



No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

John 15:13

Good Friday
April 3, 2026

CULTIVATING
& **LETTING GO**

PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

April 3, 2026

Good Friday

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

Nimrod

Elgar

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Followers of Jesus, today we arrive at Pilate's palace, hearing the cries of "Crucify! Crucify" from the crowds outside.

We come to witness Jesus, sentenced to death by religious leaders, government officials, and the crowd.

Today, we arrive at Golgotha, at the foot of the cross where only a few of Jesus' followers dared to gather to bear witness.

We come to witness Jesus, crucified for teaching love, speaking truth, and forgiving sins.

Today, we arrive at the tomb where Jesus' friends laid his body, a final act of love.

We come to witness Jesus, his death a testament to all that sin and evil will do to resist the power of Love to transform the world.

Today, we arrive at Good Friday to remember, once again, the story of Jesus crucified.

We come to witness Jesus, who, even in death, shows us the magnitude of God's steadfast love that never fails.

*HYMN

What Wondrous Love Is This

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*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, the hosannas have died away, the palm branches have turned brittle. Now, today, there is only this – each of us, all of us, sitting in the darkness, the hymns of lament in the air, the mumblings of our own feeble confession, on this Friday which we tremble to call Good.

What is good about Good Friday?

What is good about the innocent one nailed to a cross?

What is good about the darkness of war that persists today?

What is good about our devastation of the planet?

... about people living in poverty?

... about the fog of addiction, depression, disease, and despair?

What is good about the crushing weight of hunger, racism, scapegoating, apathy?

No, there is nothing good and desirable in these things. Yet you, O God, are Good. When suffering reigns, yours is the first heart to break.

When despair lurks about, we remember that you were there first, peering into the abyss and crying out, incredibly: "Father, forgive them."

When we feel forsaken, we remember that in your last moments, you cared for your mother and your beloved disciple, binding them to one another as a new family.

**When we feel overcome by guilt, we remember that you spoke grace to a thief:
“Today you will be with me in paradise.”**

Your love for us is just that boundless, and ever-present, and Good. Thank you.

**What else can we say here, in the dimness, in the darkness,
but thank you. Amen.**

***SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Luke 23:32-49

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Requiem

John Rutter (b. 1945)

1. REQUIEM AETERNAM

*Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine:
et lux perpetua luceat eis.*

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

*Te decet hymnus Deus in Sion:
et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem.*

A hymn befits thee, O God in Zion:
and to thee a vow shall be fulfilled in Jerusalem.

*Exaudi orationem meam,
ad te omnis caro veniet.*

Hear my prayer,
for unto thee all flesh shall come.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy.

Christe eleison.

Christ have mercy.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy.

2. OUT OF THE DEEP

Psalm 130

Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice.

O let thine ears consider well the voice of my complaint.

If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss, O Lord, who may abide it?

For there is mercy with thee: therefore shalt thou be feared.

I look for the Lord; my soul doth wait for him; and in his word is my trust.

My soul fleeth unto the Lord before the morning watch; I say, before the morning watch.

O Israel, trust in the Lord; for with the Lord there is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption. And he shall redeem Israel from all his sins.

3. PIE JESU

Sarah Hibbard, soprano

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem.

Blessed Jesu, grant them rest.

*Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis sempiternam
requiem.*

Blessed Jesu, grant them everlasting rest.

4. SANCTUS

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,

Holy, Holy, Holy,

Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Lord God of Hosts.

Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.

Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory,

Hosanna in excelsis.

Hosanna in the highest.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in excelsis.

Hosanna in the highest.

5. AGNUS DEI

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
Dona eis requiem.*

Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
In Thy mercy, grant them rest.

Man that is born of a woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery.

He cometh up, and is cut down like a flower; he fleeth as it were a shadow.

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
Dona eis requiem.*

Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
In Thy mercy, grant them rest.

In the midst of life we are in death: of whom may we seek for succor?

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
Dona eis requiem sempiternam.*

Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
In Thy mercy, grant them rest everlasting.

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord;
he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:
and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

6. THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing.
He shall feed me in a green pasture: and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
He shall convert my soul; and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me:
thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.
But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

7. LUX AETERNA

Sarah Hibbard, soprano

I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord,
For they rest from their labors; even so saith the Spirit.

*Lux aeterna luceat eis Domine:
cum sanctis tuis in aeternum,
quia pius es.*

Light eternal shine upon them, Lord, we pray:
With saints and angels ever dwelling,
for thy mercy's sake, may they rest in peace.

*Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine:
Et lux perpetua luceat eis.*

Grant them rest eternal, Lord our God, we pray to thee:
And light perpetual shine on them forever.

SILENT REFLECTION

A FEW THOUGHTS

Rev. Carol Hill

OFFERTORY

The offering will be collected but not brought forward tonight.

*HYMN

O Sacred Head Now Wounded

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*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

* INDICATES TO PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR IN SPIRIT

INDICATES TO SPEAK ALOUD IN ONE VOICE

In the event of an emergency, please follow the direction of the ushers.

CREDITS :Call to Worship written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, UMC Discipleship Ministries, September 2025.

Prayer of Confession written by MaryAnn McKibben Dana, Posted on LiturgyLink,

<https://www.liturgylink.net/2012/04/04/good-friday-prayer-the-hosannas-have-died-away/>.

Leading Us in Worship:

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

Sasha Gerritson, Dir. of Music Ministries
Sue Douglass, Organist
Jane Kenas-Heller, Piano
Chancel Choir
Karen Nelson, Violin
Carol Dylan, Violin
Naomi Hildner, Viola
Melissa Bach, Cello

The nursery is available for children up to age 5 from 6:00 pm-8:30 pm.

Park Ridge Community Church

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