

**The Baptism of the Lord**  
**January 11, 2026**

THE  
VISION  
WORTH FOLLOWING



**I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;  
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
your elders shall dream dreams,  
and your young people shall see visions.  
Even on the most unexpected people,  
in those days I will pour out my spirit.**  
Joel 2:28

# PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Baptism of the Lord Sunday  
January 11, 2026

The Vision that Changes Us  
8:30 & 10:00 am

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## WELCOME!

*We welcome you to worship today. Park Ridge Community Church affirms that all people are made in the image of God and are worthy of God's love and grace. We commit to the ongoing work of being a church journeying together to deepen our understanding of the nature of God's love and to fulfill our responsibility to embody the Christ Spirit in the world. No matter who you are or where you are on this journey, you are welcome and loved.*

## WELCOME

## PRELUDE

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

A voice comes from heaven and calls us beloved.

**Water washes over us and we are changed.**

A voice tells us we are new creations in God, separated and divided no longer.

**Sanctified by our baptism, we recognize all God's children as beloved.**

Let us worship the One who calls from the water to become followers of God's vision:

**The vision that requires our own transformation  
to usher in the transformation of the world.**

### \*HYMN

*Come Sing o Church in Joy!*

430

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of water and spirit, it is hard to hear your voice calling us beloved amid the cacophony of voices around us telling us that we are not good enough. Even when we hear your voice, it is hard to believe the depth of your love for us. Open our ears, Beloved One, to hear your voice. Open our eyes to see your amazing presence in this world. Help us feel your strength filling us and enabling us to live into the vision you have for all of your beloved Creation. Forgive our doubts, our excuses, our inability to hear and see and feel you shining in our lives and in the world around us.**

*Silent Prayers are Offered*

### \*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Trust the promise of the One who gave you birth: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name, and you are mine." There is nothing you can do or not do that will ever change that. Believe this in your heart and soul and be at peace.

**I do so believe. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### \*GLORIA PATRI

577/579

**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.**

### \*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

#### FIRST LESSON

Colossians 3:12-17

#### MINISTRY OF MUSIC (10 am)

*Let Us Pray For Peace*

T. Keesecker

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (10 am)

## PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

### MINISTRY OF MUSIC (8:30 am)

*Seek Ye First (v.1-2)*

### \*PREACHING LESSON

Luke 3:2-3,7-16, 21-23

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

Change is Hard

Rev. Carol Hill

### OFFERTORY

*If God Be For Us*

Handel

### \*DOXOLOGY

593/592

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.***

***Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

### \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All-loving and gracious God, you have called us by name and and love us with a fierce tenderness. In gratitude and praise, we offer our love in return - love for you and your people. May our gifts strengthen your vision for the world by creating the Beloved Community, right here, right now. Amen.

### HYMN

### \*BENEDICTION

*In Thee I Put My Trust*

Bach

### \*POSTLUDE

*\* INDICATES TO PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR IN SPIRIT*

**INDICATES TO SPEAK ALOUD IN ONE VOICE**

***In the event of an emergency, please follow the direction of the ushers.***

Leading Us in Worship:

Rev. Carol Hill, Senior Minister  
Pastor Mollie Foster, Associate Minister

Sasha Gerritson, Director of Music Ministries  
Angie & Andrew Weber, Musicians  
Sue Douglass, Organist  
Jane Kenas-Heller, Pianist  
Chancel Choir

CREDITS: Prayers and liturgy adapted from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2013 Edition*. Copyright © 2012 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

PLEASE SEE AN USHER...for seat cushions and/or hearing assistance devices for use during worship. Thank you to our January Ushers: Bill Barsanti (captain), Tom Brunet, Lorel Brunet, Cindy Klimmick, Rich Roecker, Sharon Kemerer, Sandy Bowen and Katie Reboletti.

## ITEMS OF NOTE

WELCOME GUESTS! We are glad you are joining us in worship today. Please fill out a postcard found in the pew baskets or in the narthex to share your information with us!

Please email [office@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:office@parkridgecommunitychurch.org) if you have any questions.

ALTAR FLOWERS are \$60 to sponsor! You can sign up to sponsor flowers on the sign-up sheet on the office bulletin board.

RESTROOMS are located on the lower level at each end of the church. All-gender/family restrooms are located at the bottom of the stairs at the back of the sanctuary.

ONLINE DONATIONS can be made via Zelle (our Zelle email is [giving@parkridgecommunitychurch.org](mailto:giving@parkridgecommunitychurch.org)), or via our new online giving platform! You can text "GIVE" to (847)-908-9088 or scan the QR code to make a donation!



# CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

**Nursery (0-5 years old)** Our nursery is open from 8:30 am to 11:15 am for children up to 5 years old. It's a safe and welcoming space located downstairs, just next to Jordan Hall.

**Pre-K – 5th Grade** Children are invited to join Sunday School after the Children's Message during worship. They will head to the Sunday School Wing to explore the Bible story The Wise Men through hands-on crafts and interactive learning. Families may pick up children in the Sunday School Wing following the service.

**6th-12th Grades** Youth will meet in the Library following the Children's Message for Sunday School! Today's lesson is "Epiphany".

**Middle School Holy Chow TODAY, 11:45 am-1 pm** We will gather in the Butler Place Entry and walk Uptown for a meal together with meaningful discussion with Pastor Mollie! No money needed!

**Wacky Wednesday (6th-8th Grades)** Wacky Wednesday provides a fun and safe space at PRCC for Middle School Students on Early Release Wednesdays from 2:30-3:30 pm.

**Youth Choir** The Youth Choir meets on Wednesdays from 3:30-4:45 pm.

## ADULT MINISTRY

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY - 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm in Ellinger Transept**

Wednesday Night Bible Study is discussing "The Bible and the Transgender Experience. Books are \$10 from the Church Office. This study is convened in person with a zoom option.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST - Thursdays at 9:00 am**

Calling Men of all ages! Join us for coffee and pastries at 9 am every Thursday in the Church Library. We chat about the latest news, check in with each other about life, and enjoy the absence of an agenda! All are welcome! Join us on Zoom!



**Expanding our Welcome: A Mental Wellness Perspective**

**Sunday, January 25th, from 3-5 PM in Jordan Hall Guest speaker- Rev. Gilbert Martinez, Pastor, (Christ Church UCC Des Plaines) (Babysitting will be provided).**

Why be WISE? (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) A WISE congregation is one that has covenanted to being WISE for mental health in their community and the wider world. Have you, or someone you know, experienced depression, anxiety or other mental health issues (diagnosed or undiagnosed), or took part in therapy or hospitalization? Have you ever wanted to help or support someone, but didn't know how? At PRCC, we very often need each other, and we support each other. This is

another way to do just that. Learn more about why and how to become a W.I.S.E. congregation.

## OUTREACH

**100 YARDS FOOD DRIVE** Help tackle hunger and bring your A-Game to donate 100 yards of food by Super Bowl Sunday (Feb. 8) for the Maine Township Food Pantry. Drop off non-perishable food in Ellinger. Items will be measured each week!

**JOURNEY'S TOILETRY COLLECTION** Throughout January, we are collecting small, travel size toiletries such as shampoo (no conditioner needed), bar soap, hand/body moisturizer, toothpaste, etc. for JOURNEYS: The Road Home. They are also in need of women's and men's new packs of underwear, warm socks, hats, and gloves. Look for the drop off location in the Butler Place Entry!



**"Courage and Connection Art Gallery: Stories of Refugee Neighbors"**

**Saturday, January 31, 7-8 pm, Jordan Hall**

All are welcome to come and hear stories, see powerful portraits, experience the resilience of refugee neighbors as they have made their homes in the United States. Over coffee and dessert, we will learn about how refugees connect with the volunteers who walk beside them and what opportunities exist for involvement! A free-will collection will be received to benefit Exodus World Service.



PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH  
ANNUAL FUNDRAISER



# CARNIVAL

FEBRUARY 28, 2026

A NIGHT OF CASINO GAMES, DINNER, COCKTAILS,  
LIVE MUSIC, AND AMAZING AUCTION ITEMS--  
CARNIVAL STYLE!

\$100 PER TICKET  
\$750 A TABLE OF EIGHT  
\$50 AFTER DINNER TICKET

5:00 PM: COCKTAILS  
6:00 PM: DINNER & LIVE AUCTION  
7:30 PM: DESSERT, CASINO GAMES,  
& LIVE MUSIC



SCAN FOR TICKETS!

*\*This event is for ages 21+*



# PRAYER REQUESTS

One of the gifts of community is that we hold one another in prayer. Each week, we share our joys and sorrows with one another so that we might feel the support of the community. No one is alone. God is with us, and we are supporting one another.

## WE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR CONGREGATION AND OUR LOVED ONES:

Laura Beaudion, Tom Berry, Evan Curtis, Amber Douglass, Wylie Douglass, Jon Forsythe, Ginny Feurer, Kym Giera, Christine Kotecki, Michelle Leach, Joey M., Michael McDonough, Tracy McKenzie, Kappy Muenzer, Pete Muenzer, Sandra, Brian Stevens, Kathleen Weller, Joyce Wright, and Bernice Zabawski.

## PRAYER REQUESTS FROM December 21st to January 4th:

- We give thanks for our choir, our Music ministers, guest musicians and all those who enhance our worship with their talents and instruments!
- We celebrate all those with birthdays this week and rejoice in time together with loved ones.
- Kym asks for prayers as she gets staples and stitches removed and heals from an infection in her elbow.
- Luan asks for prayers for her son's friend, Katie M., who is having diagnostic tests this week as she awaits serious surgery on January 2nd.
- Tim and Sally M. ask for prayers for their dear friend, Suebee, as she recovers from surgery for breast cancer. We pray for a straightforward diagnosis and treatment plan as she heals.
- We pray for the loved ones of Marty McHugh, who entered life in the resurrection on Tuesday, December 16.
- We pray for all of those whose grief is pronounced by the holiday season.
- Grace C. asks for prayers for her husband Tom who has just been diagnosed with melanoma.
- Rick B. gives thanks that his friend Robin received a "cancer-free" result after recent treatment for breast cancer.
- We pray for Pastor Carol and the immigration protesters who go to court on Wednesday.
- We pray for the people of Venezuela and all of those living in fear because of war and violence around the world.
- Emma H. asks for prayers for her cousin Owen R. who is struggling to walk.
- We pray for families who are traveling from the Caribbean.
- We pray for the McHugh family and all those who are grieving the death of Marty M, whose life will be celebrated on Jan 11.

# CHURCH EVENTS

## SUNDAY, January 11

- 8:30 am - Chapel Worship
- 10:00 am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 am - Loving Lunches (Kitchen)
- 11:45 am - Holy Chow: Middle School
- 2:00 pm - A Celebration of Life of Marty McHugh

## MONDAY, January 12

- 7:00 pm - Yoga (Great Hall)
- 6:00 pm - Finance Committee Meeting (Library)

## TUESDAY, January 13

- 10:15 am - Chair Yoga (Great Hall)
- 12:00 pm - Kindred Spirits Cafe (Jordan Hall)
- 7:00 pm - "Getting to Know You" Info Session (Parlor)
- 7:30 pm - Stephen Ministry Supervision (Library)

## WEDNESDAY, January 14

- 10:00 am - Staff Meeting (Pastoral Office)
- 10:00 am - Women's AA (Parlor)
- 2:30 pm - Wacky Wednesday (Great Hall)
- 2:45 pm - Girl Scout Meeting (Jordan Hall)
- 3:45 pm - Youth Choir (Music Room)
- 7:00 pm - Bible Study (Ellinger Transept)
- 7:00 pm - Action Ridge (Jordan Hall)

## THURSDAY, January 15

- 9:00 am - Men's Breakfast (Library)
- 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir (Music Room)

