# **DECEMBER 3,** 2023

# RIDGEPARADISE

"...nothing among you except

Jesus Christ and Him crucified."

# Community Highlights

#### **Christmas Wish 2023**

See Clipboards for Gift Signup Collection Deadline: December 13th

### **InterGen Discipleship**

Looking for a few more disciplers See LinkTree for Info/Signups

# **Zoom Meet Up With Sink Family**

December 6th 4:00-5:00, or 6:30-7:30 See Linktree for registration



# **Paradise YoungLife ReLaunch Night!**

Friday, December 15th, 6-7:30pm See Linktree for full details!

For the thorough list of announcements with links to **GIVING, EMAIL LIST, WORSHIP PLAYLIST, SMALL GROUPS, SERMONS**, etc. check out our Linktree by scanning the QR code to the right or by visiting our website as detailed below!



# Ridge Kids

# **Pre-school & Elementary**

Kids are encouraged to stay in the service for Worship Singing. After the singing concludes, we'll pray for our kids and dismiss them to head upstairs for children's church. They can be picked up right after the Benediction.

### **Note Challenge**

For older kids (9yrs.+), we have sermon notebooks at the back of the sanctuary. If you turn in a note page with a little something you heard from the sermon, you'll get to take your pick from the prize basket.

# **Ridge Presbyterian Church**

RidgeParadise & VespersChico

Find us Online: www.ridgepresbyterian.org

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**Ridge Presbyterian** is a church of people gathered around one thing—Jesus Christ, and his gospel of unlimited grace. As a church, we come from lots of different places: lost, found, burned, cynical, broken, hurting, or some combination of all of these. But what unites us and keeps us coming back together week after week is the reality of a Savior who has given unimaginable hope to any who admit their need and sprawl out before Him. This Jesus is really all we have to offer at RPC. We are convinced that not only is He enough, but that HE alone is true wisdom, life, and fullness of joy.

**If you are new** or newish here, we are so glad that you have joined us! We would love to know more about you, as well as give you the chance to learn a bit more about us. Use the QR code to the right to access our welcome card and let us know you were here.





#### **Call to Worship:** Isaiah 40.10-11 & Psalm 130.6-7

"Behold, the LORD God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young."

ALL: "My soul waits for the Lord, more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption." -Opening Prayer-

# **Songs of Worship and Praise**

Please feel free to worship in the way that the Lord is leading. Whether standing or sitting, hands raised or kneeling before the Lord. There is no required posture.

## Advent Scripture Reading: Luke 1.26-33

"In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

## **An Advent Prayer**

Faithful Father— At just the right time you sent forth your Son as our rescuer, to redeem those under the law, and to grant anyone with faith in him adoption into your family. Hallelujah. *Though the world lay long in sin and error pining, we praise you that ...* 

God calls His people into worship, not the other way around. His Word is the only thing that can truly draw our hearts into worship in Spirit and Truth. And so, we begin here.

The Bible tells us to let the Word of Christ dwell within us richly by "singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs." Thus, we sing of what God has done, and about our delight in Him.

God's Word is living and active. As the Holy Spirit gives us ears to hear it and hearts willing to receive it, we are comforted, built up, corrected and instructed when Scripture is read. So listen and be equipped.

Prayer isn't just a private interaction with God, it is also a part of public worship. God calls His people to speak to Him as one unified body. "My" prayers become "Our" prayers as we cry out to Him together.

...Jesus at last appeared, and the soul felt its worth. Even so, like Mary, we are often troubled by things you allow in our lives. We are often confused and fearful. We hope too much in earthly things, and need our perspective broadened to praise for you for what you are truly doing. Thank you our Father that the kingdom of Jesus is an everlasting kingdom that will never fade or crumble. The One who sits on the throne of David is our hope. As we light the first candle of our advent wreath, we pray together:

Come, Lord Jesus; Our hope is in you, the Light of the World... (\*Candle Lighting\*)

"Wait for the LORD; Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the LORD." Amen.

## **Tithes & Offerings**

Our ushers will pass collection baskets during the final song. If writing a check, please make payable to "Ridge Presbyterian Church," since both Ridge Paradise and Vespers Chico are sites of Ridge Presbyterian. Thank you for your generosity.

#### Confession of Faith Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the ... [continue on screen...]

## **Greetings & Fellowship (w/ Dismissal & Blessing of Children)**

Welcome to all newcomers and visiting guests today. We are glad you are here! We'd love to connect with you through the welcome card linked to the QR code. Also during this time, parents can return clipboards, visit the bathroom with littles, and take them upstairs for children's church! (See back panel for more!)

## **Preaching of God's Word:** Genesis 3.1-7

"The Reason for the Reason For The Season" Part 1 Pastor Josh Lee

<sup>1</sup>So Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" <sup>2</sup>And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die." <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. <sup>5</sup> For God knows that when... [continue on screen/bibles...]

#### **Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**

Please receive your communion elements from our elders up front. Return to your seat and hold them until all have been served so we can eat and drink together.

#### Benediction: Numbers 6.24-26

"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace."

Tithes and Offerings are part of our worship and response to the gospel. When we grasp that "He who was rich, for our sake became poor" it stirs us to reflect that generosity in our giving.

Creeds give us a chance to proclaim what we believe while also acknowledging that we are part of something bigger than this local church. We join our voice to Christians around the globe and throughout history who have confessed these same words.

Since we have peace with God through the work of Jesus, we gladly extend peace to one another and welcome each other as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Because God has spoken to us through His Word we strive to proclaim what it says and teach what it means. Through it, the Church receives training, correction, encouragement, and a deeper experience of the gospel of Jesus.

Followers of Jesus are invited to His table where He spiritually feeds His people. Though these elements are common bread and wine, they symbolize His body and blood and "preach" to our senses that Christ abides in us and we abide in Him.

God gets the final word in the worship service. And with it He chooses to bless His people. That is what the word benediction means: "blessing." Go in the peace of His blessing!