

**AUGUST 17, 2025**

**RIDGE PARADISE**

*"...nothing among you except  
Jesus Christ and Him crucified."*

## Community Highlights

### Congregational Meeting

In Paradise, Sunday, Sept. 28th  
Nominations for Paradise Ruling Elders

### All Church Retreat

Oct. 24-26 @ Woodleaf  
Full registration via QR code



### On The Radar: Things Coming Soon!

- Guys Throwing Stuff: 8.20
- Jesus Center Breakfast: 8.31
- Men of the Ridge B-fast & Fellowship: 9.6
- Fall Small Groups Listing in the works!
- CareNet Abortion Recovery Groups: See Linktree

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

### Littler Kids (*Crawlers-3rs*)

Our nursery is available for the whole service in the Children's Ministry building across the courtyard. Our teachers provide a flexible environment to meet the needs of movement and comfort while also discipling through Bible stories and songs.

### Bigger Kids (*4yrs.-2nd Grade*)

The Bigger Kids class is dismissed for Sunday School right before the sermon. The classroom is located in the Children's Ministry building across the courtyard. Our teachers are committed to introducing kids to scripture memory, prayer, and seeing Jesus in ALL of the Bible!

### Worship Guides (*3rd Grade & Up*)

Kids 3rd grade & up are invited to stay in the sanctuary with their parents to learn the rhythms of full Sunday worship. Worship Guides are provided at the sanctuary doors to help engage kids more fully in the sermon. Kids can turn in ten completed Worship Guides to Sarah for a prize.

## 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:** Revelation 4.9-11 & Psalm 150.6

“And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, ‘Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.’”

ALL: **“Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!”**  
- 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 Thanks & Petition:** A New School Year

Father in Heaven – As we stand at the outset of a new school year, we come to you with many thoughts and much gratitude. We thank You for the gift of education and for the many opportunities we have in this country to learn, grow, and serve others.

ALL: **We lift up our teachers, who dedicate their lives to guiding and inspiring young minds. Grant them patience and wisdom as they navigate the challenges of the classroom. Fill them with creativity and compassion. Help them to see the uniqueness and possibility of each student. Fill them with endurance for the year ahead that only comes from Your Holy Spirit.**

*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.*

We pray for our students, embarking on another year of learning and discovery. Bless them with curiosity and enthusiasm, and help them to approach their studies with gratitude and diligence. May they wonder in new ways at the majesty of your created order, at the divine logic in mathematics and the sciences, at the enduring riches in literature and language, and at your sovereign wisdom in history unfolded. May they come to recognize the truth of the gospel as the bedrock of their identity more and more, in a world that is full of confusion and fracturing. Grant them resilience in their struggles, and true friendships. Make them salt and light in Jesus—stars that shine brightly in a troubled world. *[Continue on Slides]*

**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:** Adapted from Colossians 1

We believe that Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God and the Firstborn of all creation. We believe that by Him all things exist, and that in Him they hold together. Christ alone is Head of the Church, the Beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, preeminent in all things. We believe that the fullness of God was pleased to dwell in Him, and through Him, to reconcile to Himself all things, making peace by the blood of His cross. Though we were once alienated from God, hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, we believe that the death and atonement of Christ enables Him to present us Holy, blameless and above reproach before a Holy God. By grace and through faith we remain steadfast, never shifting from this gospel hope, which is being proclaimed in all creation. Amen.

*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 (w/ Sending & 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 to the other wing 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:** 2 Corinthians 8.1-9

“Gospel Stewardship: Money  
Pastor Josh Lee

<sup>1</sup>We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, <sup>2</sup>for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. <sup>3</sup>For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord,<sup>4</sup> begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— <sup>5</sup>and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. <sup>6</sup>Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. <sup>7</sup>But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also. <sup>8</sup>I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. <sup>9</sup>For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

*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.*

**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:** 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.”

*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!*