

The background of the entire page is a close-up, slightly blurred photograph of an acoustic guitar. The guitar's body, with its natural wood grain, and its dark fretboard with metal frets and strings are visible. In the lower-left corner, the white and black 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:
Discipleship
July 20, 2025**

PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Discipleship

July 20, 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

Well, it's too late for walking in the middle, too late to try.

Yes, it's too late for sitting in the balance, no more middle line.

Oh, it's too late for walking on fences, time to choose your side.

Yes, it's too late for flirtin' with the darkness, make up your mind.

Oh, the time has come for making a decision. We say we've found the light.

But talk is cheap when we don't change our livin'. Better get wise.

*HYMN

I've Got Peace Like a River

See Insert

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All of my life seems I've waited for the time to start being the person inside of me, unafraid of being me. No more faces to hide behind, just a smile and a dream that's mine, even if I'm the only one who wants to fly. God, you are calling me into the unknown, and I've heard your voice. Give me the courage to follow where you lead, faithfully live by your example, and finally fly.

Silent Prayers are Offered

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

As God daily recreates us, may we always keep in mind that we only have to do what we can find. And all we ever have to be is what God's made us to be.

All I ever have to be is what God made in me. 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

Romans 6:1-11

MINISTRY OF MUSIC (10 am)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

MUSICAL RESPONSE (8:30 am)

Breathe on Me Breath of God, v. 3

*PREACHING LESSON

Matthew 16:24-26

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

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Wise Up!

Rev. Mollie Foster

OFFERTORY

I Have Decided

M. Card

***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**

Through your love and through the ram, You saved the son of Abraham; Through the power of your hand, You turned the sea into dry land. To the outcast on her knees, You were the God who really sees, and by Your might, You set Your children free. Loving God who continues to call us, we thank you for all you have done and all you are doing. Amen.

***HYMN**

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

See Insert

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

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

BOLD 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 20, 2025

Rev. Carol Hill, Senior Minister
Rev. Mollie Foster, Associate Minister
Susan Greenwood, Lector

Sasha Gerritson, Director of Music Ministry
Sue Douglass, Organist
Mark Holihan, guitar
Dave Swanson, guitar
Tom Goodwin, harmonica
Bob Mack, bass
Sue Douglass, organ
Karen Nelson, violin
David Belden violin
Naomi Hildner, viola
Melissa Bach, cello

Call to Worship adapted from Too Late, song and lyrics by Amy Grant © 1980. Prayer of Confession adapted from I'm Gonna Fly, written by Amy Grant © 1981. Words of assurance adapted from All I Ever Have to Be, written by Gary Chapman, sung by Amy Grant © 1980. Prayer of Thanksgiving adapted from El Shaddai, written by Michael Card and John Thompson, sung by Amy Grant © 1981.

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 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 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), 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!

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 August 10th! 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 July 13:

- Sally and Tim M. ask for prayers for their friend who will be having a medical procedure this week due to a pre-cancerous lesion on her pancreas.
- We hold in prayer a family who is mourning the loss of a loved one to suicide. May they be surrounded by God's peace as they process many difficult emotions.
- We ask for healing for Jean D., a friend of Sally and Tim M., who recently suffered a stroke. Please also pray for Chris, Jean's son, and his wife, Terri, as they help manage Jean's recovery.
- Mark H. asks for prayers for his daughter-in-law, Meredith, and her family as they mourn the unexpected loss of her mother, Vicky Fox, who entered Life in the Resurrection earlier this week.

PRCC Roofing Project

Roofing Project – Update and a Big Thank You!

As everyone can see, scaffolding has taken over most of PRCC 's building, especially to the tip top of the steeple. Quite a sight day and night! Our contractors are well underway... The steeple restoration has begun, as well as removal of copper flashing and gutter system. Upon completion of the new gutter system, the roof will be removed and fully replaced. If all goes as scheduled, all will be finished by Rally Day! Some of you may have noticed the fire department at church with the hook and ladder up. No worries – everyone is fine. The PRFD has come on several occasions for general inspections and for department training. We are doing our best to keep the grounds kept up and unfortunately, we are not able to access much of the church grounds and the gardens easily. Once complete, there will be grand efforts to restore our grounds to its original state! We are grateful for our contractors and their hard-working crew, especially in this heat! If you pass by, please feel free to extend a gesture of gratitude Thank you all for your patience and understanding during this much needed project! If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to Paula Mack at atpcbmack@gmail.com.

El Shaddai

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.

I've Got Peace Like a River

African-American spiritual

7.7.11

African-American spiritual

1. I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a
 2. I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a
 3. I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an

1
 riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er in - a my
 foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain in - a my
 o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean in - a my

2
 soul. I've got riv - er in - a my soul.
 soul. I've got foun-tain in - a my soul.
 soul. I've got o - cean in - a my soul.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1. Come, thou Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to
 2. Here I raise mine Eb - e - ne - zer; hith - er by thy
 3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con -

sing thy grace; streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
 help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good plea - sure,
 strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a fet - ter,

call for songs of loud - est praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious
 safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a
 bind my wan - dering heart to thee. Prone to wan - der, Lord, I

son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! I'm
 stran - ger, wan - dering from the fold of God; he, to res - cue
 feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O

fixed up - on it, mount of thy re - deem - ing love.
 me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

WORDS: Robert Robinson, 1758 (1 Sam. 7:12)
 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part Second, 1813

NETTLETON
 87.87 D

CHURCH EVENTS

SUNDAY, July 20

8:30 am - Garden Worship (Outdoor Lawn)

10:00 am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

MONDAY, July 21

9:00 am - PEO Sisterhood, Chapter GZ

1:00 pm - Knitting Knights (Off-Site Contact Liz Swanson)

7:00 pm - Yoga (Great Hall)

6:30 pm - Executive Committee (Library)

7:30 pm - Board of Directors (Jordan Hall)

TUESDAY, July 22

10:15 am - Chair Yoga (Great Hall)

WEDNESDAY, July 23

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

THURSDAY, July 24

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

07/20 Alena Goodwin

07/23 Dorothy Lehman

07/24 George Van Geem

07/25 Sara Born



Park Ridge Community Church
100 Courtland Ave. Park Ridge, IL 60068
www.parkridgecommunitychurch.org