



Nope

BREATH OF

Sunday, March 29, 2020

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Limitless Love | Courageous Action | Spirited Inquiry

Purpose Statement

Parkway United Church of Christ strives to be an inclusive community embracing: spiritual nourishment, open—minded inquiry, courageous action, and interfaith partnerships to fulfill God's calling to create a just world for all.

Congregational Statement

Parkway United Church of Christ, with God's grace, seeks to be a congregation that includes all persons, regardless of race, ethnic, or socio—economic background while respecting differences of gender, marital status, age, sexual orientation, and mental and physical ability. We aspire to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. We invite all to share in the life and leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities and blessings of participation in our open and affirming congregation.

PARKWAY UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

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parkwayucc.org | contact@parkwayucc.org

Office Hrs: Mon - Thu 8:30am-3:00pm; Fri 8:30am-12:30pm

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John Nourse, *Pastor Emeritus*

Welcome

Thank you for joining us this morning. Please let us know you are here by signing a friendship card in your pew. If you are looking for a church home, please speak with us today.

Welcome Children. We invite children to full participation in worship. There are “creation bags” [with paper, crayons, colored pencils, etc.] available in the Gathering Space for the children to use. Infant/toddler care is available in Room 1. Ask an usher for directions.

Bell Rung During Lord’s Prayer, a tradition begun when farmers working in surrounding fields would stop their work and join in prayer.

A Wheelchair & Walker [and crutches!] are located in the foyer and storage closet for Sunday use. To borrow them at other times, contact the office.

Hearing Assist Units available for use during worship. Ask an usher.

Please Recycle. If you are not taking your bulletin home or sharing it with a friend, please recycle it in the labeled basket in the sanctuary or in the blue container in the Gathering Space.

Photo and Personal Privacy Policy: Photos should generally not be taken of children in church except as part of organized activities and programs, and any requests of children or their parents or guardians should be respected. Please be respectful of privacy and mindful that this is a safe and sacred space for all who enter.

Subscribe to our email lists: Text your email address to 22828 or sign up at www.parkwayucc.org

Need a clip-on name tag? Sign the clipboard in the Gathering Space.

Guest WiFi: username: parkway-guest | password: parkway2841

Communications Requests: Please use the form at www.parkwayucc.org/communications for all announcements for the bulletin/eNews/website/social media/etc. Bulletin and eNews communications request deadline is noon Tuesday. Bulletin announcements will generally be run for three weeks prior to the event. However, all announcements will be posted via our various publications as fits in our communications strategy and as resources permit.

A Thank You Gift for Visitors: Please pick up a PUCC mug today or the next time you are here. They are located on the Welcome Table just inside the front doors.

5th Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 29, 2020 | 9:55am

*Please stand if it is comfortable to do so.

Meditation *How far that little candle throws its beams! So shines a good deed in a weary world.* ~William Shakespeare

Announcements

*Passing the Peace of Christ

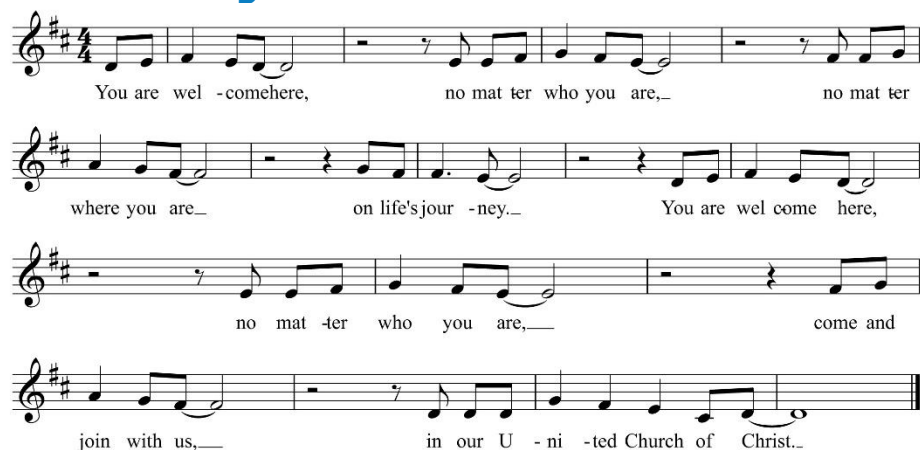
“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

(We are intentional about bringing more peace into the world.)

Prelude *St. Bride: Give to the Winds Thy Fear*—Samuel Howard, 1762

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song *You are Welcome Here*



Scripture Psalm 130 (NRSV – New Revised Standard Version)

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

*Call to Worship

One:	We gather together from many places, pasts and identities to celebrate and worship together, as one people.
Many:	We come to experience the God of all.
One:	We look to Jesus, life-giver, light of the world as we journey, learn and grow this season of Lent.
Many:	We come to experience Jesus.
One:	We listen for the Spirit of love - inspiring, strengthening, moving and challenging us into deeper connection and community.
Many:	We come to experience the Spirit.
One:	No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

*Song #339—Be Thou My Vision

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 3 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;

naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.

thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Lenten Candles *I Am the Light*

We light seven candles as we continue on this Lenten journey. We want the light to illumine our path as we seek to be the words and ways of Jesus. We commit to being more infused by the Spirit as we travel. Even as we know this is good and important work, we recognize that it isn't easy—and we may come upon the shadow side of humanity and some of our own unique darkness. We will extinguish one candle each time we gather for worship this season, acknowledging that this can be tough and exhausting work. As we approach the desertion and depletion of Good Friday, we also prepare ourselves for the dawn and love of Easter morning...the light that never goes out.

Prayer at the Candles

Holy One, we are on this Lenten journey with Jesus because we want to watch him and listen to him—so that we might become more like him. Jesus has a solid sense of who he is. He tells us that he is the bread, door, vine, life, light, way, shepherd. He interacts with people in expected and unexpected ways—and they all learn and grow with the interaction. Send your Spirit to lead us, guide us and light the way to ourselves, one another and the Holy. Amen.

Response [tune: #363—*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* (red hymnal)]

I want Je - sus to walk with me: (Walk with me)

I want Je - sus to be in me.

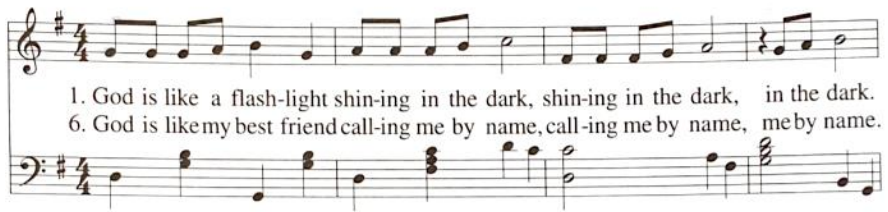
All a - long this len - ten jour - ney.

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. (with me)

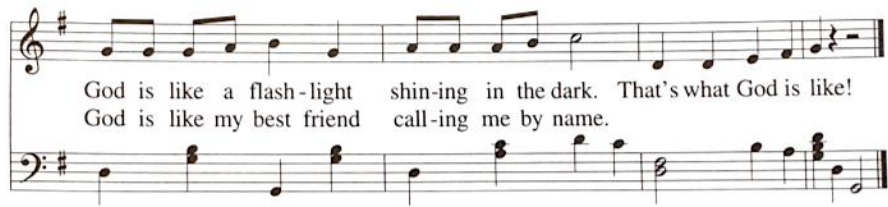
Children's Time

(Children can switch over to Facebook Live Sunday School with Barb by going to Facebook/BarbKuhlmann. If parents accompany their kids, they can come back to the recording of this Facebook Live Worship later.)

Blessing the Children *God is Like*—Lesley J Clare



1. God is like a flash-light shin-ing in the dark, shin-ing in the dark, in the dark.
6. God is like my best friend call-ing me by name, call-ing me by name, me by name.



God is like a flash-light shin-ing in the dark. That's what God is like!
God is like my best friend call-ing me by name.

2. God is like a mother giving me a hug.
3. God is like a father saying, "Welcome home."
4. God is like cold water on a hot, dry day.
5. God is like a loaf of bread shared by all around.

Scripture John 5:1, 5-11 (CEB - Common English Bible)

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man who was blind from birth.

Jesus said, "While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." After he said this, he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and smeared the mud on the man's eyes. Jesus said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (this word means *sent*). So the man went away and washed. When he returned, he could see.

The man's neighbors and those who used to see him when he was a beggar said, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?"

Some said, "It is," and others said, "No, it's someone who looks like him."

But the man said, "Yes, it's me!"

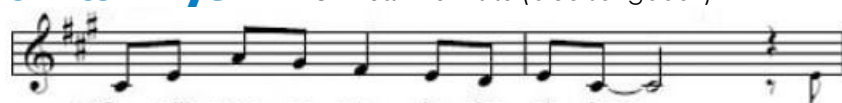
So they asked him, "How are you now able to see?"

He answered, "The man they call Jesus made mud, smeared it on my eyes, and said, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and then I could see."

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon *This Little Light of Mine*

Call to Prayer #2218—You Are Mine (blue songbook)



1 "I will come to you in the si - lence;
 2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less;
 3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
 (4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom;

I



I will lift you from all your fear.
 I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the
 heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
 am the peace the world can - not give.



You will hear my voice; I claim you as my choice. Be
 shad - ows of the night, I will be your light.
 All the blind will see; the lame will all run free, and
 I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here. (to stanza 2)
 Come and rest in me. (to Refrain)
 all will know my name. (to Refrain)
 up, now walk and live! (to Refrain)

Refrain



Do not be a - fraid. I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I



love you and you are mine."

4 "I

Bringing the Light Home

Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer sung to the tune by Nate Stout

Our [Creator/Mother/Father/Holy One] **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.**

[A variety of names for God are welcome here – including in the Lord's Prayer.]

Song *This Little Light of Mine*

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!**

Call to Offering 2nd Mile Lent/Easter—Marsha Peek

Heifer Project | Lydia's House | Unleashing Potential | Eden Seminary

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offering Interlude Guest Musician

***Response**

**Praise God for visions great and small,
Praise God who calls us one and all,
Praise God whose Spirit gives new sight,
Praise God who fills our lives with light. Amen**

***Prayer of Dedication**

**Holy One, we don't always know how much money we have,
or how much we will need. In these precarious economic times, we
are tempted to hoard our money for ourselves. In this offering we
have the opportunity to show forth our faith, and remind ourselves
that you supply all our needs. We walk by faith, we live by faith,
we give by faith. God of great gifts, you have given us so much,
accept these gifts from our hands, our faithful response to your
abundant grace. Amen.**

*Song of Parting #432—Song of Hope

May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, Fill-ing all our
lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus - tice speed us
on our way, Bring-ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.
Refrain
Pray-ing, let us work for peace, Sing-ing, share our joy with all,
Work-ing for a world that's new, Faith-ful when we hear Christ's call.

Keep a prayer within your heart throughout the day

Hope is always there for those who trust the Lord

Give your time and comfort in a simple way

Call for justice, hope will surely be restored.

Giving, use our gifts with love, Helping, for the ones in need,

Striving, for equality, Justice, when the need demands.

(Thank you, Evelyn Buretta, for writing the additional verse!)

*Benediction

*God's Light Goes Forth

*Music for Going Forth

Austrian Hymn: God, You Spin the Whirling Planets—Franz Joseph Haydn

2nd Mile Lent & Easter 2020

Go the 2nd Mile with us!

We are pleased to announce that Parkway will again support four worthy organizations with its Second Mile Giving for Lent and Easter. We believe this blend of support will help Parkway create a local, national and international impact with its gifts. Please remember that Second Mile Giving is over and beyond the Operational Budget and donations will be divided evenly among the organizations listed below. Please be generous as these organizations need on our gifts in order to be more faithful and effective.

Lydia's House

Lydia's House works in faith to end domestic violence in St Louis by being a place of healing and a voice of hope for abused women and their children. The agency provides safe, confidentially-located furnished apartments for up to two years, assists women in creating and implementing goal plans that will help them live independently, and increases community awareness of domestic violence. For more information, please visit lydiashouse.org

UP—Unleashing Potential [formerly Neighborhood Houses]

For more than 100 years, Neighborhood Houses has loved children in St Louis. Currently, there are three main facets to their mission:

Early Childhood Education—Caroline Mission is a licensed and accredited Early Childhood facility operated by Neighborhood Houses. Our Mission is to provide quality affordable childcare for children from 6 weeks to 5 years of age. Caroline Mission is a “home away from home.”

Girls' Night Out: Neighborhood Houses and Parents as Teachers collaborated together in the design and execution of a program dedicated to supporting and assisting young mothers, ages 13—22. *Girls Night Out* is designed to promote healthy individuals and families.

After School Programs: Neighborhood Houses is the #1 provider of after school programming with the St Louis Public Schools ... fun & creative activities, homework assistance, character education, cultural awareness, health & fitness focus, arts & crafts, supervised recreation, and much more! For more information, please visit neighborhoodhouses.org

Heifer International

Heifer International does so much more than put food in the mouths of hungry people. Heifer helps people to feed themselves. The goal of every Heifer project is sustainability—project partners achieving self—reliance. And year after year, as partner families “pass on the gift” of knowledge and one or more of their animals’ offspring to others in need, they become links in a network of hope, dignity and self—reliance that helps hundreds of others care for themselves. For more information, please visit heifer.org

Eden Seminary

Eden Theological Seminary is a graduate school preparing women and men for ordained Christian ministry. One of the six seminaries of the United Church of Christ, Eden is a community that seeks God's justice and peace in the world. Eden is welcoming, inclusive and ecumenically diverse.

Eden was established in 1850 at Marthasville, Missouri. It was established because a European education was not adequate to prepare pastors for Evangelical churches on the North American frontier. From its beginning, Eden has embodied an ecumenical spirit. Its first graduating class included six Evangelicals as well as a Methodist and a Mennonite.

Eden admitted its first African American student in 1933. In 1965, the late Joseph Cardinal Ritter of the Saint Louis Archdiocese became the first Roman Catholic Cardinal to address a graduating class in a Protestant seminary.

Today, students from many different denominations are engaged in theological education here. Eden remains committed to educating faithful and effective leaders for church and society. The seminary counts among its distinguished graduates Reinhold and H. Richard Niebuhr and Walter Brueggemann.

Eden Theological Seminary is committed to the study of theology in the context of the ecumenical Christian community and the contemporary interfaith world. For more information, please visit eden.edu.

Please be sure to clearly mark your 2nd Mile gifts throughout the season of Lent.

Announcements

Take Action with Bread for more help from Congress for COVID-19 Relief

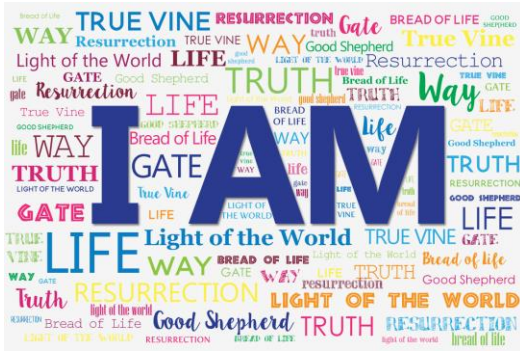
The coronavirus continues to cause anxiety, uncertainty, and disruption around the world. It is understandable to feel powerless and overwhelmed.

But God's call to care for the most vulnerable among us never ends. Congress must pass a comprehensive economic stimulus package in response to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

Right now, Bread for the World members throughout the U.S. are calling on Congress to provide adequate funding to assist those most vulnerable who are impacted by this crisis in the U.S. and abroad.

Federal nutrition programs provide roughly 10 times as much food assistance as private churches and charities. Congress must fully fund and support the Pandemic Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (P-SNAP) and suspend the implementation of rules changes that weaken SNAP benefits.

Please [email Congress \(https://tinyurl.com/BFW-email-congress\)](https://tinyurl.com/BFW-email-congress) now and pray for our elected officials to swiftly pass and sign urgent legislation into law that supports the most vulnerable people in the U.S. and around the world. Thank you.



Holy Week to Easter

Our theme for Lent has been around *Identity*. Our prayer at the Lenten Candles since Ash Wednesday has been: **Holy One, we are on this Lenten journey with Jesus because we want to watch him and listen to him—so that we might become more like him. Jesus has a solid sense**

of who he is. He tells us that he is the bread, door, vine, life, light, way, shepherd. He interacts with people in expected and unexpected ways—and they all learn and grow with the interaction. Send your Spirit to lead us, guide us and light the way to ourselves, one another, and the Holy. Amen.

We are putting together alternate plans for our Holy Week/Easter activities. Stay tuned...

Republic Services Shares Recycling Tips at Parkway

“When in doubt, throw it out” was the take-away at a recent presentation by Chris Flaughter of Republic Services for Parkway staff, Sustainability Seekers and Council reps. He explained that the contamination in the recycling industry grew from an average of 5% in earlier years to as much as 25%. Many trash services stopped recycling when China lowered their acceptable contamination percentage to 0.5% from 5%. Since that time several other countries began accepting U.S. recycling, but the industry, as a whole, is still struggling.

Parkway switched to Republic Services in January and Flaughter explained that despite the lowered profitability of recycling, Republic is not only committed to it, but is actually growing their recycling capacities. Because contamination can mean an entire dumpster goes to the landfill, following a few simple rules can help prevent that from happening.

It is extremely important to NEVER PUT YOUR RECYCLABLES IN CONTAINERS OR BAGS. Anything in a bag will be taken to the landfill. Flattened cardboard, paper, metal cans, plastic bottles and jugs, cardboard cartons and glass are all recyclable. They should be empty, clean and dry. Greasy pizza boxes should NOT be recycled. Flaughter said that shrink wrap can be an issue—it shuts down their production line several times a day.

Flaughter explained that prescription bottles with the lids on are okay and that the lids may be left on glass jars. Water bottles may be recycled with lids on, aluminum cans with the tab inside, and steel cans with the lid inside. DO NOT put the lids in separately. Many attending were surprised that clean aluminum foil can't be recycled. Shredded paper is not recyclable in your clean stream container but can be taken to special recycling events throughout the area. RecyclingSimplified.com is a great resource for all recycling questions.

Prayer List

as of March 24

Celebrations

Irene's 98th bday on 3/24; unsteady health (Rosanna Hogarty's mom).
DR Josephine Grove - successfully defended her dissertation!

Concerns

Jones-Goldstein Family as they prepare to welcome **Baby Nate!**
Mike Mason Family - grieving/giving thanks for his mother, Margaret.
Mike Mohl - several broken ribs after fall; multiple myeloma struggles.
Bill and Pat Klein - healing after his ear surgery; home from hospital.
Dwight and Charlotte Smith - rehab ctr after his days in the hospital.
Lisa Mason - in the middle of radiation treatments.
Pam Chastain - hospitalized with Covid-19 (Mary Akers).
Family/Friends of Judy Wilson-Griffin - grieving (Donna Carey).
Cousin Kenny and wife Terry and Family - Covid-19 (Gerry Rogers).
Social Distancing... if anyone needs groceries, medicine and/or other support, please reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org; 314-330-0629
[If you'd like to be on the **Spring Care Team 2020**, please say so.]

Continuing

Paul/Sue Stohr - healing after his stroke; making progress at home.
Randal Barnes - radiation for cancer has started (Steve's brother).
Alice - released from rehab; back in St Louis now (Ellie Svenson's sis).
Cherie Stolze - ongoing health issues; navigating medications/fatigue.
Lori Connors - for strength, stamina through some health challenges.
Ruth Peace, Mary Whitney, Pinky Wilcoxon - health challenges.
Bill Darland - ongoing health issues.
Alan Nichols - chemo for cancer of spine; pain management (Pleis).
Dick Wegner - hospitalized for leukemia, other concerns (McKenzie).
Tina - undergoing tests for cancer; crafting a treatment plan (Scharf).
Anthony - multiple challenges as he lives his post-incarceration life.
Martha - receiving treatment for leukemia (sister of Mary Lynn Dario).
Gary - risky behaviors; seeking balance and stability (McKenzie).
Grateful Tran - in prison; struggles w/schizophrenia (Evelyn Buretta).
Bob - still struggling with Parkinson's (McKenzie).
Christopher, Gail & Bill Haack - chronic health challenges.
The extended Eggebrecht Family - healing and wholeness.
More Anti-LGBTQIA legislation being considered/debated in MO.
The United Methodist Church and our LGBTQIA siblings there.

Pregnancy

Dawn Jones-Goldstein and David Goldstein...
big brothers Mikey & Daniel - baby in the spring.
Rosanna & Kevin Hogarty will be first time grandparents mid-2020.

Home/Care Facility/Rehab Center

Millicent Guerri - living with cancer... 14300 Conway Meadows Ct E, Chesterfield, MO 63017 [birthdate: December 5]

Georgia Herpel - *Cedarhurst*: 12826 Daylight Cir, St. Louis, MO 63131

Marv Herpel - *Brookdale West County*; 785 Henry Ave, #217;

Ballwin, MO 63021; 636-227-5838 [birthdate: March 3]

Ruth Murray - *Villages of St Peters Memory Care*:

5300 Executive Centre Pkwy, #107; St. Peters, MO 63376; 636-477-6955.

[birthdate: September 11] Best times to visit – before 11am or after 2pm.

Pearl Sellenriek - *Friendship Village Care Center*; #725-2

15201 Olive Blvd, Chesterfield, MO 63017 [birthdate: March 31]

Ellen Surber - *Delmar Gardens*: 14855 N Outer 40 Road, #508;

Chesterfield, MO 63017 (Lisa Davidson's mom) [birthdate: November 3]

Sue Houser - *Bethany Ctr for Rehab & Healing*; 421 Ocala Dr - #209B;

Nashville, TN 37211; 615-577-2049. [birthdate: July 8]

Other

Dan Connors - completed writing a novel... taking next steps.

President Trump, Congress, all local, national, world leaders.

The “me too” Movement - shining a light on sexual abuse.

Healing of relationships between police and the public.

All people who live with mental illness.

PUCC Family (and others) struggling with healthcare costs and limits.

Our Missouri Mid-South Conference and St Louis Assn UCC

Variety of Parkway members/friends - employment issues.

Victims of Natural and Created Disasters around the world.

Peace and Justice near and far.

US Military around the globe.

St Louis Assn UCC Covenant Partner

Week ending March 22 - **Faith UCC**, Little Rock, AR; faithucclr.org

Week ending March 29 - **First Congregational UCC**, Bonne Terre; fcuccbonnetterre.org

Anniversaries

3/29 FAUSS, Roger & Donna (52)

4/4 MOHL, Mike & Peggy (45)

Birthdays

3/29 OEHLER, Barbara

4/1 LYONS, Liz

3/30 MUCHNICK, Todd

4/2 RAUSCHER, Kevin

3/31 SELLENRIEK, Pearl

4/2 WOODSON, Jennifer

3/31 WILLIAMS, Matthew

4/4 KRPAN, Jennifer

3/31 WOLFF, Katy

4/4 SCHRENKER, Rick

4/1 BOWMAN, Clover

Breath of Hope

Today we rejoice with Lazarus and his family as he is invited by his friend Jesus and his community out of the tomb. Having been separated from life, how thankful he must have been to once again be able to smell, taste, hear, see and touch!

Too often, we take our senses for granted. You are invited this week to take a few moments to celebrate each of the senses. If one of the senses is not available to you, or if a sense is diminished, how can you express gratitude for what you *are* able to experience?

Celebrate the gift of smell. Remember your favorite fragrances. What are they? Are they nature's perfumes, like certain flowers? Are they aromas of cooking? Are they smells of a certain place or building? Can you think of a time when your sense of smell helped you to experience God's gifts or Jesus' presence in your life? Take a moment to thank your body for the gift of smell.

Celebrate the gift of taste. Remember ways in which your sense of taste has been a gift. When has your sense of taste brought you joy? Think of your most favorite tastes. Remember salty and sweet. Think of the texture of food on your tongue. Can you think of a time when your sense of taste helped you to experience God's gifts or Jesus' presence in your life? Take a moment to thank your body for the gift of taste.

Celebrate the gift of hearing. Remember ways in which your sense of hearing has been a gift. When has your sense of hearing brought you joy? Imagine now your most favorite sounds. What are they? Think of loud sounds, soft ones, familiar sounds, unfamiliar ones. Can you think of a time when your sense of hearing helped you to experience God's gifts or Jesus' presence in your life? Take a moment to thank your body for the gift of hearing.

Celebrate the gift of sight. Remember ways in which your sense of sight has been a gift. When has your sense of sight brought you joy? Think of your most favorite sights. What are they? Remember colors and contrast. Can you think of a time when your sense of sight helped you to understand God's gifts or Jesus' presence in your life? Take a moment to thank your body for the gift of sight.

Celebrate the gift of touch. Remember ways in which your sense of touch has been a gift. When has your sense of touch brought you joy? Remember textures and shapes. Can you think of a time when your sense of touch helped you to experience God's gifts or Jesus' presence in your life? Take a moment to thank your body for the gift of touch.

