

APRIL 14, 2024

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



RIDGE PARADISE

"...He is risen indeed!"

## Community Highlights

### Stay Connected:

- Pastor Email List (see website!)
- Listserv Email Group (see Linktree!)
- Check out the Linktree via the QR code!

### Summer Small Groups?!?

Many Small Groups break/shift over the summer. Contact Pastor Bryan if you have a new group or if an existing group is changing as the weather heats up!

*\*NOTE: Due to vacation schedules, our Chico office hours will be minimal this week.*

Contact Pastor Bryan or an elder directly with needs and questions! Email: [bdavidlaws@gmail.com](mailto:bdavidlaws@gmail.com)

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 the worship singing, congregational prayer and confession of faith. After these conclude, 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](http://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: Colossians 3.1-4 & Psalm 84.4-5

**LEADER:** “If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.”

**PEOPLE:** **“Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise! Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.”**  
— Opening Prayer —

*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.*

### 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.

*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.*

### Prayer of Petition: Based on God’s Word/The Lord’s Prayer\*

**PEOPLE:** **Our Father who is in Heaven, hallowed be Your Name.**

**LEADER:** Knowing that we have a great high priest, who is sympathetic to our plight, who has been tempted in every way, as we are, yet without sin, we draw near to the throne of grace with confidence, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**PEOPLE:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**LEADER:** Jesus told his disciples to not be alarmed by wars or rumors of wars, but our world is deeply troubled. We pray for the on-going conflicts in the Middle East and eastern Europe—have mercy, O God. What man means for evil, please turn around and use for good. Bring life out of death, and hope in the midst of darkness. Be near the broken-hearted.

**PEOPLE:** **Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**LEADER:** You say in your Word to pray for kings and all who are in high positions that we may lead peaceful and quiet lives, godly and dignified in every way. We pray then for our own nation in this election year, and for ourselves. Lead our leaders, and cause your church to model for the world what peace, godliness and dignity look like because Jesus is Lord of all.

**PEOPLE:** **Give us this day our daily bread.**

*[continue to next...]*

*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.*

**LEADER:** Jesus, You are the bread of life. In the midst of our illnesses and disappointments—in the midst of our sins and miseries, remind us that you are preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison. Help us to look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen, for the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

**PEOPLE:** **Forgive us our debts. Deliver us from evil. For yours is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

*(\*See: Heb.4.14-16, Matt.6.8-14, 24.3-8, Gen.50.20, 1Tim.2.1-3, 1Cor.12.3, 2Cor.4.16-18)*

### 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.

*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.*

### Confession of Faith: The 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 Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, ... *[continue on slides]*

*Creeds and catechisms 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.*

### Greetings & Fellowship

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 above! 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!)

*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.*

### Preaching of God’s Word: Colossians 1.1-8

"Trifecta"

Pastor Bryan Laws

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, <sup>2</sup>To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father. <sup>3</sup>We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, <sup>4</sup>since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, <sup>5</sup>because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. ... *[Continue on slides/in Bibles]*

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

### 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.

*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.*

### Benediction: 2 Corinthians 13.14

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

*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!*