the interfaith network of congregations, organizations, and individuals, standing publicly in solidarity with families and communities resisting detention and deportation in order to stay together.*

***Please pray for us as we carry out the ministry of presence and the living of God's love in New York City.
Go in peace. The worship is over. Service now begins.***

The Rev. Kaji S. Douša, **Senior Pastor**
The Rev. Luis-Alfredo Cartagena, **Associate Pastor/Outreach**
The Rev. Ismael Sanchez, **Associate Pastor/Latino Ministry**
Ms. Marjorie Watrobski, **Pastoral Associate, Youth & Children's Ministry**
Ms. Saya Callner, **Director of Music Ministry**
Ms. Stephanie Wilson, **Office Administrator**
The Rev. John Wade Payne, **Senior Minister Emeritus**

PARK AVENUE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
1010 Park Avenue at 85th Street, New York, NY 10028
212-288-3246 | office@parkavenuechristian.com

The Park WEEKLY FORWARD

Welcome

**Everybody needs a place to belong.
Find yours here!**

Our Vision

We dare to see a faithful, growing healthy congregation in the hundreds over the next five years that seeks to demonstrate true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice.

Our Values

We dare to be a church that embraces and celebrates the divinity and dignity of difference by actively seeking and welcoming all people regardless of race, age, culture, economic circumstance, sexual/gender orientation, physical or mental condition. We dare to be a church that lives to serve others.

Our Mission

We dare to do ministry in such a way that reaches and impacts the upper east side, the city of New York and beyond with the radical claims of the gospel of Jesus Christ through our worship and witness as we strive to build the beloved community of God.

Visiting or checking us out today?

The Park may be the place for you. Here's how to connect:

- Join us for *Coffee Hour*, a time of refreshments and hospitality immediately after worship.
- Ask questions or make inquiries of the Greeters and Deacons, fill out a welcome card or the pew pad.
- Wanting to connect with Pastor Douša? Call or email the church office. She would welcome the opportunity to meet over a meal or drinks. Please call 212-288-3246 or email swilson@parkavenuechristian.com.

Thinking about joining?

It would be our pleasure to welcome you to *The Park*. It is easy to join, simply walk forward during the singing of the Invitation to Christian Discipleship (right after the sermon). Pastor Douša will receive you and the whole church will welcome you.

Sharing Your Time, Talents and Treasure

We want you to live out your calling here at *The Park*, and we need your time and your talents, as well as your financial support. Please know that so much of what we are able to do is because of the generous service and support of our members and friends.

If you'd like to receive a pledge card, please see one of the Deacons after worship.

Remembering those in prayer this week:

Bess Terry, Worley Reynolds, Justin Strickland, Etti Schiller, Francisca Torres, Mary Virginia Moore, Josiah Waters, Jaimie Arkelian, Dorothy McCarthy, Terry Jones, Teresa Sulyok, Sigrid Sunstedt, Jeremy Watrobski, Tomás Andrew, Sterling Ashby, and Barbara Sanders.



If you have additions or deletions to the prayer list, please notify the church office at 212-288-3246.

PRAYER

PRAYER MINISTRY AFTER SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE.

One of our Pastors, other Clergy or Elders are always happy to visit with anyone who would like individual prayer after worship. Someone will be stationed in the Chancel area each Sunday.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

(1st Tuesday of each month at the church.) 6:00 pm

Contacts:

Rev. Luis-Alfredo Cartagena – lacartagena@parkavenuechristian.com;

Hillary Buckland – candhbuckland@optonline.net

THE-PARK-PRAYS-ON-LINE

To be added, contact Pam Wood, bandpwood@aol.com (or 917-882-7667, talk/text). As a member, you can post a prayer or prayer request.

ORDER OF ST. LUKE THE PHYSICIAN

Healing prayer group, NYC Chapter meets monthly for worship, study and healing prayer. Contact Pam Wood: bandpwood@aol.com, 917-882-7667.

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Upcoming:

Every Sunday, **Choir Rehearsal**, 9:00 am, *The Park*
Every Sunday, **Adult Bible Study**, 10:00 am, Room A
Every Sunday, **Children's Sunday School**, 10:00 check in,
1:00 pm pick up
Every Monday and Wednesday - **CPE**, 6:30 pm, *The Park*
Every Tuesday, **Recorder Consort Rehearsal**, 6:00 pm, *The Park*
Every Saturday, **Saturday Community Lunch Program**, 1:30 pm,
Manhattan Church of Christ, 48 East 80th Street near Madison
Avenue

Wednesday, March 15, **Babywearing International**,
10:00 am, Room A
Sunday, March 19, **Bilingual (Spanish/English) Worship
Service**, 1:30 pm
Tuesday, March 21, **Ministry Council Meeting**, 7:00 pm,
Room A



*You are invited! Bring a bagged lunch for our monthly
gathering on March 26, after worship.*

Pastoral Compassionate Care in Jail/Prison Setting



Join us for the start
of the program on
**Sunday, March 26, at
3:00 PM at The Park.**

*We will continue
meeting for six
Sundays. Mark your
calendars for:*

**March 26, April 9,
April 16, April 23,
April 30, and May 14.**

*Light refreshments will be provided. Each meeting will last
approximately 2 hrs., running from 3:00 PM -- 5:00 PM.*

*After the training, volunteers will be posted at one of the
facilities at Rikers Island. A certificate will be issued on behalf of
The Park to those who complete this program.*

The Gathering: Spiritual Conversations to Engage, Activate & Nurture Your Call of Activism



Led by Klay S. Williams, The Gathering is a group of awakened activists, visionaries and burgeoning community leaders interested in creating spiritual pathways to develop/nourish one's purpose, build community and discovery of wellness practices to live an empowered life.

Final meeting: March, 19, after worship

Klay S. Williams is an author, holistic lifestyle expert and media personality specializing in holistic personal and professional development. Klay has created a lifestyle-consulting firm, Plan A Enterprises, LLC that is a one-stop-shop for the entire person. Whether he is leading a conversation on spiritual progression of the self, supporting clients with closing the gap between their past and present or having a full service image/wellness conversation, it all points towards living what Klay calls, one's "Plan A". He is the author of *There Is Only Plan A— A Journey Toward Self-Discovery and Renewed Purpose* and *365 Plan A Nightly Meditations*. A graduate of Kalamazoo College, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Religion with a double minor in Economics and Business, he also holds a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary. Klay has appeared/partnered with a host of media platforms, including but not limited to: Fox 5 NY, fyi, NPR, iHeart Radio, Lululemon and ABC. For more information on Klay, visit: KlaySWilliams.com

2017 Lent Devotional

*Retrieve your copy in
time for the Lenten
season.*

****Suggested Contribution:
\$5****

***To read daily devotionals
from members of The
Park and our UCC friends
and family, please visit
our website to subscribe
and stay informed of upcoming events at The Park.***

