

March 22



CULTIVATING  
& LETTING GO

# PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Cultivating & Letting Go  
March 22, 2026

Cultivating Belief & Letting Go of Self-Righteousness  
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

God of new beginnings— Where there is a need for certainty,

**Cultivate peace in us.**

Where there is comparison,

**Cultivate gentleness in us.**

Where there is fear,

**Cultivate hope in us.**

Where there is doubt,

**Cultivate faith in us.**

Where there is isolation,

**Cultivate worship in us;**

For in worship we draw near to you and one another.

**Let us worship Holy God.**

### \*HYMN

*My Hope is Built On Nothing Less*

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### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Like Judas, God of new things, we like to complain about your generous ways, rather than living in your grace. The poor are always with us, we believe, which justifies our ignoring them. In our memories, we see a perceived golden past, and so close our eyes to the new things you do in our midst. We are so enamored with our achievements that we are not willing to throw them away in order to follow Jesus. Forgive us, Restoring God, and help us to notice the kingdom springing forth in our midst. By your grace, may our fears turn to faith, our seeds of grief produce a bumper crop of joy, and our tears turn into torrents of tenderness as we journey with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, to Jerusalem. Amen.**

### FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 43:16-21

### MINISTRY OF MUSIC (10 am)

*Steal Away*

Hayes

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (10 am)

### PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who 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.**

**\*PREACHING LESSON**

John 12:1-8

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

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

Belief Beyond Being Right

Rev. Mollie Foster

**OFFERTORY****\*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**

**If we want to know you, Generous God, we must see you in those all around us. If we want to serve you, we must give up that which is most important to us, even our material resources, so that blessings of hope and life might be offered to the needy, the lonely, the hungry all around us. Receive our gifts, we pray, so that others might be transformed even as we are. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

**\*HYMN***O Lord, Our God, How Excellent* (v. 1-4)

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**\*BENEDICTION****\*CHORAL BENEDICTION***Christ, We Do All Adore Thee*

DuBois

**\*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:

Rev. Carol Hill, Senior Minister  
 Rev. Mollie Foster, Associate Minister  
 John Weber, Lector

Sasha Gerritson, Director of Music Ministries  
 Angie & Andrew Weber, Musicians  
 Sue Douglass, Organist  
 Jane Kenas-Heller, Pianist  
 Chancel Choir

CREBITS: Prayers and Liturgy by Sarah Are Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org). Prayer of Confession and Thanksgiving from © 2016 Thom M. Shuman.

PLEASE SEE AN USHER...for seat cushions and/or hearing assistance devices for use during worship. Thank you to our March ushers: Scott Nelson (captain), Dan Smith, Michael Laginess, Haukur Gudmundsson, Bud Shinn, and Kent Ulery.

## 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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are \$60 to sponsor! You can sign up to sponsor flowers on the sign-up sheet on the office bulletin board. Flowers will not be available to sponsor during Lent.

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 & YOUTH MINISTRIES

**Nursery (Ages 0–5)** Our nursery is open from 8:30–11:15 am for children up to 5 years old. The nursery is a safe, welcoming space located downstairs next to Jordan Hall.

**Sunday School (Pre-K–5th Grade)** Today we'll have an all-ages Kids Club (PK–5), where we'll enjoy some fun spring and Easter projects together! You can pick up your child in the Sunday School wing following worship.

**6th-12th Grades** There is no Youth Sunday School or Youth Group today due to Spring Break! We will resume next Sunday!

**Wacky Wednesday and Youth Choir** will not meet this week due to Spring Break!

# ADULT MINISTRY

## MEN'S BREAKFAST - Thursdays at 9:00 am

Calling Men of all ages! Join us for coffee and pastries at 9 am every Thursday in the Church Library. We chat about the latest news, check in with each other about life, and enjoy the absence of an agenda! All are welcome! Join us on Zoom!

## LENTEN PRAYER STATIONS, SUNDAYS DURING LENT

Lent invites us into a slower, more reflective rhythm of faith. During this sacred season, the Stephen Ministers invite you to journey through seven Lenten Prayer Stations. Each station offers simple, meaningful practices to help you pause, pray, and listen for God's presence in the midst of everyday life. Come at your own pace and allow this time to gently renew your heart and spirit. A map guiding you to each station can be found in the Butler Place Room.

# OUTREACH

## Children's Book Drive!

Throughout March, we will be collecting children's books for Bernie's Book Bank!

Here's what we will take:

- NEW & GENTLY USED **CHILDREN'S** BOOKS
- BIRTH-6TH GRADE READING LEVEL

Here's what we will not take:

- BOOKS WITH YELLOWED PAGES
- BOOKS FOR ADULTS
- ACTIVITY BOOKS
- COOKBOOKS
- RELIGIOUS BOOKS
- PARTIALLY STICKERED BOOKS

Join us as we volunteer at Bernie's Book Bank On April 18th! All ages welcome!

**PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH & BERNIE'S BOOK BANK**

# CHILDREN'S BOOK DRIVE

Donate new or gently used children's books throughout March. Then volunteer with us on April 18th to help get them ready for kids — if you can put a sticker on, you can volunteer!

**BOOK DRIVE**  
DEPOSIT BOOKS IN BINS THROUGHOUT MARCH

**VOLUNTEER**  
APRIL 18TH 9-11 AM  
BERNIE'S BOOK BANK

[REGISTER](#)

**BOOK CRITERIA:**

<p><i>yes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NEW &amp; GENTLY USED CHILDREN'S BOOKS</li><li>• BIRTH-6TH GRADE READING LEVEL</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• BOOKS WITH YELLOWED PAGES</li><li>• BOOKS FOR ADULTS</li><li>• ACTIVITY BOOKS</li><li>• COOKBOOKS</li><li>• RELIGIOUS BOOKS</li><li>• PARTIALLY STICKERED BOOKS</li></ul> <p><i>No!</i></p>
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**ANY QUESTIONS? SEE TRICIA WILLIAMS, MORGAN TONE OR PASTOR MOLLIE**

## ORDERS DUE TOMORROW!!



### EASTER FLOWERS

**Place your order for Easter flowers, by Monday, March 23,**

indicating your preferences. Flowers will be placed around our sanctuary for worship to add to the beauty of these services. The names of those who purchase flowers and those for whom the flowers are dedicated will be listed in the Easter bulletin.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

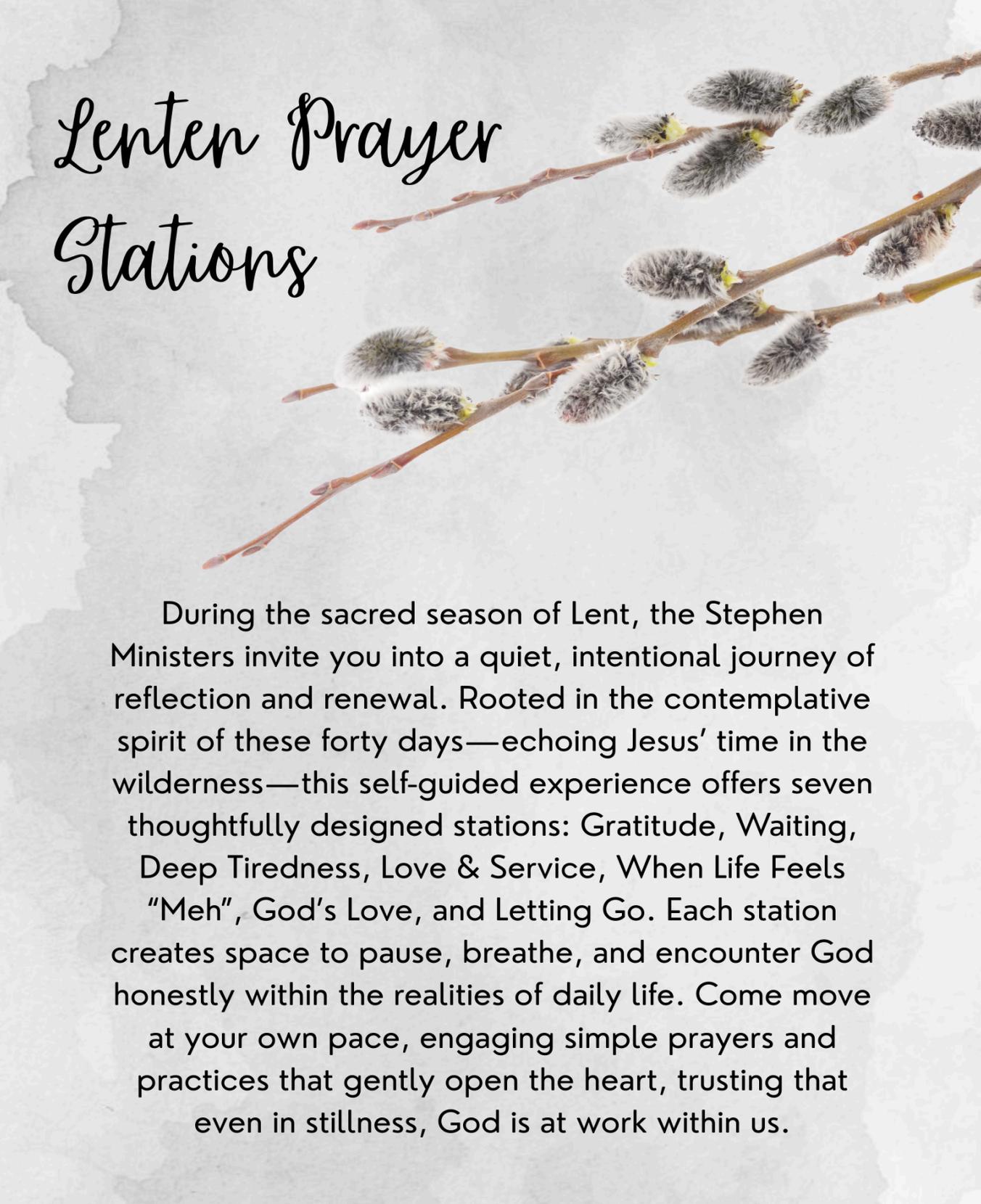
One of the gifts of community is that we hold one another in prayer. Each week, we share our joys and sorrows with one another so that we might feel the support of the community. No one is alone. God is with us, and we are supporting one another.

### **WE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR CONGREGATION AND OUR LOVED ONES:**

Laura Beaudion, Tom Berry, Evan Curtis, Amber Douglass, Wylie Douglass, Jon Forsythe, Kym Giera, Christine Kotecki, Michelle Leach, Joey M., Michael McDonough, Tracy McKenzie, Kappy Muenzer, Pete Muenzer, Sandra, Greg Sarlo, Brian Stevens, Kathleen Weller, Joyce Wright, and Bernice Zabawski.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS FROM March 15th:**

- We give thanks for Kym's successful cataract surgery and pray for the recovery ahead.
- We celebrate Sasha's leadership of opera and our youth's middle school musical held this weekend, highlighting how incredibly talented and special our youth are!
- We celebrate with Tim M. that he completed his accelerated graduate program this week!
- We give thanks for a successful surgery for Sasha's friend, Julie, and pray that she has a swift recovery.
- We pray for a couple families whose beloved dogs are nearing the end of life.
- We pray for loved ones struggling with addiction.
- Our prayers are with Sarah M.'s mom, Cathy, as she prepares for knee surgery on Mar. 16.
- Please pray for Bernice Z. as she recovers from Covid, continues physical therapy and prepares for a possible transition home.
- We hold in prayer Keith R.'s mom, Dottie, who broke several ribs after taking a fall this week. We pray for her healing and comfort as she recovers.
- We hold in prayer Delilah, a young woman who was recently injured in a car accident. We ask God to be with Delilah, her family and medical team as they seek to provide the best care possible moving forward.
- We pray for Winnie E. who is in rehab after being hospitalized after a fall. We pray for her strength in body, mind and spirit as she recovers.
- We hold in prayer the Mauery family as they navigate a family member's mental and physical health struggles.
- We pray for the election this week.
- We give thanks for the life of longtime PRCC member Norma Simmons, who entered Life in the Resurrection on March 6.
- We pray for Kathy E. and family as her mother, Nancy Showalter, entered life in the resurrection last Sunday. We will gather to celebrate her life on Saturday, March 28 at 11 am.
- We pray for the loved ones who gather today to celebrate the life of Ginny Feurer.
- Andrea S. asks for prayer for the family of Chelsea, whose life ended too soon after a stroke, leaving behind a devastated husband and 3 young children.



# Lenten Prayer Stations

During the sacred season of Lent, the Stephen Ministers invite you into a quiet, intentional journey of reflection and renewal. Rooted in the contemplative spirit of these forty days—echoing Jesus' time in the wilderness—this self-guided experience offers seven thoughtfully designed stations: Gratitude, Waiting, Deep Tiredness, Love & Service, When Life Feels "Meh", God's Love, and Letting Go. Each station creates space to pause, breathe, and encounter God honestly within the realities of daily life. Come move at your own pace, engaging simple prayers and practices that gently open the heart, trusting that even in stillness, God is at work within us.



**PARK RIDGE**

**Park Ridge Community Church**

100 Courtland Avenue, Park Ridge, IL 60068  
[www.parkridgecommunitychurch.org](http://www.parkridgecommunitychurch.org)

**JOIN US FOR HOLY WEEK!**

<b>Holy Thursday</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>
<b>April 2</b>	<b>April 3</b>
<b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>7:30 pm</b>
Disciples' Drama	Rutter's <i>Requiem</i>



**Easter Sunday**

**April 5**

**8:30 am & 10:00 am**

Breakfast, Choir,  
 Brass Roots Trio,  
 Easter Message  
 & Easter Egg Hunt

Childcare provided.  
 All services may be viewed  
 via livestream.



# CHURCH EVENTS

## SUNDAY, March 22

**8:30 am** - Worship Service (Chapel)

**10:00 am** - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

## MONDAY, March 23

**1:00 pm** - PEO Chapter DA (Jordan Hall)

**7:00 pm** - Social Justice Team Meeting (Library)

**7:00 pm** - Yoga (Great Hall)

## TUESDAY, March 24

**10:15 am** - Chair Yoga (Great Hall)

**12:00 pm** - Kindred Spirits Cafe (Jordan Hall)

**7:30 pm** - Stephen Ministry Supervision (Library)

## WEDNESDAY, March 25

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

## THURSDAY, March 26

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

**6:30 pm** - Bells on High (Balconey)

**7:30 pm** - Chancel Choir (Music Room)

## FRIDAY, March 27

**6:00 pm** - Action Ridge (Jordan Hall)

## SATURDAY, March 28

**11:00 am** - Memorial Service (Sanctuary)

**12:00 pm** - No Kings Rally and March (Uptown)



03/22 Sally Mauery

03/23 Becca Lapp

03/25 Janet Parker

03/26 Kylie Figgins

03/26 Megan Hinton

03/28 Amalia Hogle