

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 are prominent on the right side. On the left side, the white and black keys of a piano are visible, also in a soft focus. The overall lighting is warm and moody.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO *Amy Grant*

**The Gospel According to Amy Grant:
Theology of Angels
July 27, 2025**

PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Theology of Angels

July 27, 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

Angels appear throughout scripture, sometimes in dreams, sometimes as unexpected guests, sometimes surrounded by brilliant light in the sky -

Often saying just the right word, sharing a word of hope, supporting humankind through a difficult moment.

We have felt the presence of God's messengers, sometimes in the moment and sometimes not until long after.

God sends angels when we need them most, if we simply look.

There are angels among us, watching over, guiding us, and helping us every step of the way.

*HYMN

God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

See Insert

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of angelic host and mortal beings, you know how often we try to hide when we're hurting. We are embarrassed by our failures and regrets. We lose the will to carry on and are overwhelmed by the griefs we bear. We forget that you are a God who walks this road with us. We forget that you've already sent your angels to surround us. We forget that your love will never leave us nor forsake us. Help us remember.

Silent Prayers are Offered

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: We can leave the hurt behind us. Love has found us and God will never let us go. Jesus carries you. God'll see you through. Angels are watching over you. So we don't need to hide our hearts.

Love has found us. God will never let us go. 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

Psalm 103:15-22

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Angels Watching Over Me

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

MUSICAL RESPONSE (8:30 am)

Breathe on Me Breath of God, v. 4

***PREACHING LESSON**

Hebrews 1:1-7, 14, 2:1-9

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

Thanks be to God.**SERMON**

Believing in Angels

Rev. Carol Hill

OFFERTORY*If I Could See****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**

Loving God, you've helped us face our greatest fears, losing so much that we've held dear. That's how mercy looks from here. When boundless grace appears, unseen angels hover near, when the saints are singing loud and clear - that is how mercy looks from here. Thank you for the myriad of ways you show up in our lives. Help us to demonstrate the breadth of mercy and compassion for all of your children. May we be the angels you send forth in care. Amen.

HYMNThere's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

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 27, 2025

Rev. Carol Hill, Senior Minister
Rev. Mollie Foster, Associate Minister
Jason Hinton, Lector

Sasha Gerritson, Director of Music Ministry
Sue Douglass, Organist

Credits: Call to Worship written by Rev. Carol Hill, 2025. Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance adapted from Where Do You Hide Your Heart, written by Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith © 1984. Prayer of Thanksgiving adapted from How Mercy Looks From Here, written by Amy Grant and Eric Pasley © 2013.

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 LUNCH with PASTOR MOLLIE (6th-12th Grades)

Bored at home and want to go to lunch Uptown? Come to the Butler Place entry at 12:00 pm on your designated day and Pastor Mollie will treat you to lunch!

High School: July 29 / Middle School July 31.

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 20:

- We celebrate birthdays and anniversaries, cherishing loved ones who bring us such deep gladness.
- We give thanks for Senior Ice Cream Socials and guest preachers who make us think.
- We give thanks for the work of the General Synod of the United Church of Christ and all the ways God is still speaking and moving through our collective church action.
- We give thanks for the testimony and leadership of those continuing to make good trouble by denouncing evil and injustice in the world.
- Traveling mercies for all who are traveling near and far.
- We pray for Kym as she continues to struggle with severe pain. We pray for her appointment on Friday to offer some relief.
- We pray for a loved one who has been unemployed for 8 months and is losing hope.
- We pray for Kathy and Marc that they might feel your presence, your patience, your strength for each day.
- We pray for a child experiencing medical challenges and having tests run.
- We pray for Berty's brother Marion, as he continues to deal with complications following cancer treatment and adjusts to life on a feeding tube indefinitely.
- Tricia and Bill W. ask for continued prayers for cousin Bernadine and family as she is now receiving hospice care.
- Our prayers surround the Jarvis-Gerritson family as Eugene's father entered life in the resurrection this week.

El Shaddai

Unison

Fm Bb Eb

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

Cm Db G Cm G/D

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

C/E Fm Bb Eb

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

Cm Db Bb Bb7 Eb

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

268 God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

HOLY MANNA 8.7.8.7 D

Catherine Arnott Cameron, 1967; alt.

Attr. William Moore, 1825
Harm. Charles Anders, 1969

F Dm Gm Dm Am Gm7

1. God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens In - fi - nite in
2. We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of Since the child-hood
3. As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, May it chal-lenge

Bb7 Dm C Dm C Bb7

time and place, Flung the suns in burn - ing ra - diance
of our race; Known the ec - sta - sy of wing - ing
us a - new: Chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose,

Am Bb7 C F F Dm7

Through the si - lent fields of space: We, Your chil - dren
Through un - trav - eled realms of space; Probed the se - crets
Serv - ing oth - ers, hon - oring You. May our dreams prove

Bb7 Gm7 Bb7 Am7 Bb7 Gm7 C

in Your like - ness, Share in - ven - tive powers with You;
of the at - om, Yield - ing un - i - mag - ined power,
rich with prom - ise, Each en - deav - or well be - gun;

F Dm C Gm7 Am Bb7 C6 C F

Great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, Show us what we yet may do.
Fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion Or our most tri - um - phant hour.
Great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance Till our goals and Yours are one.

298 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE 8.7.8.7 D

Frederick William Faber, 1854; alt.

Dutch melody
Arr. Julius Röntgen (1855-1933)

1. There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy, Like the wide-ness of the sea;
2. For the love of God is broad-er Than the mea-sures of the mind;

There's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice, Which is more than lib-er-ty.
And the heart of the E-ter-nal Is most won-der-ful-ly kind.

There is no place where earth's sor-rows Are more felt than up in heaven;
If our love were but more faith-ful, We would glad-ly trust God's Word;

There is no place where earth's fail-ings Have such kind-ly judg-ment given.
And our lives re-flect thanks-giv-ing For the good-ness of our Lord.

CHURCH EVENTS

SUNDAY, July 27

8:30 am - Garden Worship (Outdoor Lawn)

10:00 am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

MONDAY, July 28

9:00 am - PEO Sisterhood, Chapter GZ (Library)

1:00 pm - PEO Meeting (Jordan Hall)

7:00 pm - Yoga (Great Hall)

7:00 pm - Creation Care (Library)

TUESDAY, July 29

10:15 am - Chair Yoga (Great Hall)

12:00 pm - High School Lunch with Pastor Mollie

6:00 pm - Adult Education (Library)

WEDNESDAY, July 30

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

6:30 pm - Farmers Market Committee (City Hall)

THURSDAY, July 31

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

12:00 pm - Middle School Lunch with Pastor Mollie

6:00 pm - Outreach Committee Meeting (Parlor)

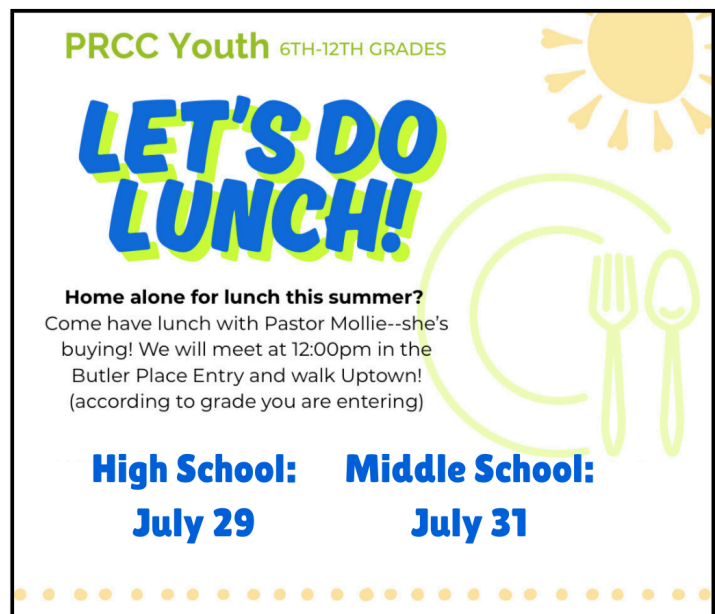
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

07/30 Campbell Stewart

07/31 Karen Nelson

08/01 Marylynn Collentine

08/02 Rosie Pringle



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