



WALK BY STILL WATERS...



PARKWAY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, April 25, 2021



www.parkwayucc.org

Sunday, April 25, 2021

Contents

- 3 Birthdays & Anniversaries
- 4 10:00am Worship
- 11 Announcements
- 13 Prayer List

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 to Parkway

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 Monday. 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.

Cover Photo: Mary Maynard (daughter of Mona Herberg) at Shaw Nature Reserve, April 2021

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Anniversaries

4/25 WAITE, Phil & Laura (12)

4/30 SCHRENKER, Rick & Cheryl (38)

Birthdays

4/26 ENGEL, Gayle

4/29 DOWNING, Meredith

4/26 SCHERRER, Richard

4/29 REED, Atticus

4/27 DAMSGAARD, Conrad

4/29 WATSON, Julia

4/28 DELANNAY, Sylvie

5/1 WADDELL, Amber

4/28 DOWNING, Harper

4th Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021 | 10:00am

Meditation Sometimes you have to stop running and searching and just stand still. God is chasing after you. So turn around. God is following you with goodness and mercy all your days. ~Psalm 23, paraphrased

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Passing the Peace of Christ

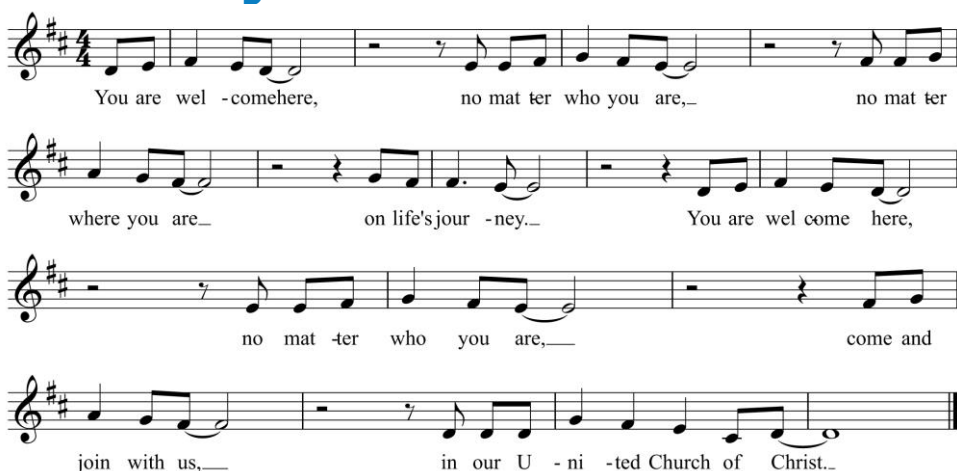
“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

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

Prelude

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song *You Are Welcome Here*



The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 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.

Scripture Psalm 23 (KJV – King James Version)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth 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 thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Call to Worship

One: Come, lie down in green pastures.

Many: **We follow the Shepherd.**

One: Come, walk by still waters.

Many: **We trust the Shepherd.**

One: Come, even when it is dark and dreary.

Many: **We are led by the Shepherd.**

One: Come, dine at the table of abundance.

Many: **We are fed by the Shepherd.**

All: **We dwell in God's house and in the Shepherd's care.**

Song *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*



1. Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us, Much we need Thy ten - der care;
2. Thou hast prom-ised to re - ceive us, Poor and sin - ful though we be;
3. Ear - ly let us seek Thy fa - vor; Ear - ly let us do Thy will;



In Thy pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, For our use Thy folds pre-pare:
Thou hast mer - cy to re - lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and power to free:
Bless-ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, With Thy love our bo - soms fill:



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to Thee;
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, Thou hast loved us, love us still;



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to Thee.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, Thou hast loved us, love us still.

Opening Prayer

Loving Shepherd, you know our names; you care for us. When we face darkness and death, walk beside us. When we hunger for your love, fill us with your presence. When we are fearful, feed us at your table. We dwell in the house of goodness and mercy all the days of our lives. May we be gifts of the same for others. Amen.

Response *Make Me A Channel of Your Peace*



1. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. _____ Where
 2. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. _____ Where
 4. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. _____ It



there is ha-tred, let me bring your love. _____ Where
 there's de-spair in life, let me bring hope. _____ Where
 is in par-don - ing that we are par - doned, _____ in



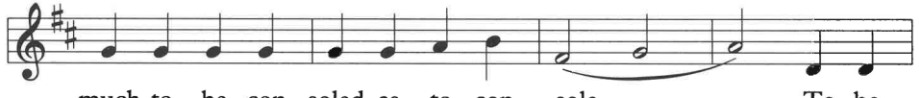
there is in - ju - ry, your par-don, Lord, _____ and
 there is dark - ness, _____ on - ly light, _____ and
 giv - ing of our - selves that we re - ceive, _____ and in



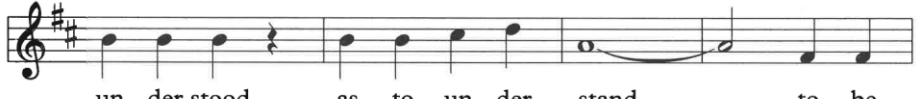
where there's doubt, true faith in you. _____
 where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy. _____
 dy - ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life. _____



3. Oh, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek _____ so



much to be con-soled as to con - sole. _____ To be



un - der-stood as to un - der - stand, _____ to be
 D.C.



loved as to love with all my soul. _____

Children's Time Children and Youth are invited to separate Zoom classrooms immediately following this Children's Time.

Blessing the Children *Jesus Loves Me*

Jesus loves me, this I know, For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to him belong, they are weak but he is strong

Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me still today, Walking with me on my way,
Wanting as a friend to give, life and love to all who live.

Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.

Scripture John 10:11-18 (CEB – Common English Bible)

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. When the hired hand sees the wolf coming, he leaves the sheep and runs away. That’s because he isn’t the shepherd; the sheep aren’t really his. So the wolf attacks the sheep and scatters them. He’s only a hired hand and the sheep don’t matter to him.

“I am the good shepherd. I know my own sheep and they know me, just as God knows me and I know God. I give up my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that don’t belong to this sheep pen. I must lead them too. They will listen to my voice and there will be one flock, with one shepherd.

“This is why God loves me: I give up my life so that I can take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I give it up because I want to. I have the right to give it up, and I have the right to take it up again. I received this commandment from God.”

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

Call to Prayer *You Are Mine*



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. I 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. 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. _____
come and rest in _____
all will know my _____
up, now walk, and _____

me. _____
name. _____
live! _____

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. _____

Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

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 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*



1. The King of love my Shep - herd is, Whose good-ness
 2. Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow My ran - somed
 3. Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in
 4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



- fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul He lead - eth, And where the ver - dant
 love He sought me, And on His shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me; Thy rod and staff my



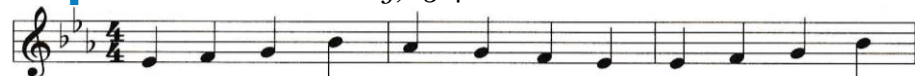
- I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, And home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5. Thou spreadest a table in my sight;
 Thy unction grace bestoweth;
 And O what transport of delight
 From Thy pure chalice floweth!
6. And so through all the length of days
 Thy goodness faileth never;
 Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
 Within Thy house forever.

Invitation to Generosity

Offering Interlude

Response *The Servant Song, v3-4*



- 1., 6. Broth - er, sis - ter, let me serve you, let me be as
 2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney; we're to - geth - er
 3. I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
 4. I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll
 5. When we sing to God in heav - en, we shall find such



- Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to
 on this road. We are here to help each oth - er
 of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
 laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
 har - mo - ny, born of all we've known to - geth - er



Prayer of Dedication

God of love, you abide with us; you provide for our needs and guide us in Your ways. Out of gratitude for Your commitment of care, we bring our gifts before You. Use them for Your work, that all may feast at the table of abundance, walk without fear, and drink deeply from the cup of compassion. Send us out to care for all of Your sheep. Amen.

Song of Parting *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*



1. Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, Called to min-is-tries of grace,
2. Christ's ex - am - ple, Christ's in - spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
3. Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, In a small or glob-al sense,
4. So God grant us for to - mor-row Ways to or - der hu - man life



We re-spond with deep com-mit-ment Fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 Let us fol - low, nev - er fal-tering, Rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.
 Help us bear each oth - er's bur-dens, Break-ing down each wall or fence.
 That sur-round each per - son's sor-row With a calm that con - quers strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, Side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor-er, All God's peo - ple, young and old,
 Words of com-fort, words of vi - sion, Words of chal-enge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, Our com - pas - sion to in - crease,



E - qual part-ners in our car-ing To ful - fill God's cho - sen end.
 Blend-ing hu - man skills to - geth-er Gra - cious gifts from God un - fold.
 Bring new power and strength for ac-tion, Make us col-leagues, free and fair.
 Mes - sen - gers of faith, thus giv-ing Hope and con - fi - dence and peace.

Benediction

God's Light Goes Forth

Music for Going Forth

Announcements

TODAY: Speaker Series

A Life-Long Fascination with the Weather

Sunday, April 25 | 11:15am | ZOOM

Presented by Matthew Scherrer. George Carlin once wisecracked “Weather forecast for tonight – dark.” But it’s not that simple according to Matthew Scherrer, a self-styled amateur meteorologist. In his remarks for the Parkway Speakers Series, Matthew will recount his passion for weather from childhood to the present, agreeing with what another way observed, “It is best to read the weather forecast before we pray for rain.”

Contact Richard Scherrer: 90fivetpr@gmail.com

Video: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84898581439?pwd=V1JhZXNod1JSTjVJcm1QYWhOck9JQT09>

Join by phone: 312 626 6799 | **Meeting ID:** 848 9858 1439 | **Passcode:** 256973

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue May 4

1st & 3rd Tuesdays | 2:00pm | via ZOOM

Please join us for Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue (TAD) as we discuss the second section of the book *Uncommon Ground: Living Faithfully in a World of Difference*, by Keller and Inazu. Come join us, even if you've never participated in a book group before. We'd love to have you.

Video: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83670617428?pwd=bUxPZEdDMlU4ay9oNndTWW4yZUYwUT09>

Join by phone: 312 626 6799 | **Meeting ID:** 836 7061 7428 | **Passcode:** 480007

Tuesday Evening Dialogue New April 27

2nd & 4th Tuesdays | 6:45pm social time | 7:00pm Book discussion | via Zoom

Please join us for our third session discussing *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett. This novel is about twin sisters who choose to live in two very different worlds: one black and one white, exploring race, gender and identity.

Contact Helen Race: raceh@att.net

Video: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86172300024?pwd=bFdGQ0xKRHFGTnZXM0kyRC9FdZGQT09;>

Meeting ID: 861 7230 0024 | (312) 626 6799 US | **Passcode:** BookClub

Reaching out with care and kindness

Please read and respond as we have received this request from Rev. Burton**, one of our friends in The Interfaith Partnership of St Louis...where Kevin serves as the UCC representative...

“On Thursday, April 15, Diesha Boyd (34) was murdered and a 7-year-old girl (relationship has officially not been identified by authorities) was wounded in front of our congregation. I respectfully solicit the members of the Board and Cabinet and their representative communities to collect condolences for the

Boyd family and get-well prayers/messages for the 7-year-old. What will be powerful would be to include pictures of the senders (not addresses), so that African Americans victims of violence see that all community members—at least the faith community—care when a life in North City is lost and children of color are harmed. This family was unknown to our congregation until I witnessed her body being transported by the medical examiner. Can we unite to support this family in grief and this child who is recovering from trauma no child should endure but is becoming shockingly routine?”

To expediate responses, IPSTL is heeding Rev. Burton’s request to assist. Please email condolences to office@interfaithstl.org—either on behalf of your community or individually, depending on your circumstances. By including a photo, we can creatively mimic the impact of bearing witness together in-person.

Please send:

- Condolences to the family to Diesha Boyd
- Healing wishes to the 7-year-old girl (minor will remain unnamed) who was injured
- A photo of yourself or the community you are representing to stand in for showing support in-person

Send notes to:

- office@interfaithstl.org
- By Tuesday, April 27th, end of day
- IPSTL will assist by gathering, printing notes and photos, packaging, and delivering to Rev. Burton on Wednesday, April 28th

Please share! We invite you to forward this along to others in your community to maximize the response.

“We are each other’s harvest: we are each other’s business: we are each other’s magnitude & bond.” -Gwendolyn Brooks

Peace, Jim Poinsett, Executive Director, Interfaith Partnership of Greater STL

****Rodrick Burton** is the *Senior Pastor* of the historic **New Northside Missionary Baptist Church** in St. Louis. He received a *Master of Educational Ministry* from **Covenant Theological Seminary**. He is a Mentor and Visiting Instructor of Applied Theology at **Covenant Theological Seminary**, a member of the **St. Louis Metropolitan Clergy Coalition**, **Ecumenical Leadership Council**, **Jennings Clergy Coalition**, **Baptist Minister’s Union of St. Louis and Vicinity**, **Pastoral Fellowship of St. Louis**, and on the Cabinet of the **Interfaith Partnership of Greater St. Louis**.

Burton is the author of the **Moral State of Black America** and a columnist in several St. Louis Metropolitan area periodicals. **Rev. Burton** is a member of **St. Louis Clean Air Advisory Commission** and is an Advocate for Environmental justice issues. **Burton** is the *President* of the **St. Louis Airport Interfaith Chaplaincy** as well as a member of the **International Association of Civil Aviation Chaplains**.

Prayer List

as of April 21, 2021

Celebrations

All the acts of kindness, justice and equity near and far!
We are Easter People!

Concerns

Zoe Lyons - healing of her broken arm.

Gail Haack - coping with torn rotator cuff; eager to heal so she can get back to sending cards to PUCCers – which she loves doing all year.

Brian - healing after double lung transplant due to COVID (Tossing).

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

Physical Distancing... if anyone needs groceries, medicine and/or other support OR if anyone newly vaccinated would like to be part of the Care Team, please reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org; 314-330-0629.

Healing of relationships between the public and the police.

Gun violence across the country.

Continuing

Joan Biest - healing after elbow surgery.

Jim & Polly Winkelmann - he is continuing to make progress!

Cherie & Mike Stolze - her health; her father's kidney disease.

Lori Connors - for strength, stamina through health challenges.

Ruth Peace & Pinky Wilcoxon - PUCC sisters with health challenges.

Bill Darland - ongoing health issues.

Nicole Leabo - healing after stroke; blind in one eye (Svenson).

Janet Prendergast - healing from recent surgery (Larson).

Anne Brodgerski - responding well to new chemotherapy (Svenson).

Maria Hendrix and Denise Hein (Stifel).

Nelson Spencer - failing heart valve he received years ago (Svenson).

Carolyn & Hank Kraichley - serious health challenges.

Anthony - multiple challenges as he lives his post-incarceration life.

Gary - risky behaviors; seeking balance and stability.

Grateful Tran - half-way house, new skills, schizophrenia (Buretta).

Bob - continues to struggle with Parkinson's.

Christopher, Gail & Bill Haack - chronic health challenges.

The extended Eggebrecht Family - healing and wholeness.

GINNY BROWN DANIEL and our Missouri Mid-South Conference as we conclude our shared ministry at the end of this month.

Home/Care Facility/Rehab Center

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

Marv Herpel - *Brookdale West County*; 785 Henry Ave, #217; Ballwin, MO 63021; 636-227-5838 [birthdate: March 3]

Pat Klein - *Anthology Senior Living of Wildwood*; 251 Plaza Dr, #325; Wildwood, MO 63040 [birthdate: September 21]

Bill Klein - *Anthology Senior Living of Wildwood*; 251 Plaza Dr, #104; Wildwood, MO 63040 [birthdate: March 8]

John and Audrey Nourse - *The Village at Cape Albeon* 3300 Lake Bend Dr; St. Louis, MO 63088; 636-861-3200 [birthdates: Audrey - December 19; John - October 26]

Pearl Sellenriek - *Friendship Village Memory Care Division* #1001; 15250 Olive Blvd, Chesterfield, MO 63017 [birthdate: March 31]

Sue Houser - *Bethany Ctr for Rehab & Healing*; 421 Ocala Dr - #209B; Nashville, TN 37211; 615-577-2049. [birthdate: July 8]

Other

Pres Biden, VP Harris, Congress, all local, national, world leaders.

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

All people who live with mental illness.

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

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.

Conversations about the Death Penalty in the United States.

Victims of Natural and Created Disasters around the world.

Peace and Justice near and far.

US Military around the globe.

Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen.

The people of politically unstable countries across the globe.

St Louis Assn UCC Covenant Partner

Week ending April 25 - **Grace UCC**, St. Louis; graceuccstl.org

Week ending May 2 - **Glory to Glory Christian Church UCC**, St. Louis; glorytogloryucc.org

Psalm 23 (*The Message*. A paraphrase by Eugene Peterson)

God, my shepherd! I don't need a thing. You have bedded me down in lush meadows, you find me quiet pools to drink from.

True to your word, you let me catch my breath and send me in the right direction. Even when the way goes through Death Valley, I'm not afraid when you walk at my side.

Your trusty shepherd's crook makes me feel secure.

You serve me a six-course dinner right in front of my enemies.

You revive my drooping head; my cup brims with blessing.

Your beauty and love chase after me every day of my life.

I'm back home in the house of God for the rest of my life.

The Resurrection is Radical

Lillian Daniel, UCC pastor in Iowa

The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen.” - Luke 24:5 (NRSV)

After twelve months of this pandemic, if our greatest desire is to get back to where we were a year ago, we have missed the memo from the Holy Spirit.

The women get the news when they are looking for Jesus’ body in the empty tomb. “Why do you look for the living among the dead?” Why do you look backwards for God’s future?

If all you want is a sentimental sign of spring, I’m sure you can find a crocus growing in a graveyard somewhere, but the promise of new life is more than that.

What is dead is gone because it has been transformed into something entirely new. So much so that after the resurrection, when Jesus ran into his closest friends, they did not recognize him. They were looking for the living among the dead. They were massaging their memories, clutching to sacred scrapbooks from a pretend past, the kind that grows more perfect the further we are from it. When Jesus actually showed up on the street where they lived, they almost missed him.

New life does not mean more of the same. So why settle for some pre-pandemic nostalgic normalcy for your church, your children, your institutions, your society, your schools, or your street? Why do you look for the living among the dead?

Resurrection is the radical change that renders our run-of-the-mill desires unrecognizable. Christ is risen and there’s no going back.

Prayer: Open my heart to your future, God. Amen.

Lillian Daniel is Senior Pastor at First Congregational Church in Dubuque, Iowa. She is the author of *Tired of Apologizing for a Church I Don’t Belong To* and *When “Spiritual but not Religious” is Not Enough*.

If you would like to receive our UCC’s ‘God is Still Speaking’ Daily Devotions written by authors including Lillian, please sign up here –

<https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/>

4th Sunday of Easter

April 25, 2021

Enfolded by Love

John 10:11-18

Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries Sunday / Break the Silence Sunday

Break the Silence Sunday (BTSS) is an opportunity for survivors of sexual assault to share their stories in a safe and supportive environment. By Breaking the Silence about such assaults, survivors are granted courage and hope.

One of the ways that survivors can be supported in telling their stories is through Strings of Strength. The website:

<https://breakthesilencesunday.org/strings-of-strength/>, says:

“Strings of Strength is a project to provide comfort items to survivors who share their stories with the Break The Silence Sunday team. More than 800 stories have been shared since BTSS began in 2015, and we wanted to find a way to tangibly honor those stories, to help survivors remember that they are believed, that they are strong, and that they are not alone. By creating shawls, scarves, and other items we hope to be able to provide those who share their story with something soft that will remind them of our common strength as survivors of sexual violence.

HOW IT WORKS

1. You (and maybe your group) create items of support like a quilt or prayer shawl.
2. You record the initials of the creator, and the fiber content on each item.
3. You post them to BTSS (see below).
4. We add a nifty little tag with your initials, fiber and care information, and a phrase of love and support (currently it will have the BTSS logo and say something like “your story is heard, believed, and held in love and grace”).
5. We distribute them to survivors who share their stories at events like church conference meetings.
6. You enjoy the connection you’ve made to a survivor who now feels less alone in the world.
7. You create more objects and we repeat this process until rape and sexual violence are no more.”

*(<https://breakthesilencesunday.org/strings-of-strength/>)