



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

- Jesus

May 31, 2026

# PARK RIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Just Love...Justly  
May 31, 2026

Commissioning Sunday  
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

Jesus offers a new-old commandment,

**that we should love each other.**

With the incredible power and the unfathomable depth of God's love for us

**we can...we must...love one another.**

And it is in this our love for one another

**that the world will know whom and what we worship.**

Come, children of God, let us love one another.

### \*HYMN

*Rejoice the Lord is King*

155

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**We need to confess, God of Abraham and Lazarus, how often we are not content with the simple gifts and lives you offer. Tempted by everything, we can become insensitive to those who have nothing. Encouraged by the world to accumulate more, we may miss the chance to gather your goodness and godliness. Chasing after all which has no value, we may not have the energy to pursue the faith, the love, the gentleness you have for us. Forgive us, God of Reversals. You have sent the One who speaks the words we need to listen to in order to have life. Help us to remember how you have redeemed us, and in remembering, may your great Love translate into acts of service.**

*Silent Prayers are offered*

### \*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

This is the good news that comes from God: I will hear your prayers, I will answer with hope and peace, I will deliver you from your sins. God has covered us with grace; under God's hope we will find shelter. **Thanks be to God. 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

#### BLESSING OUR OUTGOING LEADERS

...Let us respond: **We give you our thanks for all the time, energy, thought, prayer, research, and heart you've poured into your ministries. We give thanks for the ways God has used you. We ask that God would bless you, confirming the impact you've made and the faithfulness you've shown. As you move on to whatever is next, may you feel our gratitude and God's anointing.**

## BLESSING OUR INCOMING LEADERS

...Let us respond: **We rejoice that God has provided gifted and called members of the Body of Christ. We will do all we can to assist and encourage you in the ministries to which you have been called, giving you our cooperation, our counsel, our prayers, and our support! Thank you for serving God and serving this congregation!**

## COMMISSIONING OUR STEPHEN LEADER AND MINISTERS (10 am)

**God, we ask you to take the Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders into your care. You have blessed them with particular gifts and talents and have provided them with an opportunity to learn more about assisting and supporting your people. May they serve you with the power of the Holy Spirit; may they be quick to serve, patient in listening, willing to share themselves with people. Give to us thankful hearts for them and show them in times of stress and in times of calm a special measure of your mercy and joy. Keep them strong in the faith you have given them for the sake of Jesus, who cares for all of us in every way forever. Amen**

## FIRST LESSON

1 Corinthians 13

## MINISTRY OF MUSIC (10 am)

*Let Me Speak the Song of Songs*

Lucas

## 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) *God of Grace and God of Glory, v. 1*

## \*PREACHING LESSON

Luke 16:19-31

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

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

Love in Translation

Rev. Carol Hill

## COMMISSIONING OUR YOUTH MISSION TEAM (10 am)

## 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

**May our gifts this day go to serve those who need healing, those who are hungry, those who need a friend or community, and those who are on the other side of that chasm we call indifference. We may not always notice them, but you do, and so we pray that they might be touched by your grace and hope. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

## \*HYMN

*They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*

see insert

## \*BENEDICTION

## \*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*The Lord Bless You & Keep You*

Lutkin

## 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.***

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.

### Leading Us in Worship:

Rev. Carol Hill, Senior Minister  
Rev. Mollie Foster, Associate Minister  
Adrian Hill, Worship Leader  
Lorenzo Formosa, Lector

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

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](http://www.lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com)

## 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.

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.

ALTAR 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](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!



## OUTREACH

### LOVING LUNCHESES



Help pack lunches for those in need with Loving Lunches on June 14th 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.

## 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!

**100th Birthday Celebration for Jack Tilley!** Join us in celebrating Jack Tilley’s 100th birthday on June 9! His family invited the community to shower him with birthday cards filled with warm wishes and cherished memories. **Send cards to:** 35 Shawmut Ave, La Grange, IL 60513 There will be a dessert open house from 1:00–2:30 pm at his residence. Family, friends, and community members are all welcome! If you’d like to attend, please reach out so we have plenty of root beer floats ready 312-402-4366 (call or text).

# 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](mailto: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 24th:**

- We give thanks for moments of joyful transition: a niece learning to walk, graduates taking their next steps, the pleasures that summer brings.
- We celebrate that Pastor Carol's sister and nephew, Meg and Elijah, have made a successful move to Park Ridge.
- We pray for Dorothy L.'s son, Cary, who is home recovering after a serious car accident.
- Kathy E. asks for prayers for her friend, Jill, as she navigates the challenges of illness and injury of both of her parents.
- We pray for Kym as she faces challenges in her apartment.
- We pray for those attending the Panamerican Karate Championships in Brazil this week, especially for our dear Sasha as she travels.
- We hold Janet J.'s friends, Pam and Paul, in our prayers as they continue navigating a difficult health situation.
- We pray prayers of gratitude for the bravery of those who have offered their lives for the sake of freedom. We pray for families of soldiers who have died in combat, for those whose whereabouts are unknown, and for soldiers who have returned home having lost more than words can describe.
- We pray for the loved ones of former member Gail Melick, who entered life in the resurrection last October, but whose life was celebrated yesterday with a beautiful service in Wisconsin.

## Rejoice, the Lord Is King

DARWALL'S 148TH 6.6.6.6.8.8

John Darwall, 1770

Charles Wesley, 1746

Desc. Sidney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947)

*Descant*

3. Re - joice in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

1. Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!  
 2. God's king - dom can - not fail, Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;  
 3. Re - joice in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

To glo - ri - fy the saints For their e - ter - nal home:

Re - joice, give thanks, and sing, And tri - umph ev - er - more:  
 The keys of death and hell Are to our Je - sus given:  
 To glo - ri - fy the saints For their e - ter - nal home:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

## They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love



1. We are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord;
2. We will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand,
3. We will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side,
4. All praise to the Fa-ther, from whom all things come,



we are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord,  
 we will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand,  
 we will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side,  
 and all praise to Christ Je-sus, God's on - ly Son,



and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re-stored:  
 and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:  
 and we'll guard hu-man dig - ni - ty and save hu-man pride:  
 and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

### Refrain



And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our



love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love. \_\_\_\_\_

**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](http://www.prideinparkridge.com)

**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**

# CHURCH EVENTS

## SUNDAY, May 31

8:30 am - Chapel Worship

10:00 am - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

## MONDAY, June 1

7:00 pm - Knitting Knights Meeting (Jordan Hall)

7:00 pm - Trustees Meeting (Library)

7:00 pm - Yoga (Great Hall)

## TUESDAY, June 2

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

6:30 pm - Ministry Council (Jordan Hall)

## WEDNESDAY, June 3

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

10:00 am - Staff Meeting (Pastoral Office)

## THURSDAY, June 4

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

10:30 am - Lincoln Park Services (Kitchen)

7:30 pm - Chancel Choir (Music Room)

## FRIDAY, June 5

4:00 pm - Pride in Park Ridge Festival!



06/01 Kent Wehman

06/03 Rachel Born

06/03 Scott Turransky

06/04 Amy Stewart

06/06 Tom Biedke

06/06 Hans Nelson

# Folk Sunday: June 14

## 10 am service

Join Mark Holihan and crew as they present inspiring Folk tunes at the 10 am service!



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