



Calling in the Night

First Sunday After Christmas
Matthew 2:13-23

PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
JANUARY 1, 2023

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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

Shout to the Lord your praises!

Sing to the Lord the joy of this day!

For God's might and power are established in the universe!

God's transforming love beckons us.

Come, let us worship God whose Light bursts forth into our darkness!

Let us praise the God of salvation who brings us home. Amen.

*HYMN

As With Gladness

63

*OPENING PRAYER

Quietly the New Year slips in. Are we now more fearful? More careful? More tired? Are we now more aware of the suffering, the violence, the inequality, the injustice in our world? Holy God, in this New Year, we seek you as we have always sought you. We need you as we have always needed you. We hunger for your presence, your peace, your justice and your love.

Open our hearts afresh and anew. Open our minds that we may know you. Open our hands that we may care for you. Open our ears and eyes so that we may hear and see you in our neighbor, in the foreigner, in the refugee, even in our enemy, and, perhaps especially, in ourselves. That we may know in the deepest part of ourselves; that you call us and that we are capable of seeing and naming, doing and being your love, your peace, your hope and your justice in this your world. Amen.

*GLORIA

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

23

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 63:7-9

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PASTORAL PRAYER

*PREACHING LESSON

Matthew 2:13-23

This is the word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Calling in the Night"

Pastor Mollie Foster

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

A Little Child Shall Lead Them

arr. Smith

***DOXOLOGY**

To the tune of *What Child is This?*

53

*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.
This, this, is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste, haste, to bring him laud, the babe, the Son of Mary.*

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

In this New Year, O God, we are grateful for the gift of your dear Son, Jesus Christ. Receive, we pray, these offerings we bring. May they be used in the service of your grace and truth dwelling among us. In Christ's holy name we pray. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God is shining upon you!

And God's light streams upon you!

Open your hearts.

We open them to the brilliance of God.

Let us give thanks for the light and love of God.

We praise our Creator with joy and thanksgiving.

...It is with this expectation that we come to the table to taste and see that God is here.

Holy Lord, God of endless love,

Heaven and Earth are surely full of your glory.

The angels sang of it—we have been lavished with it.

Blessed is he who was born that we might have life.

Glory to God and on earth peace to all people.

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.

***HYMN**

The Snow Lay on the Ground

57

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

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

BOLD INDICATES TO SPEAK ALOUD IN ONE VOICE

LEADING US IN WORSHIP JANUARY 1, 2023 10:00 AM

Pastor Mollie Foster, Associate Minister
Sarah McCarty, Director of Pastor Services

Sasha Gerritson, Director of Music Ministries
Jane Kenas-Heller, piano
Sarah Hibbard, soprano
Lorenzo Formosa, baritone

CREDITS:

Call to Worship: Ministry Matters, Nancy C. Townley

Opening Prayer: written by Revd Thandiwe Dale-Ferguson, USA. Posted on **Worship Words**. <http://worshipwords.co.uk/new-year/>

The Great Thanksgiving adapted from Rev. Elsa Peters, the United Churches of Olympia, WA.

Benediction: ~ by Cara Heafey, UK. Posted on Worship Words at <http://worshipwords.co.uk/new-year-blessing-cara-heafey-uk/>

CHURCH EVENTS

SUNDAY JAN. 01

10:00 am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

MONDAY JAN. 02

TUESDAY JAN. 03

WEDNESDAY JAN. 04

THURSDAY JAN. 05

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

11:30 am - Lincoln Park Services (Kitchen)

FRIDAY JAN. 06

SATURDAY JAN. 07

1:00 pm - Memorial Service for Geri LeDuc

Happy Birthday!

12/25 - Hillary Larson

12/29 - Noah Laginess & Susie Hollingsworth

1/1 - Lyle Shinn & Barrie Shinn

1/2 - Lon Naudzius

1/3 - Bruce Nelson, Julie Bruno, & Emily Donahue

1/4 - Rick Benedetto

1/5 - Laurie Honza

1/7 - Gail Benedetto

A Celebration of the Ministry & Retirement of Liz Swanson



Sunday

January 8, 2023

11:00am in Jordan Hall

A lunch featuring Liz's favorite foods, a memorable presentation, and more!

Please bring a dessert to share!

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!

COFFEE HOUR is held in Jordan Hall immediately following the 10 am service. Thank you to the Senior Contact and Membership Committees for hosting coffee hour this month!

PLEASE SEE AN USHER...for seat cushions and/or hearing assistance devices for use during worship.

Thank you to our January ushers: Sharon Kemerer, George Skoog, Cindy Klimmeck, Paula Mack, Bob Mack, Lorel Brunet, Tom Brunet, and Bill Barsanti.

ALTAR FLOWERS We've got a brand new sign-up sheet for all Sundays in 2023 just outside the office! If you're interested in purchasing flowers to dedicate, you can sign up on the sheet and the office will contact you closer to that Sunday. Our flower vendor has increased the price of our altar flowers to \$55. Payments can be made by check or through the church zelle/paypal!

RESTROOMS are located on the lower level at each end of the church.

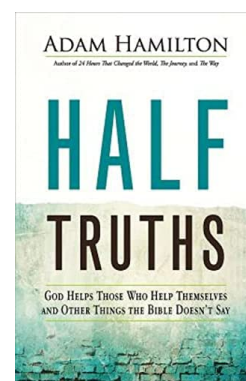
SUNDAY SCHOOL is offered for children and youth from Pre-K through 12th grade during the 10:00 am service! Pre-K-4th grade gather in the Sunday School Wing, 5th grade in the Library, and 6-12th grade in the Great Hall! On the 1st Sunday of each month, 6-12th graders will remain in worship for Holy Communion. The Nursery is available for all those under 3 years of age located on the lower level.

ONLINE DONATIONS can be made via PayPal or Zelle, our email is giving@parkridgecommunitychurch.org. Thank you!

ADULT EDUCATION

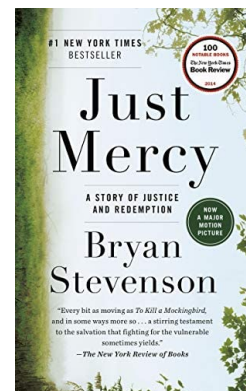
WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY - 7:00 - 8:30 pm in Ellinger Transept

Join Jackie Tilles and others as we consider Adam Hamilton's study "Half Truths." Using video, discussion questions, and bible passages we will consider the degree to which some expressions are grounded in theological truths and the biblical witness or not. This group is open to anyone! **Books are available for \$15 from the church office.**



BOOK GROUP

Everyone is invited to join! Our next book will be: Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson. The discussions about the book will be led by Sarah McCarty. The plan is to meet in February to discuss the book over 3 meetings, maybe five chapters at a time. Then for a fourth gathering we will offer the chance to view the 2019 movie as a group. The details of times in February are not decided – but we wanted to let you know the title so you can begin!



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 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:

Heather Cannon, Evan Curtis, Candace Kidston, Walter Kotecki, Christine Kotecki, Tracy McKenzie, Brian Stevens, Kathleen Weller, Joyce Wright, & Kate Zoellner.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR DECEMBER 18TH:

- We pray for safe travels for all who are traveling near & far this Christmas season!
- We hold in prayer those recovering from surgery, including Evan C's hip replacement and Bill's cousin Matt's open heart surgery.
- It is joy and gratitude that we share the good news that Katie R's followup oncologist appointment brought the great news of no need for any chemo or radiation treatments.
- The Reboletti's also thank God for the much improved health status of niece Rachael.
- Reese asks for prayers for Pastor Carol, Pastor Mollie and every pastor.
- Tom & Lorel ask for continued prayers for her brother Mel who has a difficult diagnosis and is waiting for more tests to determine next steps.
- We continue to hold the LeDuc family in our prayers. A celebration of life for Geri will be held on Jan. 7 at PRCC.
- We hold Dave and Gretchen K in our prayers, as Dave's brother Tom entered life in the resurrection last Sunday, 12/11. We pray especially for Tom's wife Diane as life shifts away from being full time caregiver.
- We are praying for the Hinton family, as Jason's father, Doug, entered life in the resurrection on Thursday, Dec. 15. (wife Dianna)
- We hold the Solomon family in our prayers, and Emily Solomon's husband Brian entered life in the resurrection on Wednesday, December 14 after a devastating cardiac event. We hold Emily and their 2 month old daughter Edith, and all of their loved ones in our prayers.
- David Brockman, friend of the Erlandsson family, entered life in the resurrection on Th., Dec. 15.
- Flowers were sent this week in gratitude of the efforts of our church in helping those affected by the Bristol Court fire earlier this year. It is a joy to hear that recipients of those gifts are doing well as they rebuild after that terrible tragedy and we are grateful for all those whose time and donations had such a positive impact on the lives of our neighbors.
- We are also grateful that our sanctuary can serve as a place of prayer and reflection for those in our community, even when they are not members of our congregation. We lift their prayers up alongside our own.
- We hold the Nolan family in our prayers. Long time member Marty Nolan entered life in the resurrection on Monday, Dec. 19.

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER SIGN UP

A very special THANK YOU to all of the families who have helped in Sunday School already! We have loved having so many new faces in Sunday School! We are still in need of more volunteers for some upcoming Sundays. You can sign up [here](#).

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL (Pre-K-5th Grades)

We invite the children to stay in worship this morning! We have provided activity bags for each child that can be found at the back of the sanctuary.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL (6th-12th Grades)

Youth Sunday School will resume on January 8th!

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP! (4th & 5th Grades)

The Junior Youth Group provides gatherings for 4th and 5th graders! Our next gathering will be on Feb. 11 as we serve with Feed My Starving Children in Schaumburg and head to Portillos following for lunch!

YOUTH GROUP (6th-12th Grades)

Youth Group will resume on January 8th! We will meet from 1:30-2:30 as we connect through games and activities!

VOLUNTEER



LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SHELTER - January 5th, 2023

Assistance is needed to help prepare food for Lincoln Park Community Shelter. Join the team on January 5th for meal prep at 11:30 am in the church kitchen. If you would like to volunteer, you can do so by [clicking here](#), scanning the QR code, or by contacting Luan Zoellner at lzoellner@ameritech.net.



LOVING LUNCHESES - January 8th, 2023

Come join in serving PRCC's newest Outreach Partner, Loving Lunches. Each month PRCC will assist Loving Lunches by preparing and assembling 300+ lunches which will be delivered to those experiencing homelessness in the Chicagoland area. Our next date to serve is January 8th. If you would like to volunteer, sign up by clicking [here](#), scanning the QR code, or by contacting Paula Mack at paula.mack@parkridgecommunitychurch.org.



SUNDAY SUPPER - January 22nd

PRCC works with the Park Ridge Ministerial Association to prepare meals 3-4 times a year for those having difficulty providing enough food for their families. Sunday Suppers are hosted at Park Ridge Presbyterian Church. Meals are prepped at PRCC and served at the host site. The demand has increased for Sunday Suppers so we will prepare and serve food for 100 guests. [Click here](#) to sign up to volunteer today! Thank you for considering to help provide meals for local families in need.



NIGHT MINISTRY - Boots Needed!

The Night Ministry is in need of 50-75 pairs of **new or gently used boots** (preferably made of water resistant materials for better warmth and durability, such as leather/pleather), in these sizes:

Men – 10-12, plus a few 13 or 14, including half sizes and wide widths

Women – 8-11, including half sizes and wide widths

We will make two deliveries, December 11 and January 8th.



THE BRIDGE PROJECT

Donations of gently used men's, women's and children's coats, hats and mittens as well as blankets are being collected starting 12/1/22 to 1/29/23. All donations will be given to the Bridge Project for distribution to the homeless. A collection box will be in the Park Place room. As always your generosity is so greatly appreciated.

Park Ridge Community Church
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