January 4, 2026

A Reflection Before the Service

Open wide your door to the one who comes. Open your soul, throw open the depths of your heart to see the riches of simplicity, the treasures of peace, the sweetness of grace. Open your heart and run to meet the Sun of eternal light that illuminates all men.

– Ambrose, Bishop of Milan (339-397AD)

Only a God with whom all things are possible (Matt. 19:26) can become incarnate in the form of an infant. The old hymn is therefore right to say, "Jesus, Lord, at thy birth!" For God's "power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor. 12:9). When we peer into the manger and glimpse the Christ child, we need double vision. We are seeing weakness, yes, but also the matchless might that made the universe. [...]

In short, Christmas reveals God to be wholly unlike the gods of the nations, beyond myths and legends and idols of every kind. Only the God besides whom there is no other (Isa. 45:5) can become one of us without ceasing to be himself — without leaving heaven vacant. The Lord who sits on the throne also sleeps in Bethlehem. This is the mystery of the Incarnation.

– Brad East, "In Bethlehem, God Chose What is Weak to Shame the Strong" (***Christianity Today;*** December 16, 2025)

Scripture taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE
Hymns and Praise Songs printed in our bulletin are used by permission through our Church Copyright License #337734

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Call to Worship: *The Prophet Jeremiah* 9.23-24; *The Letter to the Galatians* 6.14-16

Thus says the LORD, "Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises lovingkindness, justice and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things," declares the LORD.

But may it never be that I would boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. And those who will walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

(Prayer)

The Opening Hymns of Praise

9:00 "All For Jesus" (all 5 verses) #565

"When I Survey (all 4 verses) #252

11:15 "Holy, Holy, Holy/Cornerstone" 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.

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

God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

11:15 "Is He Worthy?" - Peterson, Shive, arr. Sorenson

LEADER: Do you feel the world is broken? **PEOPLE: We do.**
LEADER: Do you feel the shadows deepen? **PEOPLE: We do**.
LEADER: But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through? **PEOPLE: We do.**
LEADER: Do you wish that you could see it all made new? **PEOPLE**: **We do.**

LEADER: Is all creation groaning? **PEOPLE: It is.**
LEADER: Is a new creation coming? **PEOPLE: It is.**
LEADER: Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? **PEOPLE: It is.**
LEADER: Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? **PEOPLE: It is.**

ALL: Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave!
He is David's Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.
Is He worthy, is He worthy? Of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy of this? He is.

LEADER: Does the Father truly love us? **PEOPLE: He does.**
LEADER: Does the Spirit move among us? **PEOPLE: He does.**
LEADER: And does Jesus our Messiah hold forever those He loves? **PEOPLE: He does.**
LEADER: Does our God intend to dwell again with us? **PEOPLE: He does.**

ALL: Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave!
He is David's Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.
From ev'ry people and tribe, every nation and tongue,
He has made us a kingdom and priests to God to reign with the Son.
Is He worthy, is He worthy? Of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy, is He worthy? Is He worthy of this? He is!

LEADER: Is He worthy? Is He worthy? **ALL: He is!**
LEADER: Is He worthy? Is He worthy? **ALL: He is! He is!**

The Prayers of God's People

My soul, wait in silence for God only, for my hope is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I shall not be shaken. On God my salvation and my glory rest; the rock of my strength, my refuge is in God. Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. Selah. (Ps. 62.5-8)

Our Father, thank You for always beckoning us to withdraw to a quiet place and wait for You; help us to take seriously Your daily invitation : (Silence)

Lord Jesus Christ, You are our rock, our salvation and our stronghold; inwardly convince us to trust You at all times and not to seek refuge outside of Your finished work: (Silence)

Holy Spirit, we now pour out our hearts before You; we pray for our needs and the needs of those who need refuge: (Silence)

Lord of the Nations, we pray for our beloved friends, Fred and Sheila Reid in Tokyo; please encourage them, strengthen their marriage and friendships and use them to call Your people to Christ in that city: (Silence)

Now as Your family we pray as our Savior gave 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.)

The Apostles' Creed:*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell;
the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the quick * and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic church,**
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. 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.

*Although not written by the apostles, the *Apostles' Creed* is a concise summary of their teachings. It originated as a baptismal confession, probably in the second century, and developed into its present form by the sixth or seventh century. *i.e. "living" ** 'Catholic' means international unlike the Old Testament Church which was a single nation.

9:00 "All My Boast is Jesus" (Gal. 6:14) - Getty, Boswell, Papa, Fowler, ar. Wilson

-

What wonder of wonders, what love is this that Christ would die for me
His goodness, His merit, His righteousness, this sinner's only plea

O foolish pride, be crucified the work is finished

All my boast is in Jesus. All my hope is His love.
And I will glory forever in what the cross has done.

Now fully forgiven, my life is filled with graces undeserved
For mercy that flowed down that sacred hill, let praises now return

Rise up, my soul, and bless the Lord, Who else is worthy?
(Chorus)

(2x)
O praise the One forever blessed, Him alone my heart adores
And I will boast in nothing less than the love of Christ, my Lord.

I boast not in riches, in strength, or might but in the grace of God
I glory in weakness, to live is Christ in plenty or in want

That I may know, that all may see His pow'r within me.
(Chorus)

Now I stand in this freedom ransomed, clean in His sight
And I cannot be ashamed for my boast is Jesus Christ

My boast is Jesus Christ. Forever my boast is Jesus Christ

11:15 "Rise & Fall" Renstrom

The dawn of the light
Is breaking tonight
At the birth of this dangerous Boy.
The Shepherds and kings
Bow down and sing
At the birth of this dangerous Boy.

Many will rise and fall at the birth of this King,
The birth of this King.
Many will rise and fall at the birth of this King,
The birth of this King.

And those who oppose
Stumble on His throne
At the birth of this dangerous King
But many will hear,
Believing in fear,
Will hope in this dangerous King.
(Chorus x2)

The Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 43.1-5; Luke 2:25-35

Then he led me to the gate, the gate facing toward the east; [2] and behold, the glory of the God of Israel was coming from the way of the east. And His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His glory. [3] And it was like the appearance of the vision which I saw, like the vision which I saw when He came to destroy the city. And the visions were like the vision which I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell on my face. [4] And the glory of the LORD came into the house by the way of the gate facing toward the east. [5] And the Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house.

Luke 2 *And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him. [26] And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. [27] And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law, [28] then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said, [29] "Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, According to Your word; [30] For my eyes have seen Your salvation, [31] Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, [32] A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES, And the glory of Your people Israel."*

[33] And His father and mother were amazed at the things which were being said about Him. [34] And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is appointed for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and for a sign to be opposed-- [35] and a sword will pierce even your own soul-- to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

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

The Sermon - T. J. Campo

In Lonely Exile Here | Mourning and Thriving in Babylon

Glory Filled the House

The Hymn of Preparation

9:00 "How Deep the Father's Love For Us" (v 1 & 2 before communion , v 3 after)

1. How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory

2. Behold the Man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

3. I will not boast in anything
No gifts no pow'r no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

The Hymn of Preparation

11:15 "At the Cross" (v.1, 2, chorus) Mortan, Zschech/White, Brown, Lake

1. Oh Lord You've searched me. You know my way
Even when I fail You, I know You love me

2. Your holy presence surrounding me
In every season, I know You love me. I know You love me

At the cross I bow my knee, where Your blood was shed for me
There's no greater love than this
You have overcome the grave. Your glory fills the highest place
What can separate me now

3. You go before me; You shield my way. Your Hand upholds me.
I know You love me, I know You love me
(Chorus)

You tore the veil; You made a way when You said that it is done
(Repeat)

Fire and wind come do it again. Open up the gates let Heaven on in
Come rest on us, come rest on us.
As the Spirit was moving over the water, Spirit come move over us
Come rest on us, come rest on us.
(Repeat)

And when the earth fades, falls from my eyes
And You stand before me, I know You love me. I know You love me
(Chorus)

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Park Road Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who are willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the gospel, to receive Holy Communion with us. If you are not able to receive Communion, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers. (Gluten-Free bread is on the middle of the table.)

Prayers for Those Not Taking the Lord's Supper

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth. Lord Jesus, you claim to be the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent and convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief. Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Bread
The Wine

The Closing Hymn

9:00 "How Deep the Father's Love For Us" (v. 3) **Page 9**

11:15 "At the Cross" (v.3 to end) Mortan, Zschech/White, Brown, Lake

The Benediction and Amen

The Postlude

SERMON SERIES

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?

SUNDAY CLASSES | 10:10-11:05 AM

Sunday Class Schedule: January

All Church Sunday School | January 4th, 11th, 18th | Fellowship Hall

For the month of January, we will all be meeting together in the 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. Get to know the people sitting by you each Sunday! Nursery care is available for children 3 and younger. We encourage your children to join you for our Combined Sunday Class.

Elementary Sunday school will resume in February.

Congregational Meeting | January 25h | Fellowship Hall

All Park Road Members are invited and encouraged to attend the Congregational Meeting. We will vote on officers, look back at 2025, ahead to 2026, and the Inquirers class will join our membership.

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	Combined Sunday Class
Monday	6:30-8:00 PM	Men's Bible Study (Narthex) Contact David King at ironaeus@aol.com
	7:30-9:00 PM	Women's In-person Bible Study Contact Alexa at Alexa@parkraodpres.org
Tuesday	6:30-8:30 PM	PRYouth
	6:30-8:30 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
	6:30-7:25 PM	Contemporary Worship Team Rehearsal
	7:00-8:15 PM	The Bible Recap (at Dottie's Home)
Thursday	9:15-11:00 AM	Women's In-person Bible Study Contact Grace at Grace@parkroadpres.org
	11:15- 12:15	Women' s Prayer Time via Zoom Contact Mary Diaz at 954-249-6635
	6:30-8:30 PM	ESL Classes
Saturday	10:00 AM—Noon	Baby Shower for Anna Iszler & Kerri St. Vil

The love and concern of the congregation is extended to Phyllis Miller and family on the passing of her husband, Glenn, on December 28, 2025. If you would like to send her a sympathy card, her address is: 312 S. Rainbow Drive, Hollywood, 33021.

New Church Directory

If you are a member, please take a few moments to complete the *Church Directory Information* form at the Kiosk. Drop it in one of the offering boxes in the back of the church by Jan. 4th.

Women's Bible Study through the Gospel of Luke Begins this Week

Join us Monday evening in-person, Tuesday evening online, or Thursday morning in-person for women's Bible study. All 3 Bible studies will be taking 12-weeks to go through the Gospel of Luke. Childcare is provided for both in-person studies. Sign up on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form. Please pick up a study book & complete week 1 before the first meeting (the week of January 4th). Study books will be in mid week. Suggested donation $10.

The Bible Recap | Wed., Jan. 7 | 7:00-8:15 PM| Dottie's home

Contact Dottie Wobb at 954-649-7930 for info on this women's in-person Bible study meeting once a month at her home located at 5716 A Polk Street, Hollywood, 33021.

Women's Baby Shower for Anna Iszler & Kerri St Vil | Sat., Jan. 10 | 10:00 AM

All women are invited to help us shower mama's-to-be Anna & Kerri on January 10th from 10am-12pm. Bring a box of diapers to enter the diaper raffle. If you would like to bring a gift, a Target or Amazon gift card would be a blessing. RSVP on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form.

SALT Pot Luck Luncheon with Guitarist Timothy LaRogue| Wed., Jan. 14 | 11:30 AM

Bring your favorite side dish and a donation of $10 to enjoy an hour with Timothy LaRogue on the guitar playing our favorite folk/soft rock songs of the 60's and 70's. Sign up on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form.

Women's Ministry Pajama, Pizza, & Prayer Board Night | Fri., Jan. 16th | 6-8 PM

The new year brings a great opportunity to set new spiritual goals and pray bold prayers. Join us for a fun night of having pizza & participating in an inspiring craft. We will be creating personal prayer boards where we will get to thoughtfully spend time thinking through some spiritual goals & prayer requests we have for 2026. All craft materials will be provided by the Church! Bring your Bible & wear your coziest pajamas! Sign up on ***Keeping in Touch*** form or online.

HAPPENINGS at PARK ROAD

Lifeline Screening | Tues., Jan. 20 | Fellowship Hall

Life Line Screening offers a 4-screening package (Carotid Artery, Peripheral Artery, Atrial Fibrillation, & Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm) at a special price of $129. To book your appointment or get more info, visit LLSA.SOCIAL/HABC

Annual Church Picnic| Sat., January 24th | T.Y. Park | 11:00 am—3:00 pm

The annual church picnic will be Saturday, January 24th at Pavilion #12 at T.Y. Park, located at 3300 N. Park Road, Hollywood 33021. Everyone is welcome and invited to join for a time of fellowship and fun! If you plan to attend, please fill out the ***Keeping in Touch*** form.

Young Adults: Save the Date of January 30th at 6:30 PM

Annual Camping Trip | Feb. 19-22 | Fisheating Creek –Palmdale, FL

Save the date! All are welcome to join us! If you would like more information, please contact Mike Carpenter at 954-325-5468.

Orchid:

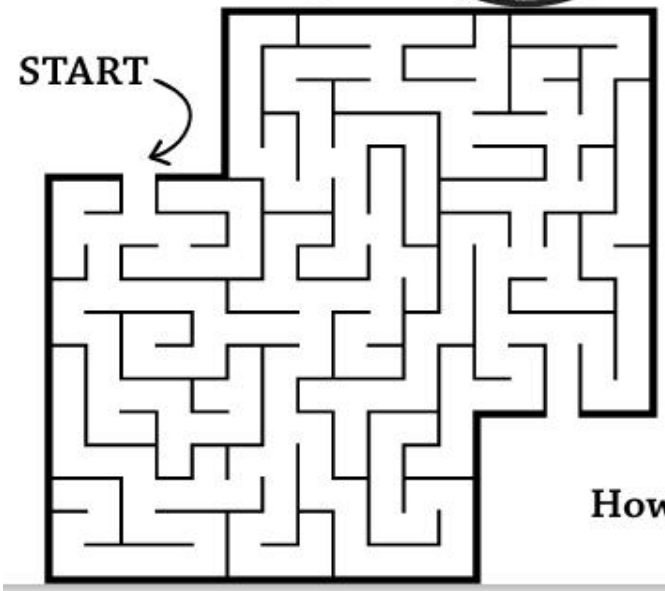
If you would like to purchase ($30) an orchid for 2026 to be placed in the Sanctuary for a special occasion, fill out your request on the ***Keeping in Touch*** form.

Therefore, if anyone is
in Christ,
he is a new creation.
The old has passed away;
behold, the new has come.
2 Corinthians 5:17

Hap
New

MAZE

Find your way through the maze before the clock strikes midnight.



GOALS for this New Ye

Something new I want to learn

Somewhere I want to go.....

Somebody I want to show kind

Somebody I want to pray for...

Something I want to help with

Someone I want to share Jesus

Something else.....

How many STARS can you find on t

ear:

n.....

.....

dness to.....

.....

n at home.....

s with.....

.....

the page?

WORDSEARCH

N	E	W	Y	E	A	R	S	C
U	J	O	T	G	I	A	K	E
S	E	R	R	G	O	D	R	L
E	S	S	A	P	I	G	O	E
F	U	H	P	P	H	E	W	B
A	S	I	A	F	E	L	E	R
I	E	P	R	A	Y	E	R	A
T	B	U	R	T	H	A	I	T
H	H	S	P	H	E	R	F	E

NEW YEAR JESUS CELEBRATE WORSHIP
PARTY FAITH FIREWORKS PRAYER GOD

Can you find the words above in the Wordsearch?

My prayer requests...

.....

.....

.....