The background of the entire page is a close-up, slightly blurred photograph of an acoustic guitar. The guitar's body, neck, and headstock are visible, with the sound hole and bridge clearly shown. In the lower-left corner, the keys of a piano are also visible, creating a musical theme for the cover.

# THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO *Amy Grant*

**The Gospel According to Amy Grant:  
A Theology of God  
July 6, 2025**

# PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

A Theology of God

July 6, 2025

8:30 am & 10:00 am

## 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

When the weight of all our dreams is resting heavy on our head,  
And all the thoughtful words of help and hope have all been nicely said,

**Then God gently re-reminds us that God made us from the first,  
And the more we try to be the best, the more we get the worst.**

We realize the good in us is only there because of who God is.

**All I ever have to be is what God made me,  
Any more or less would be a step out of God's plan.**

God daily recreates us, and we are made in God's beloved image,  
exactly how we are supposed to be.

**All I ever have to be, all we ever have to be, is who God made us to be.**

## \*HYMN

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

See Insert

## \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lay down your burden, I will carry you.

I will carry you my child, my child.

**Lay down your burden, I will carry you  
I will carry you my child, my child.**

Cause I can walk on water, Calm a restless sea.

I've done a thousand things you've never done.

**And I'm really watching while you struggle on your own.**

**Call my name, I'll come.**

Lay down your burden, I will carry you.

I will carry you my child, my child.

**I give vision to the blind. I can raise the dead.**

**I've seen the darker side of hell, And I've returned.**

I've seen those sleepless nights and count every tear you cry.

Some lessons hurt to learn. So lay down your burden, I will carry you.

*Silent Prayers are Offered*

## \*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

We serve a God strong enough to carry the burdens we shoulder. The embrace of God is always waiting with love, mercy, and persistence.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## \*SONG OF RESPONSE

*El Shaddai*

See Insert

Hebrew Translation: El Shaddai: God Almighty; El Elyon: The Most High God; na Adonai: O Lord; Erkahmka: We will love you

## \*PASSING THE PEACE

**FIRST LESSON**

John 4:7- 18

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC***Everywhere I Go*

Amy Grant

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE****PASTORAL PRAYER****MUSICAL RESPONSE (8:30 am)***Near to the Heart of God, v. 1*

See Insert

**\*PREACHING LESSON**

Luke 15:11-32

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

**Thanks be to God.****SERMON**

God Come Us Who?

Rev. Carol Hill

**OFFERTORY****\*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**

As we consider the lilies of the field, how much more does God love His own if Yaweh cares for them. As we consider the creatures of the air, God takes after each and every need. If we ask God for bread, will She give us a stone? Jehovah loves Her own.

Jehovah, we love You so, and Jesus, we want You to know that after all You've done, we'll never let You go. Help us to love as you have loved with all that we have and are. Amen.

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Lift up your hearts and give thanks to the Lord our God.

**We lift up our hearts and give thanks and praise to our God.**

...Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER (sung)**

***Our Father, which 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***

**RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP** *Holy Communion will be received by intinction, coming forward, receiving a piece of bread and dipping it into the cup. All are welcome to receive Communion, and if you prefer or need to be served in your seat, please raise a hand so our Deacons can come to you.*

**PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING****\*HYMN***How Can We Name a Love*

See Insert

**\*BENEDICTION****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 July 6, 2025

Rev. Carol Hill, Senior Minister

Rev. Mollie Foster, Associate Minister

Sasha Gerritston, Director of Music Ministries

Sue Douglass, Organist

Angie &amp; Andrew Weber, Musicians

Mark Holihan, guitar

Dave Swanson, guitar

Tom Goodwin, harmonica

Bob Mack, bass

Karen Nelson, violin

Carmen Abelson, violin

Naomi Hildner, viola

Melissa Bach, cello

CREDITS: Call to Worship adapted from the lyrics of All I Ever Have to Be, written by Gary Chapman © 1980. Prayer of Confession adapted from the lyrics of Carry You, written by Amy Grant © 2005. Prayer of Thanksgiving adapted from the lyrics of Jehovah, words by Geoffrey P. Thurman, © 1983. The Great Thanksgiving Liturgy from the United Methodist Book of Worship "A Service of Word and Table V", Copyright © 1976, 1980 by Abingdon; Copyright © 1985, 1987, 1992 by UMPH. Used by permission. "Call to Worship adapted from the lyrics of Hope Set High, written by Amy Grant © 2007. Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance adapted from the lyrics of Arms of Love, written by Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith, and Gary Chapman © 1982.

## 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.

**NURSERY CARE** The nursery is available for children up to age 5 from 8:30 am -11:30 am. Our nursery is located right next to Jordan Hall in the basement.

**CHILDREN'S BULLETINS** are available in narthex.

**PLEASE SEE AN USHER...**for seat cushions and/or hearing assistance devices for use during worship. Thank you to our May Ushers: Scott Nelson (captain), Dan Smith, Michael Laginess, Haukur Gudmundsson, Linda LuDuc, Charlie Giera, Kym Dohnke, Bud Shinn, and Kent Ulery.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** Alter 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!



**MAINE TOWNSHIP FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION** is held on the 1st Sunday of the month! Bring your non-perishable food items to be donated to those in need.

## CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

**SUNDAY SCHOOL (PK-5th Grades)** Throughout the summer months, we will not hold Sunday School regularly. However, we'll still have some special opportunities to gather! Mark your calendars for fun Kids Club days on July 20 and August 10. In the meantime, families are welcome to pick up in-worship activity buckets from an usher.

**YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH GROUP (6th-12th Grades)** Youth Weekly Programming has concluded for the school year! We will resume in September!



**PRCC CHURCH CAMP (August 23-24 at Tower Hill Camp in Sawyer, MI)** All are welcome for this multi-generational camp experience! Register before July 23. Cost is \$125 per person including activities, lodging and 3 meals. Check in at 9 am on Saturday, Aug. 23 and Check out Aug. 24 at noon. For more information, contact Morgan or Pastor Mollie!

## ADULT MINISTRIES

**SENIOR CONTACT ICE CREAM SOCIAL - July 11 at 6:30 pm**

Come and enjoy a sweet treat with the Seniors of PRCC, just before the Symphony Concert in the Park! Hope to see you there as we cool off together!

## OUTREACH

### LOVING LUNCHES

PRCC is pleased to support our partner and local non-profit organization Loving Lunches. Monthly, PRCC assists Loving Lunches by preparing 160 lunches that will be delivered to those experiencing homelessness and food insecurity in the Chicagoland area. Volunteers are needed monthly! Our next packing date is July 13th! We are also in need of food to pack lunches! Scan the code to see the items needed.





# 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, Evan Curtis, Amber Douglass, Wylie Douglass, Jon Forsythe, Ginny Feurer, Christine Kotecki, Michelle Leach, Joey M., Tommy Mack, Michael McDonough, Tracy McKenzie, Pete Muenzer, Sam Orth, Brian Stevens, Kathleen Weller, Bernadine Williams, Joyce Wright, and Bernice Zabawski.

## PRAYER REQUESTS FROM June 29:

- We give thanks for the wedding and beautiful start to married life for Keith Nelson and his bride Claire Tighe on June 21.
- We give thanks for the Chicago Pride Parade and pray for all of those participating in celebrating the LGBTQia+ community.
- We hold in our prayers Stephanie L's mom Marilyn as she goes in for heart valve replacement surgery on Monday.
- We hold in our prayers Pastor Carol's grandmother Mary Elise as she begins hospice care.

## El Shaddai

The musical score for 'El Shaddai' is written for a unison voice part. It is in 4/4 time and features a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score is divided into four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system includes the lyrics 'El Shad-dai, El Shad-dai, El El - yon na A-do-nai;'. The second system includes 'age to age you're still the same by the pow-er of the name.'. The third system includes 'El Shad-dai, El Shad-dai, Er-kahm-ka na A-do-nai;'. The fourth system includes 'we will praise and lift you high, El Shad -dai.'.

*Unison*


El Shad-dai, El Shad-dai, El El - yon na A-do-nai;

age to age you're still the same by the pow-er of the name.

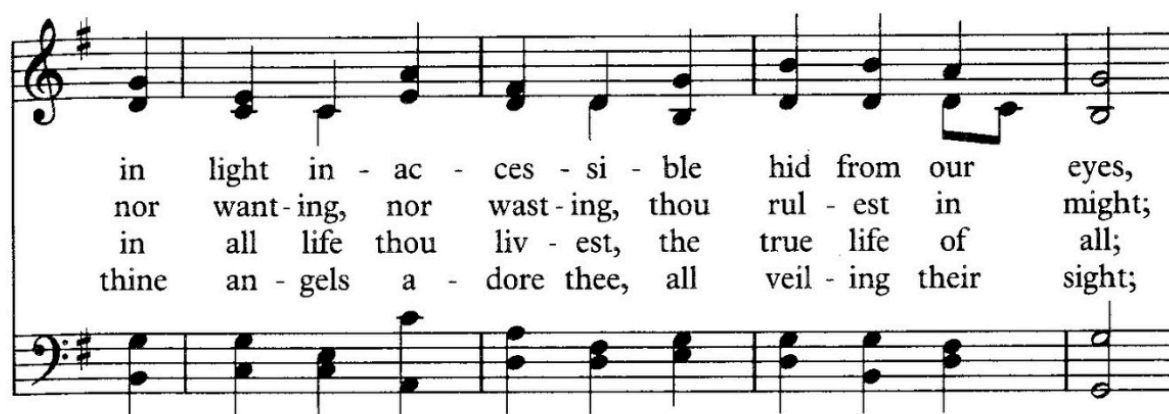
El Shad-dai, El Shad-dai, Er-kahm-ka na A-do-nai;

we will praise and lift you high, El Shad -dai.

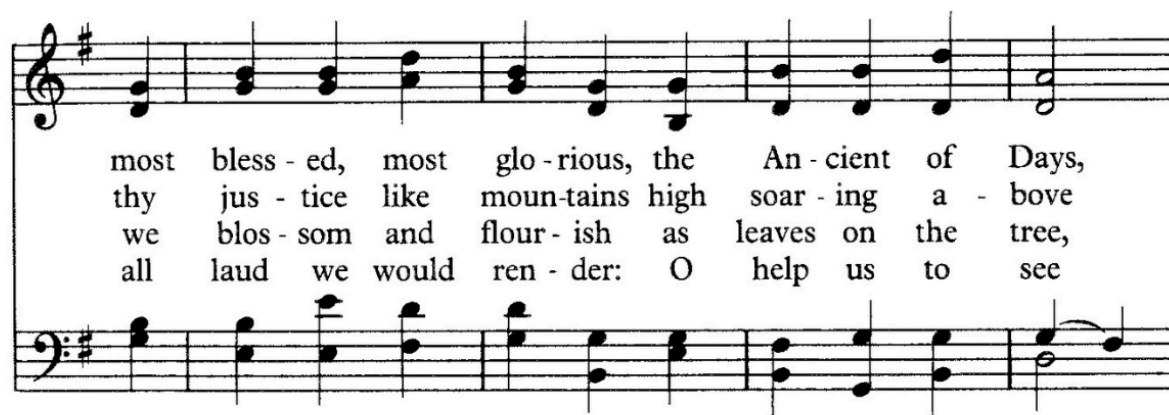
# Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



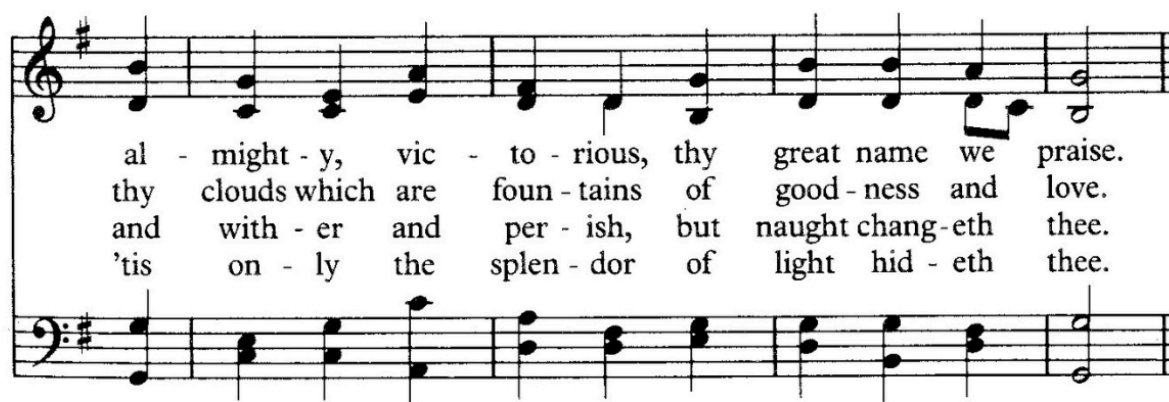
1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3. To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4. Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

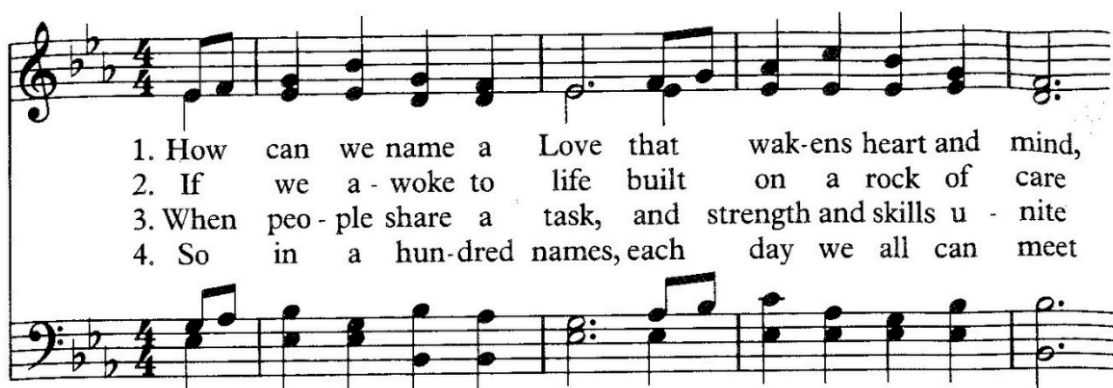


most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,  
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

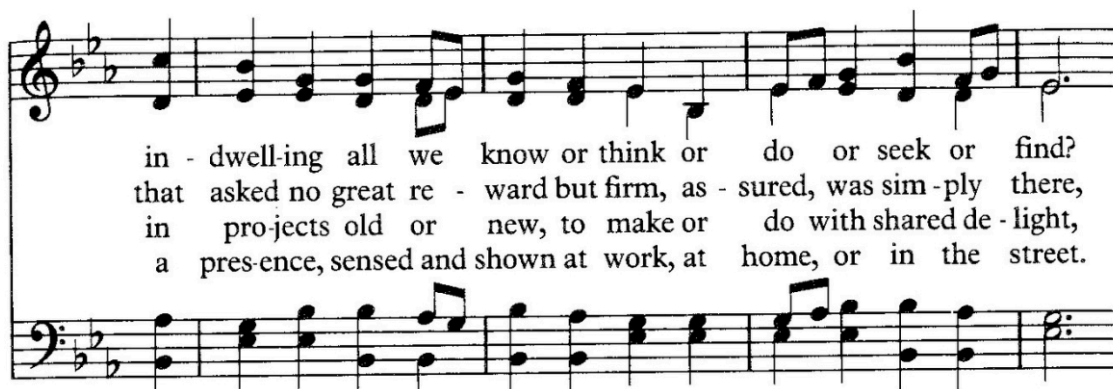


al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.  
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

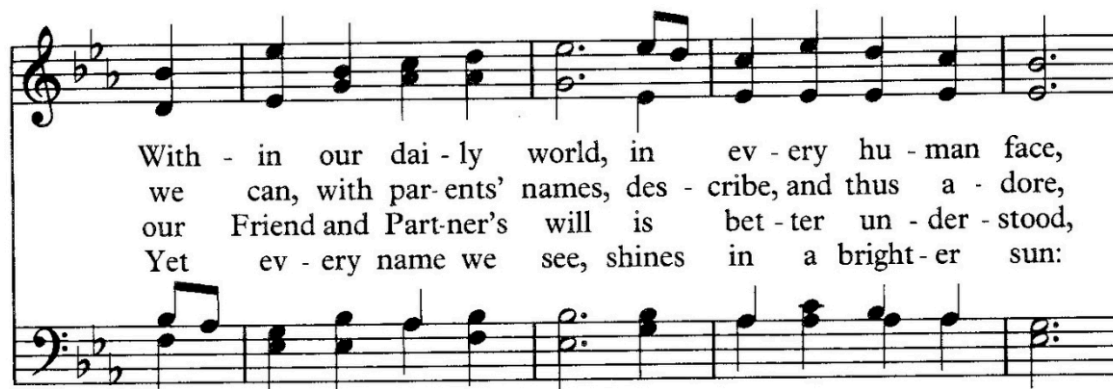
# How Can We Name a Love



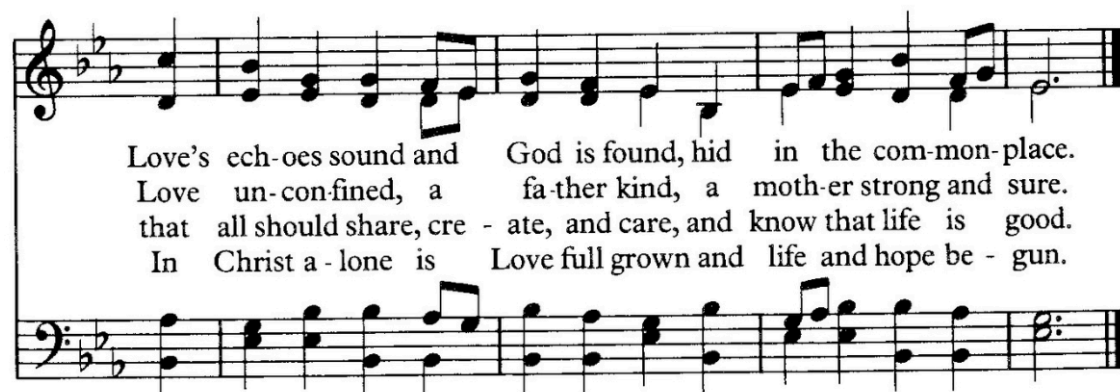
1. How can we name a Love that wak-ens heart and mind,  
 2. If we a - woke to life built on a rock of care  
 3. When peo - ple share a task, and strength and skills u - nite  
 4. So in a hun-dred names, each day we all can meet



in - dwell-ing all we know or think or do or seek or find?  
 that asked no great re - ward but firm, as - sured, was sim - ply there,  
 in pro-jects old or new, to make or do with shared de - light,  
 a pres-ence, sensed and shown at work, at home, or in the street.



With - in our dai - ly world, in ev - ery hu - man face,  
 we can, with par-ents' names, des - cribe, and thus a - dore,  
 our Friend and Part-ner's will is bet - ter un - der - stood,  
 Yet ev - ery name we see, shines in a bright - er sun:



Love's ech-oes sound and God is found, hid in the com-mon-place.  
 Love un-confined, a fa-ther kind, a moth-er strong and sure.  
 that all should share, cre - ate, and care, and know that life is good.  
 In Christ a - lone is Love full grown and life and hope be - gun.

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1973

MUSIC: Trad. English melody; adapt. by Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915

TERRA BEATA  
SMD

Words © 1975 Hope Publishing Co.

# CHURCH EVENTS

## SUNDAY, July 6

8:30 am - Garden Worship (Outdoor Lawn)

10:00 am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

## MONDAY, July 7

7:00 pm - Yoga (Great Hall)

7:00 pm - Trustees (Library)

## TUESDAY, July 8

10:15 am - Chair Yoga (Great Hall)

7:30 pm - Stephen Ministry Supervision (Library)

## WEDNESDAY, July 9 SASHA'S BIRTHDAY!!

10:00 am - Staff Meeting (Pastor's Office)

10:00 am - Women's AA (Parlor)

6:30 pm - Faith Development Meeting (Library)

7:00 pm - Action Ridge (Jordan Hall)

## THURSDAY, July 10

9:00 am - Men's Breakfast (Library)

## FRIDAY, July 11 MORGAN'S BIRTHDAY!!

6:30 pm - Senior Contact Ice Cream Social (Butler Place Room)

### ***HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!***

07/07 Margie Crockett; Meg

Thomas-Cary; Jackie Tilles

07/08 Zoey Blocker; Chris Chandler

07/09 Sasha Gerritson; Char Kenzel;

Penny & Olivia Woo

07/10 Claire Kallen; Nancy Skoog

07/11 Wayne Tuminello; Scott Nelson

07/12 Morgan Tone



Park Ridge Community Church  
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