



*February 18*



CULTIVATING  
& LETTING GO

# PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Cultivating & Letting Go:  
February 18, 2026

Ash Wednesday  
7:30 PM

## 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.*

## WORDS of WELCOME

### PRELUDE

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Cultivate within us a love for one another

**with that passion which comes from your overflowing heart, Vine Grower,**

so those around us will recognize us as your family,

**bound together by your love not divided by our fears.**

Cultivate within us a desire to serve one another

**with that compassion which comes from our broken heart, Vine of our lives,**

for the hungry are our brothers, the immigrants are our sisters,

**the homeless are our families.**

Cultivate within us a commitment to include others

**with that embracing welcome which comes from your inviting heart,**

**Fruit-bearing Spirit,**

offering forgiveness to those who hurt us, peace to all filled with hate,

**hope to those burdened by despair.**

Cultivate our hearts to understand all we read and hear,

**As we begin this season of Lent and begin this time of worship.**

### \*HYMN

*The Glory of These Forty Days*

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### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Compassion:

**called to be one body, we fragment ourselves into a million selfish pieces; your children**

**of love, we insist on the right to despise our siblings; though your Perfect Love was**

**broken for us, we are afraid to give of ourselves to the world. Abide in us, Vine Grower.**

**Cultivate a deep abiding faith. Forgive us of our sins, so we may live boldly, love**

**fearlessly, and proclaim unceasingly that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior.**

### \*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Do you feel it – there, deep down in your hearts? God's love is alive, beating, breathing – in you!

**Because God abides in us, we can live for others, allowing God's love to bear fruit in us.**

**Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.**

### FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 58:1-12

### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Angie & Andrew Weber

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

**\*PREACHING LESSON**

John 15:1-11

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Rev. Carol Hill

**OFFERTORY**

Angie & Andrew Weber

**\*DOXOLOGY**

*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**

**Gracious God, You speak of a promised day—a promised day where swords will be beaten into plowshares and justice will roll down like a mighty stream. So we offer you these gifts in hopes that they might help bring about that day. Use us and use these gifts for your good; and as you do, cultivate in us more generous hearts. Amen.**

**THANKSGIVING OVER ASHES**

**\*IMPOSITION of ASHES**

**\*HYMN**

*Abide With Me, V 1-3*

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**\*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.*

CREDITS: Lenten Prayers, Liturgy and Theme by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC sanctifiedart.org Prayer of Thanksgiving written by Rev. Carol Hill, 2025

Leading Us in Worship

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

Sasha Gerritson, Director of Music Ministries  
Angie & Andrew Weber, Musicians  
Jane Kenas-Heller, Pianist

# 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.

**PLEASE SEE AN USHER...**for seat cushions and/or hearing assistance devices for use during worship. Thank you to our February Ushers: Tim Lapp (captain), Adrian Hill, Lon Naudzius, Bruce Nelson, Anita Rifkind, Fred Siebert, and Laura Sissman.

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

**NURSERY** (0-5 years old) The nursery is available for children up to age 5 from 7:30-8:30 pm. Our nursery is located right next to Jordan Hall in the basement.

**Park Ridge Community Church**  
**100 Courtland Ave. Park Ridge, IL 60068**  
[www.parkridgecommunitychurch.org](http://www.parkridgecommunitychurch.org)