

Sunday, May 3, 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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John Nourse, *Pastor Emeritus*

Welcome

Thank you for joining us this morning. Please let us know you are here by commenting in the chat.

Welcome Children. We invite children to full participation in worship.

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

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

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.

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Birthdays

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|-----|-------------------|
| 5/3 | HAACK, Gail | 5/7 | RUTHERFORD, Polly |
| 5/3 | SCHATZ, Will | 5/7 | SCHOWALTER, Blake |
| 5/5 | HENSON, Michael | 5/9 | CLIFFORD, Scott |

4th Sunday of EASTER

May 3, 2020 | 9:55am

Meditation *We need a bold new vision for Christian ritual life that honors the past, but sets a new course for a future where remembered violence gives way to remembered community, resistance to oppression, and boundless hope.* ~Stephen Patterson

Announcements

Passing the Peace of Christ

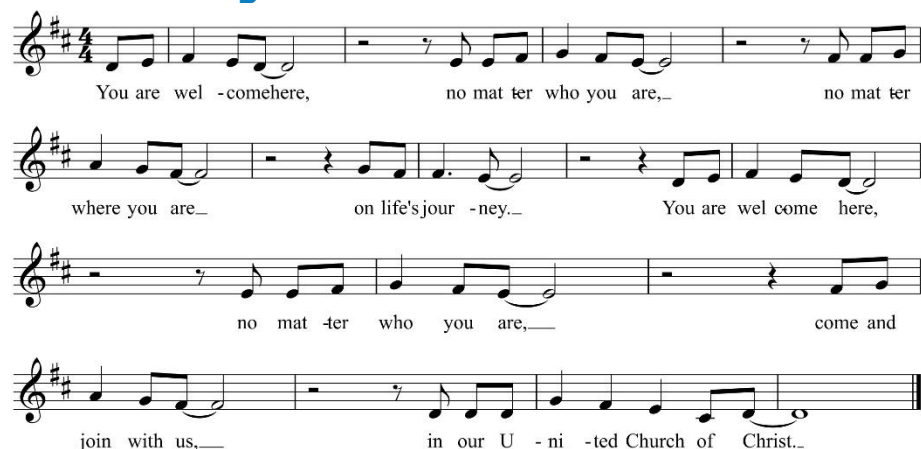
“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

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

Prelude *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*—arr. Albert Beck

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song *You Are Welcome Here*



You are wel - come here, no mat - ter who you are, no mat - ter
where you are on life's jour - ney. You are wel come here,
no mat - ter who you are, come and
join with us, in our U - ni - ted Church of Christ...

Hebrew Scripture Lesson selected Psalms | Dexter Cameron, reader
You prepare a table for me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. -Psalm 23:5

O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in God. -Psalm 34:8

Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord! You have put gladness in my heart, more than when grain and wine abound. -Psalm 4:6-7

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you; as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. -Psalm 63:1

My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips. -Psalm 63:5

You rained down manna for your people to eat, and gave them the bread of heaven. Mortals ate the bread of angels; you sent them food in abundance. - Psalm 78:24-25

When your people asked, you gave them food from heaven in abundance. You opened the rock, and water gushed out; it flowed through the desert like a river. -Psalm 105:40-41

You bring forth food from the earth, wine to gladden the human heart, oil to make the face shine, and bread to strengthen us. -Psalm 104:14-15

All creatures look to you to give them their food in due season; when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. -Psalm 104:27-28

O give thanks to the Lord, who is good, whose steadfast love endures forever. -Psalm 136:1

Call to Worship based on words by Amanda Quraishi

One: During Ramadan, our Muslim family and friends are engaged in a time of intense re-focusing on what is really important. They use this month to engage in increased prayer, reading of the Qur'an and acts of charity.

Many: We can use this time in similar ways—to refocus, pray, read scripture and become more generous.

One: During Ramadan, our Muslim family and friends engage in a rigorous 30-days of fasting from dawn to sunset which teaches them practical lessons of self-control and empathy for those who have little to eat or drink. Fasting also nourishes their spirit and gives them a chance to work on things that are often back—burnered because of other daily distractions.

Many: We can use this time in similar ways—to learn self-control and empathy; to nourish our spirits and to work on things about ourselves that we never seem to have time to.

One: During Ramadan, our Muslim family and friends' fasting tests their patience and ability to be kind even through discomfort; the increased attention to prayer invites them to think about God more often and the role God plays in their lives. But it's not all tough lessons and self-discipline. You can tell Muslims –“Happy Ramadan” or “Ramadan Mubarak” because Ramadan is a joyful time, despite the challenges it presents.

Many: We can use this time in similar ways—to grow in our patience, to be kind even when things aren't easy, to be rooted in God, to experience and share joy.

One: During Ramadan, our Muslim family and friends develop an increased sensitivity. When you're hungry you can become emotional, angry or otherwise sensitive to things people say or do. When fasting, you can become very sensitive to things around you

- including things you read or see, or simply interactions you have with others. You can learn about your relationships with other people, and as a result these relationships can be strengthened and clarified in healthy ways.

Many: We can use this time in similar ways—to notice where we aren't being the person we want and need to be in our relationships. We can grow and mature in our interpersonal skills. We can become more healthy.

One: During Ramadan, our Muslim family and friends become a stronger community. They realize and appreciate that they are going through something together. Usually during Ramadan, there are increased opportunities to meet and break the daily fasts, engage in extra nighttime prayers, and attend other community events. Deeper connections within the Muslim community are based on the shared experience of fasting together.

Many: We can use this time in similar ways—connecting with neighbors, strangers, distant family members, forgotten friends; trying new ways to build, repair, sustain community. We are in this together.

One: During Ramadan, our Muslim family and friends are blessed with time. In order to fast and manage all of their regular responsibilities, they have to seriously rearrange their lives for 30 days. It's an exercise in simplifying almost everything they do, and the result is that they find they have more time to think, read, rest and reflect. This month forces them to slow down, become more methodical and experience things moment to moment. Ramadan gives them a chance to recharge—mentally, physically, spiritually and emotionally.

Many: We can use this time in similar ways—to rearrange our lives, simplify our lives, slow down and live in the moment. We can recharge.

Opening Hymn #386—*O for a World*, v1-4



1. O for a world where ev - ery-one Re - spects each oth - er's ways,
2. O for a world where goods are shared And mis - er - y re - lieved,
3. We wel-come one world fam - i - ly And strug - gle with each choice
4. The poor are rich, the weak are strong, The fool - ish ones are wise.




Where love is lived and all is done With jus - tice and with praise.
 Where truth is spo - ken, chil-dren spared, E - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
 That o-pens us to u - ni - ty And gives our vi - sion voice.
 Tell all who mourn; Out - casts be - long, Who per - ish - es will rise.

Gathering Prayer Robert E. Kreutz

Holy One, as when the shepherd calls their sheep, they know and heed their voice; so when You call Your family, Lord, we follow and rejoice. With joyful lips we sing to You, our praise and gratitude, that You should count us worthy Lord, to share this heavenly food. The mystery of Your presence Lord, no mortal tongue can tell; whom all the world cannot contain - comes in our hearts to dwell. You give Your love to us, O Lord, then selfless let us be, to serve each other in Your name in truth and charity. You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat. Come give to us, O living Lord, the bread of life to eat and share. Amen.

Response #2179 —Ubi Caritas (Latin-Latin-English-English)



Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love,
U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,

live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you.
u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.

Children's Time Children and Youth are invited to Zoom classrooms

Blessing the Children Weave

Weave, weave, weave us together,
Weave us together in unity and love
Weave, weave, weave us together,
Weave us together, together in love

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offering Interlude Not Worthy—Greg Schmelig

Response #2179 —Ubi Caritas (Latin-Latin-English-English)



Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love,
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Prayer of Dedication Quentin Chin

We give in grateful thanksgiving for all that You have given us, O God. In the upside-down world of the gospel, we measure our wealth not by what we have, but what we can give away. We give generously, in this offering, to bless Your church, Your people, Your creation, Your dreams. Amen.

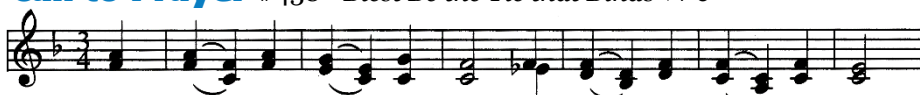
Scripture Acts 2:42-47 (NRSV) | Iris Cameron, reader

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Communion Reflections

Evelyn Buretta | Joyce Ruiz | Kevin Cameron

Call to Prayer #438—Blest Be the Tie that Binds v1-3



1. Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Chris-tian love;
2. Be - fore our Ma - ker's throne We pour our ar - dent prayers;
3. We share our mu - tual woes, Our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
4. From sor - row, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free;



The fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds Is like to that a - bove.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our com-forts and our cares.
And of - ten for each oth - er flows The sym - pa - thiz-ing tear.
And per - fect love and friend-ship reign Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

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.]

Invitation to the Communion Table

Communion Song *One Bread, One Body*

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all,
 one cup of bless-ing which we bless. And
 we, though man-y through-out the earth,
 we are one bod-y in this one Lord. *Fine*
 1. Gen-tile or Jew, ser-vant or free,
 2. Man-y the gifts, man-y the works,
 3. Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,
 wom-an or man, no more.
 one in the Lord of all. One
 gath-ered to one, for all.

Breaking Bread & Pouring Wine

Prayer of Thanksgiving *Fred Kaan*

Holy One, let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy: bread has been eaten, the wine received, Christ has spoken, has been seen, felt and heard.

Christ is able to make us one, at this table he set the tone, teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.

Jesus called us in, now sends us out—bearing fruit in a world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share: God—Immanuel—everywhere! Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again. Pass the Word around: loaves abound! Amen.

Song of Parting #507 — *I Come with Joy* v2, 3, 5



1. I come with joy to meet my Lord, For - giv - en, loved, and
2. I come with Chris - tians far and near To find, as all are
3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, Each proud di - vi - sion
4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His pres - ence, al - ways
5. To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, We'll go our dif - ferent



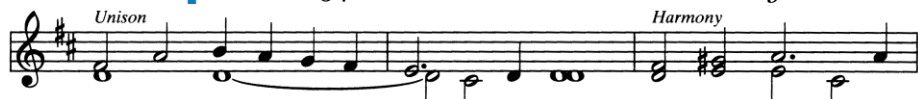
free, In awe and won - der to re - call His
fed, The new com - mu - ni - ty of love In
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, And
near, Is in such friend - ship bet - ter known: We
ways, And as His peo - ple in the world, We'll



life laid down for me, His life laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, In Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
stran - gers now are friends, And stran - gers now are friends.
see and praise Him here, We see and praise Him here.
live and speak His praise, We'll live and speak His praise.

Benediction

Choral Response #540—*God Be with You Till We Meet Again* v1-3



1. God be with you till we meet a - gain; Lov - ing coun - sels
2. God be with you till we meet a - gain; Un - seen wings pro -
3. God be with you till we meet a - gain; When life's per - ils
4. God be with you till we meet a - gain; Keep love's ban - ner



guide, up - hold you, With a Shep - herd's care en - fold you:
tect - ing hide you, Dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you:
thick con - found you, Put un - fail - ing arms a - round you:
float - ing o'er you, Smite death's threat - ening wave be - fore you:



God be with you till we meet a - gain.

God's Light Goes Forth

Music for Going Forth

A Reflection on JS Bach's *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*

Announcements

Ted Group Goes High Tech!

Tuesday, May 17 | 7:00pm | via ZOOM—login information coming soon

Our TED Group will be meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, May 12 at 7 PM. We will be reading and discussing the book *Brit Marie Was Here*. There are some copies of the book available at the table just inside the Church office, and it is also available on Amazon.

Please read up to Chapter 19. There are discussion questions at the end of the book, This will be a group led session.

If you have never joined a TED discussion, this would be an excellent time to start! Everyone welcome!

For more information, please contact Gerry Rogers: gcr123055@gmail.com | 314-434-7122

ZOOM Speaker Series: America's Sacred Sites

Sunday, May 17 | 11:15am | via ZOOM—login information coming soon

Brad Lyons' second book, *America's Sacred Sites: 50 Faithful Reflections on Our National Monuments and Historic Landmarks*, is available this week!

Visiting National Park Service sites in every state, *America's Sacred Sites* digs deeper into places of natural beauty but also human achievement and notoriety.

Join Brad online May 17 at 11:15 am for a bit of armchair travel as we share what makes a place holy for us, how history has colored the way we view certain places, when history became real for us, and places we believe should be better protected for their beauty or history.

Contact Brad by email or through Facebook if you want a signed copy of *America's Sacred Sites* or last year's book, "America's Holy Ground: 61 Faithful Reflections on our National Parks," delivered to your doorstep for only \$20*. You can also order an unsigned copy from ChalicePress.com or wherever you buy books.

*St. Louisans only...out-of-towners can get a signed copy mailed for \$27.

Contact Brad Lyons: brad@bradlyons.net | 314541793

Marv Herpel

Marv is currently a resident of Brookdale West County. He always seems to be in good humor and is feeling "ok". Marv misses attending church but really appreciates the numerous notes and telephone calls from our church members. Marv cannot see his daughter, Georgia, since she lives in a residential community as well and COVID prevents visits at this time.

Please consider send a note to Marv and others ... see addresses on the Prayer List later in this worship bulletin. Thank you!

Congratulations, Nick Matteucci, Jr.

It was reported in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch in a lengthy sports article this week that church member, Nick Matteucci, Jr., was a nine-time NCAA DIII Track & Field All-American running both indoor and outdoor cross country, and “might've cracked double digits, but didn't get a chance to compete in...nationals as a senior, due to the pandemic”. As a Washington University student Nick also won NCAA Elite 90 Honor three different times as an athlete with the highest grade point average competing in each NCAA championship competition. Now Nick is off to attain a PhD at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the fall after majoring in chemical engineering with a minor in energy engineering at Washington University.

Contribution Statements for the 1st quarter of 2020 were sent recently. Please check your email for this information. If you are not set up for email communications, the statement will be sent to you via USPS. Please consider sending your email address to Kathy@parkwayucc.org to receive statements through email, and to save the cost of mailing.

Message from Emma Landowski

I just wanted to take a moment to share how grateful I am for the opportunity to be with you all this past academic year. It still is hard to believe that our time has come to an end. I have learned a great deal from each of you, your kind and generous spirit, your eagerness to learn and grow, your excitement around being in community and building relationships with people from other walks of life. I pray that the spirit continues to guide you and work through each of you. Please know that my heart is with you all, particularly now while we are all still living in the world of COVID-19. Each of you is a beloved child of God and I will forever be shaped by our time together.

Thank you, blessings, and peace
~Emma

Prayer List

as of April 29, 2020

Celebrations

Ramadan Mubarak to our Muslim family and friends!

All the acts of kindness that are happening near and far!

Concerns

Marilyn McDougall - hospitalized with pneumonia; negative for Covid-19.

Cherie Stolze - ongoing health issues; navigating medications/fatigue.

Olivia Landowski - WI firefighter, positive for Covid-19 (Emma's sis).

Mary Whitney - in nursing home with Covid-19 cases - residents/staff.

Randal Barnes - receiving hospice care (Steve's brother).

Bill McMahon - cancer; removal of lung later this month (Svenson).

Family/friends of Janet Regan - grieving/giving thanks (McKenzie).

Rod and Linda - his bone cancer treatments; her grief over her mother who died from COVID-19 (Tarr)

Healthcare workers, homeless and many others at risk right now.

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.]

People who are struggling with their mental health.

E-Learning for students, educators and parents.

People who aren't feeling safe at home but are remaining there.

Individuals in all levels of leadership as they make decisions today.

Continuing

Dwight & Charlotte Smith - he's in skilled nursing facility right now.

Mike Mohl - several broken ribs after fall; multiple myeloma struggles.

Lori Connors - for strength, stamina through some health challenges.

Ruth Peace, Mary Whitney, Pinky Wilcoxon - health challenges.

Bill Darland - ongoing health issues.

Sister Mary Kay McKenzie - for health/wholeness (Tom's sister).

Ken and Rose - as they await nursing home placement for him (Peace).

Nelson Spencer - began chemo treatments on March 30 (Svenson).

Pat Purdy - healing of unknown illness... not COVID-19 (Connors).

Chuck Miller and family - as he lives with cancer (William Tharp).

Alan Nichols - treatments for multiple myeloma; less pain (Pleis).

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.

The United Methodist Church and our LGBTQIA siblings there.

Pregnancy

Rosanna & Kevin Hogarty will be first time grandparents mid-May.
Laura & Phil Waite... pending big brothers Henry, Oscar and Felix.

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]

Dwight Smith - *Manor Grove*; 711 S Kirkwood Rd; Kirkwood, MO 63122;
314-965-0864 [birthdate: September 6]

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 May 3 - **Glory to Glory Christian Church UCC**,

St. Louis; glorytogloryucc.org

Week ending May 10 - **Holy Trinity Community UCC**, Memphis;
holyltrinitymemphis.org

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3, 2020

Psalm 23

Powerful Witness

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.
He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still waters.
He restores my soul;
He leads me in the paths of righteousness
For His name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
For You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the
presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil;
My cup runs over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord
Forever.

The Eternal is my shepherd, He cares for me
always.
He provides me rest in rich, green fields
beside streams of refreshing water.
He soothes my fears;
He makes me whole again,
steering me off worn, hard paths
to roads where truth and righteousness
echo His name.
Even in the unending shadows of death's
darkness,
I am not overcome by fear.
Because You are with me in those dark
moments,
near with Your protection and guidance,
I am comforted.
You spread out a table before me,
provisions in the midst of attack from
my enemies;
You care for all my needs, anointing my head
with soothing, fragrant oil,
filling my cup again and again with
Your grace.
Certainly Your faithful protection and loving
provision will pursue me
where I go, always, everywhere.
I will always be with the Eternal,
in Your house forever.

Here are two versions of the familiar 23rd Psalm – one the King James version and one from a newer translation called *The Voice* (Ecclesia Bible Society. Published Apr 9, 2012). Which version speaks to you today?

