



“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

- Jesus

May 24, 2026

PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Just Love
May 24, 2026

Just Love...with Fire!
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

Romance

Dmitri Shostakovich

*CALL TO WORSHIP

On this day, may Grace's breath shatter the shutters of our hearts.

On this day, may we step out of our fears to welcome the new life gifted to us.

Here, in the midst of our siblings of every age and place,
may our frozen souls be inflamed by justice's Spirit,

**As we catch a glimpse of the dreams of those around us,
as we listen to the voices of the oppressed in every language.**

In the days to come, may we speak of God's love and the Spirit's peace for all,

**So that people will find a community awaiting them,
even for those rejected by everyone else.**

*HYMN

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

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*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Spirit of Pentecost, would that all might tell of your wonders in our lives, your overflowing grace – but we are too busy complaining of someone's social media post. Would that we might share the Spirit which has transformed our lives, but we bottle it up, hoping to sell it on the internet. Would that we might let go of all the envy we have about others, but we let it erode our souls day by day. Forgive us and pour your mercy into the closed rooms of our hearts. Breathe your peace upon us, that we might be healers of brokenness. Breathe your hope upon us, that we might open ourselves to the lonely. Breathe your love into us, that we might be as generous and welcoming as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Silent Prayers are offered

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Listen! This is the good news spoken long ago, yet brought fresh to us by the Holy Spirit. God forgives us and fills us with all things new.

Thanks be to God! God gives us new hope, new joy, new life – this day and in all the days to come. Amen.

*SONG OF RESPONSE

Though I May Speak

**Though I May Speak With Bravest Fire, and Have The Gift To All Inspire,
and Have Not Love, My Words Are Vain, As Sounding Brass, and Hopeless Gain.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

FIRST LESSON

1 Corinthians 12:14-26

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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.

MUSICAL RESPONSE (8:30 am) *What A Friend We Have in Jesus, v. 3*

*PREACHING LESSON

Acts 2:1-21

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

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Fanning the Flame"

Rev. Carol Hill

OFFERTORY

Entrance of the Queen of Sheba

G. F. Handel

*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

Blow the dust off our fears, Generous Spirit, so we might be more giving people. Blow the dust off our material gifts we think are so paltry, so we might realize how they can bring hope and life to others. Blow the dust off our mistaken views of others, so we might see them as our siblings, ready to grace us, even as we may bless them with these offerings. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*HYMN

Let the Whole Creation Cry

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*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

The Lord Bless You & Keep You

Lutkin

POSTLUDE

Air

G. F. Handel

* 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
Lorenzo Formosa, Lector

Sasha Gerritson, Director of Music Ministries
Angie & Andrew Weber, Musicians
Sue Douglass, Organist
Jane Kenas-Heller, Accompanist
Chancel Choir
Karen Nelson, Violin
Dave Belden, Violin
Naomi Hildner, Viola
Melissa Bach, Cello

CREDITS: Call to Worship written by Katherine Hawker, and posted on Outside the Box. <http://liturgyoutside.net/> Prayer of Confession, Assurance, and Thanksgiving written by © 2016 Thom M. Shuman. www.lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com

PLEASE SEE AN USHER...for seat cushions and/or hearing assistance devices for use during worship. Thank you to our May Ushers: Bill Barsanti (captain), Tom Brunet, Lorel Brunet, Cindy Klimmick, Rich Roecker, and Sharon Kemerer.

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are sponsored by Patrice Conaway in celebration of John and Cheryl Huges 44th Anniversary! 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!



OUTREACH

LOVING LUNCHES



Help pack lunches for those in need with Loving Lunches on June 14 after the 10 am service! The Christian Outreach Committee provides lunchmeat and cheese for sandwiches as well as fresh fruit. We are always in need of items for the lunches: individual chips, granola bars, juice boxes, and baggies.

UCC Hawaii Flood Relief Throughout the month of May, we're supporting our United Church of Christ siblings in Hawai'i as they recover from devastating flooding. Our Christian Outreach Team has committed to giving \$500, and we invite you to help us match—or exceed—that gift as a congregation. You can give by marking your donation "UCC Hawai'i Flood Relief" online or by placing a check in the offering plate or church office. Thank you for helping share God's love and care across the wider church.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

Nursery (Ages 0–5) Our nursery is open from 8:15–11:15 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–12th Grade) Sunday School is on summer break! Kids are welcome to grab an activity bag from the ushers for the service!

Vacation Bible School: True North Join us June 15–18 from 5:00–7:00 p.m. for True North VBS: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World! Children will enjoy music, games, Bible stories, crafts, and dinner as we learn how to trust Jesus in every situation. All are welcome—invite friends, neighbors, and grandchildren to join the fun! Registration is open on the church website.

ADULT MINISTRY

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

Wednesday Night Bible Study is discussing "Who Stole My Bible". This text takes a look at cherished biblical texts that have been co-opted. Books are \$10 from the Church Office.

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!

SOCIAL JUSTICE



Accessible to All (A2) A2A is a voluntary covenant designation that we are pursuing through the United Church of Christ (UCC). We are building our A2A taskforce, and all are welcome to participate in this effort. So why are we pursuing A2A? Accessibility in churches is more than logistical requirements like ramps and elevators — it is a core expression of the gospel and a reflection of God's call to love and welcome all people.

UCC describes A2A as – Any Body - Every Body - Christ’s Body. Making ministries accessible ensures that everyone - regardless of ability, background, or circumstance - can fully participate in worship, community life, and ministry. Our A2A journey will start with an audit of our physical church space and assessment of our current resources, and this will help us establish our priorities. We will share our draft goals in the August / September timeline, when we gather back together after our summer schedule. By prioritizing accessibility, PRCC is setting a powerful example of what it truly means to welcome, respect, and care for all of God’s children. Email naomi.siebert@gmail.com for more information or to join the team.

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 May 17th:

- We give thanks with Brendan, Kate, and Sophia J. on the healthy birth of baby Jeremiah Joyce on Tuesday. Prayers continue with Jeremiah as he spends some time in the NICU and as the family navigates being in all the places at once, as well as for Kate as she heals.
- We celebrate with our graduates as they finish one chapter and begin the next.
- Our prayers are with the newly elected leaders of PRCC as they begin new roles and ministries for the next year.
- We continue to pray for Janet J.'s friends, Pam and Paul, as they navigate difficult health challenges.
- We pray for Pastor Mollie's brother, Brett, as he's been hospitalized since Friday.
- We continue to pray for Angie W.'s mom Gail B., Fred F., Greg S. and all of those faced with the fragility of life.
- Our prayers are with the family of Juniper Blessing, the transgender young woman killed in Washington last Sunday and for all of those facing the evils of transphobia and homophobia in our nation and around the world.
- We pray for a 3 year old granddaughter who has to have an MRI of her brain and spine this week.



SUMMER KIDS SCHEDULE

We won't meet every Sunday during the summer, but we'd love to gather once a month for Messy Church during the 8:30 worship service. We'll meet to learn, play, and grow together through fun, hands-on experiences!

June 15-18
Vacation Bible School
5-7 pm!
[REGISTER NOW](#)

July 12
Messy Church
8:30 Outdoor Worship

August 9
Messy Church
8:30 Outdoor Worship

The poster features a light blue background with colorful icons of a sun, a book, and a church. At the bottom, there is a QR code and a line of cartoon children holding hands.



PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026

TRUE NORTH
Trusting Jesus in a Wild World

JUNE 15-18
5:00 PM- 7:00 PM

The poster features a dark background with a large silhouette of a bear. Inside the bear's outline is a scenic landscape with mountains, a lake, and trees. The text is in a bold, stylized font.

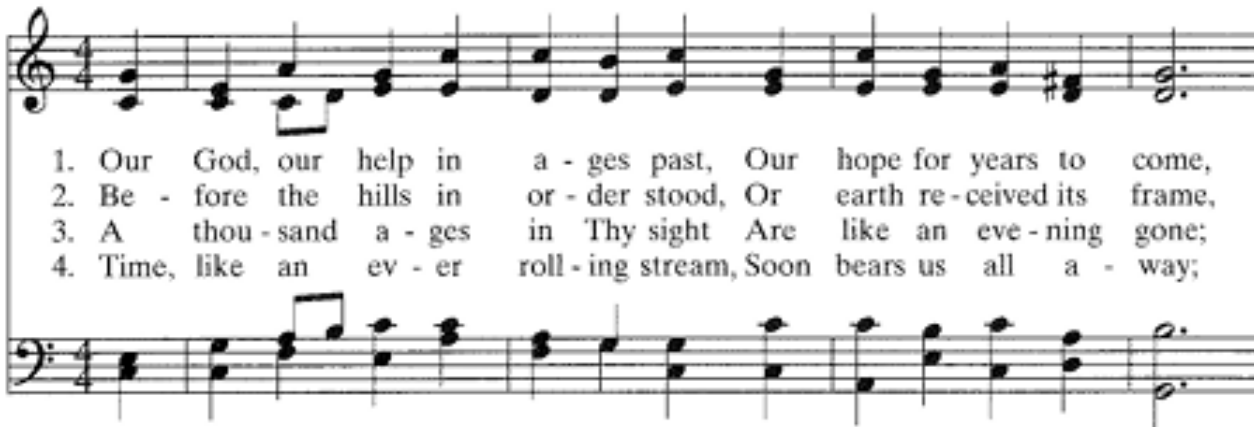
Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

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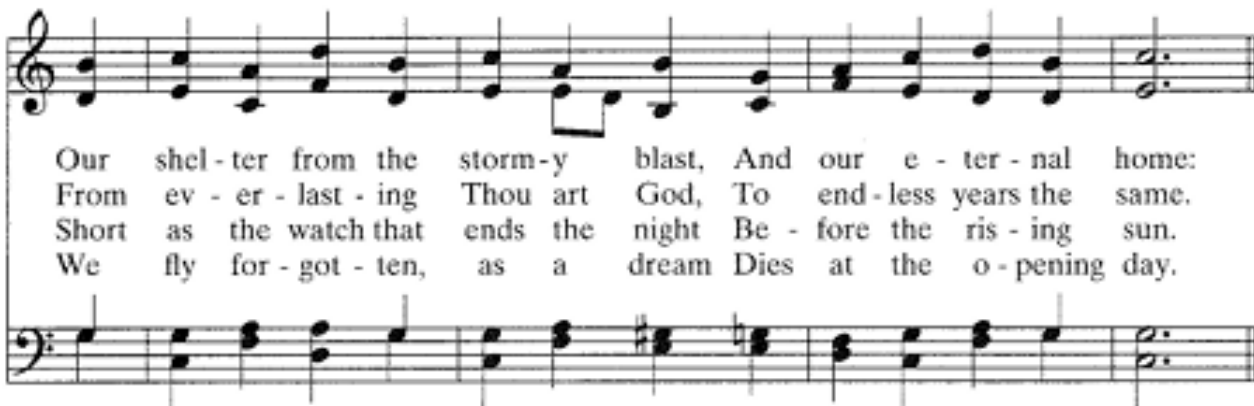
ST. ANNE CM

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

Attr. William Croft, 1708



1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
2. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, Or earth re - ceived its frame,
3. A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone;
4. Time, like an ev - er roll - ing stream, Soon bears us all a - way;



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.
We fly for - got - ten, as a dream Dies at the o - pening day.

Park Ridge MEMORIAL DAY Parade!

WALK WITH US IN THE
PARK RIDGE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE!

May 24: Parade Prep Party: 6:30 pm, Carriage House Driveway
May 25: Parade Day! Line up time: 9:30 am / Talcott & Prospect Spot #39

- BRING NON-CHOCOLATE CANDY
- WEAR YOUR PRCC SHIRT!
- FUN & CREATIVE SIGNS WELCOMED

OUR THEME: "LOVE IS IN THE AIR"



Let the Whole Creation Cry

SALZBURG 7.7.7.7 D

Jacob Hintze, 1678

Harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

As in *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861

Stopford A. Brooke, 1881

1. Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high."
2. Men and wom - en, young and old, Raise the an - them man - i - fold;

Heaven and earth, a - wake and sing, "God is our e - ter - nal King."
Join with chil - dren's songs of praise, Wor - ship God through length of days.

Praise God, all ye hosts a - bove, Ev - er shin - ing forth in love;
From the north to south - ern pole Let the might - y cho - rus roll:

Sun and moon, up - lift your voice; Night and stars, in God re - joice!
"Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One, Glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

CHURCH EVENTS

SUNDAY, May 24

- 8:30 am - Chapel Worship
- 10:00 am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 6:30 pm - Memorial Day Prep (Carriage House)

MONDAY, May 25 Memorial Day - OFFICE CLOSED

- 9:30 am - Meet @ Parade Spot #39

TUESDAY, May 26

- 12:00 pm - Kindred Spirits Cafe (Jordan Hall)
- 7:00 pm - Stephen Ministry Training (Parlor)

WEDNESDAY, May 27

- 10:00 am - Women's AA (Parlor)
- 3:30 pm - Youth Opera Choir (Music Room)
- 7:00 pm - Bible Study (Ellinger Transept)

THURSDAY, May 28

- 9:00 am - Men's Breakfast (Library)
- 7:30 pm - Chancel Choir (Music Room)



- 05/24 Heather Mehrabian
- 05/25 Arlyn Reter
- 05/26/ Zaiden Gilliam
- 05/28 Megan Thomas
- 05/29 Sue Cocagne
- 05/29 Harper Good
- 05/30 Deuce Hill
- 05/30 Rae Hill
- 05/30 Ann Swindell

PRIDE
in **PARK RIDGE**
FRIDAY, June 5

Order T-shirts
and yard signs here

JUNE 5TH
4:00-8:00 PM
Hodges Park

live music / food trucks / vendors
inflatables & facepaint 4-6 PM
guest speakers @ 6 PM
drag show @ 7 PM

Sponsors and Volunteers needed!! For more information, go to
www.prideinparkridge.com

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