

We gather with
kindred spirits.



PARKWAY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, May 9, 2021



www.parkwayucc.org

Sunday, May 9, 2021

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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 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: Mona Herberg

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Anniversaries

5/12 RAUSCHER, Kevin & Steffanie (28)

Birthdays

5/9 CLIFFORD, Scott

5/12 STAPPENBECK, William

5/10 HAGGARD, Gale

5/14 MASTERSON, Scott

5/10 PENICO, Paige

5/15 BRUEGGEMANN, Michelle

5/11 MEYER, Lydia

5/15 PATEL, Elin

5/11 SPERRY, Sam

6th Sunday of Easter

May 9, 2021 | 10:00am

Meditation *Tell me to what you pay attention and I will tell you who you are.*
~Jose Ortega y Gasset

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Passing the Peace of Christ

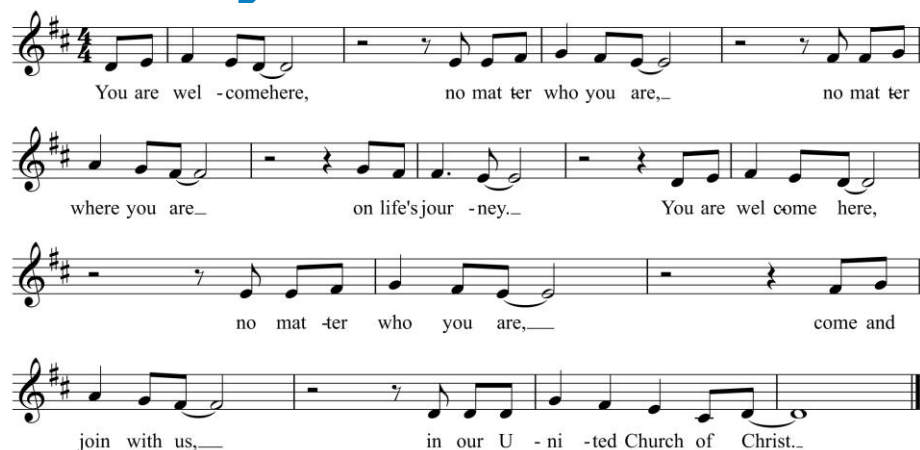
“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

(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*



Scripture Acts 1:1-11 (CEB – Common English Bible)

Theophilus, the first scroll I wrote concerned everything Jesus did and taught from the beginning, right up to the day when he was taken up into heaven. Before he was taken up, working in the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus instructed the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he showed them that he was alive with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days, speaking to them about God's kingdom. While they were eating together, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait for what God had promised. He said, "This is what you heard from me: John baptized with water, but in only a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

As a result, those who had gathered together asked Jesus, “Lord, are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel now?”


Jesus replied, “It isn’t for you to know the times or seasons that God has set by God’s own authority. Rather, you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

After Jesus said these things, as they were watching, he was lifted up and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going away and as they were staring toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood next to them. They said, “Galileans, why are you standing here, looking toward heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way that you saw him go into heaven.”

Call to Worship

One:	We gather—hoping for a glimpse of the holy
Many:	the One who brooded over Creation who engulfed a bush in flame who made a path through the waters who rolled away the tombstone
One:	We gather—hoping for a whisper of the truth
Many:	the Word who first spoke in the silence the voice who raged with prophet’s zeal the host who sang of peace on earth the teacher who blessed the humble and poor
One:	We gather—hoping for a touch of compassion
Many:	the tenderness that shaped the human body the caress that opened eyes of the blind the soothing hand that brought healing calm the warmth that embraced lonely and lost
One:	We gather—in the presence of mystery
Many:	of One who is revealed and hidden, known and unknown, mother of Creation, human God-with-us, living Word, eternal Spirit, Three in One.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

Song Gather Us In #2236



1. Here in this place

2. We are the young — our

3. Here we will take the

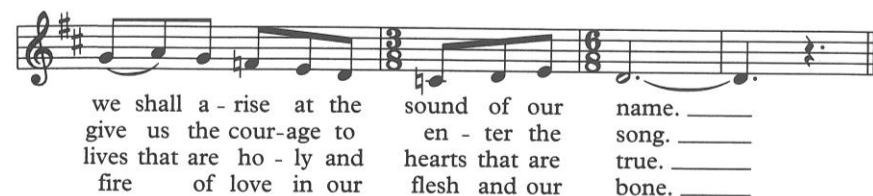
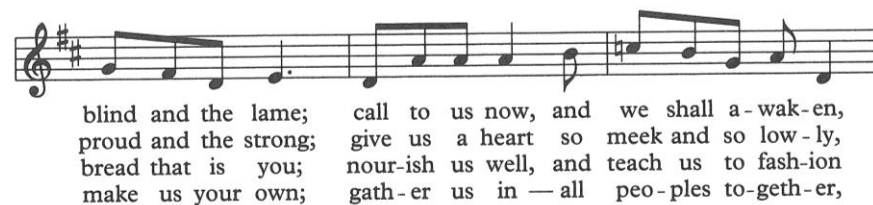
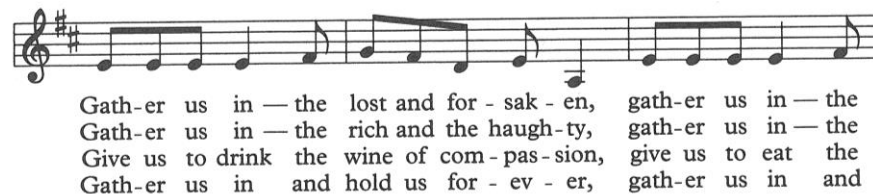
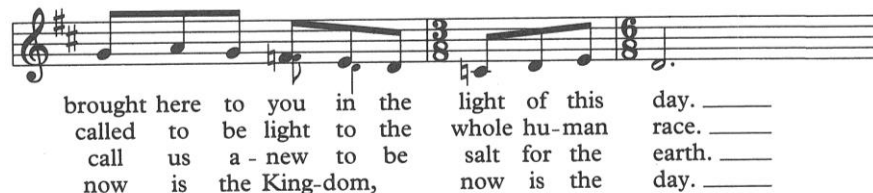
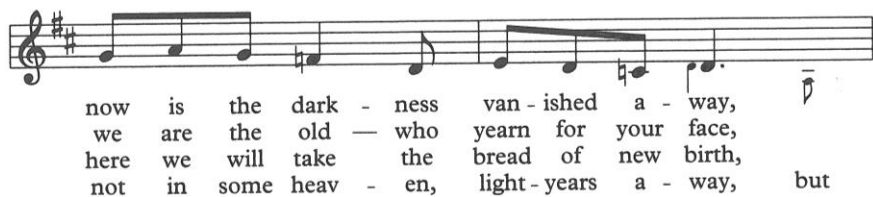
4. Not in the dark of

new light is stream - ing,

lives are a mys - t'ry,

wine and the wa - ter,

build - ings con - fin - ing,



Opening Prayer God, Creator of us all, we gather to worship you. We come as individuals, we come in family units, we come as neighbors and friends. We come here where we are known by name, welcomed with all our fragilities and strengths. We gather with kindred spirits who long to live faithful to your calling.

Guide us, inspire us, challenge us, comfort us, and nurture us in this time of worship so that we might be enabled to return to our daily lives ready to engage fully with all of your creation. Amen.

Response *Spirit of the Living God*

**Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me!
Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.**

Children's Time Children and Youth will stay with us in worship today.

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.**

Scripture Luke 24:44-53 (NRSV—New Revised Standard Version)

Then Jesus said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what God promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Response *God, In Our Church's Teaching*

AURELIA 7.6.7.6 D (*The Church's One Foundation*)

**God, in our church's teaching, may we be bold and clear;
may it become our practice to counter hate and fear.
We've said that Jesus' message is one that's filled with love,
and yet our sweeping statements are clearly not enough.**

**Isaiah boldly told us you hate our worship ways
when we ignore injustice and simply offer praise.
And Jesus gave a warning: When we — in sin and pride —
refuse to welcome others, we turn our Lord aside.**

**May these be crucial lessons we teach the old and young:
that racist ways are evil, that sexist ways are wrong.
In Sunday schools and pulpits, may this be what we speak:
God made each person precious, beloved and unique.**

O God, we grieve the violence, the shootings, and the hate;
we grieve our own indifference — our speaking out too late.
God, in our church's witness, may we say loud and clear:
We welcome every neighbor. We work for justice here.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

Call to Prayer *Make Me A Channel of Your Peace #2171*



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



1 2, 4 Fine

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. _____

Pastor Prayer, Prayers of the People, Lord's Prayer

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

Response

Prayer of Dedication

Song of Parting *Be Thou My Vision*



Benediction

God's Light Goes Forth

Music for Going Forth

Announcements

Next Week Speaker Series: Investing for the Future

Sunday, May 16 | 11:15am | YouTube presentation

“Darn, I saved too much money for my retirement, said nobody, EVER.”

Buy low and sell high; is it really that easy?

Our speaker, John Meiners, worked in the financial industry for over 40 years and comes to Parkway to talk about the nuts and bolts of investing, from certificate of deposits to derivatives and most anything in between. He has nothing to sell; he's retired. His presentation is meant to entertain and provoke. (Remember, when it is time to invest your money, always rely upon a qualified financial advisor, regarding the best options for your particular circumstances. There are no guarantees in the world of investment. All investments and investment strategies have inherent risk, including loss of principal).

Contact Richard Scherrer: 90fivetpr@gmail.com

Tuesday Evening Dialogue New Book – May 11

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

Please join us for our third session (chapter 10 to the end of the book)

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, identity. Contact Helen Race: raceh@att.net

Video: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86172300024?pwd=bFdGQ0xKRHFGTnZXM0kyRC9FdDZGQT09;>

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

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue – May 18

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

Please join us for Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue (TAD) as we discuss the third/final 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

May 2021 Alzheimer's News

The Alzheimer's Association Greater Missouri Chapter has partnered with Missouri Rural Health Association and Memory Care Home Solutions to deliver the Caregiver Training and Relief Program.

The Customized Caregiver Training Program provides hands-on training to manage challenging behaviors, learn caregiver strategies, and improve quality time at home. To learn more about this program, contact Memory Care Home Solutions, 314-645-6247.

The Caregiver Relief Program provides financial assistance to family caregivers living with and caring for persons with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias. The Caregiver Relief program provides reimbursement to family caregiver for expenses related to use of respite care services and/or purchase of products or services required to care for the individual with dementia.

To be eligible:

- The care receiver must live at home with the primary caregiver. Persons residing in long-term care communities are ineligible.
- The care receiver must have a diagnosis of probable Alzheimer's disease or a dementia related to vascular dementia, Parkinson's disease, Pick's disease, Lewy Body disease, etc.
- The care receiver's residence must be in Missouri.

No application is required for this program. Caregivers in need of support should call the 24/7 Helpline 1-800-272-3900 to request a Respite Care Consultation with a dementia expert who will assess needs and identify various resources to support the caregiver.

You can learn more by going to www.alz.org/help-support/resources or the Alzheimer's Helpline which is accessible 24/7 via 800-272-3900 and staffed by master's level clinicians to assist with crisis situations, decision making, and disease information. You can find virtual dementia caregiver resources online at alz.org/covid19help. Tools and support are also available in Spanish. Want to learn more about the Alzheimer's Association and what they do here in St. Louis? Visit alz.org and/or contact PUCC's Faith Outreach Ambassador with the Alzheimer's Association, Joyce Ruiz at joyceruiz7@gmail.com

Hymns we almost shared today:

God of the Women

Tune: *Be Thou My Vision*

God of the women who answered your call,
Trusting your promises, giving their all,
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth —
Give us their courage to live in your truth.

God of the women who walked Jesus' Way,
Giving their resources, learning to pray,
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more —
May we give freely as they did before.

God of the women who ran from the tomb,
Prayed with the others in that upper room,
Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day —
May we so gladly proclaim you today.

O God of Phoebe and ministers all,
May we be joyful in answering your call.
Give us the strength of your Spirit so near
That we may share in your ministry here.

Christ Would Not Cast the Judgment Stone

Tune: *Though I May Speak*

Christ would not cast the judgment stone
At one who stood afraid, alone;
He stopped the violence in that place
By speaking truth and showing grace.

To one the world would not protect,
Christ offered care and showed respect;
In one whom others cast away,
He saw a child of God that day.

May we show Christ's compassion here
To girls and women bound by fear,
To those who live in silent pain,
To those who can't go home again.

We pray for those who from their birth
Are never shown their human worth;
We pray for women hurt this day
While others turn their eyes away.

O God, may we who call you Lord
Now labor for a world restored,
Where, in your image, all will be
Protected, valued, safe and free.

Mother's Day Haiku

Haiku is a form of Japanese poetry. It is usually composed of three lines. The first line has 5 syllables, the second 7 and the third 5. Haiku is a brief and imaginative look at a particular subject. The writer tries to capture just a single moment, using only just a few words. Haiku is believed to have begun sometime in the 17th century. The short format meant that writers must choose their words carefully. Writers of traditional Haiku often use natural themes or images and their finished work often has a wistfulness or sense of yearning in the tone.

How complicated	calling home
Are the ties that bind between	the color of mother's voice
Mothers and daughters.	before her words

catching a firefly;	i follow her recipe,
letting it go...	but something's missing...
mother's day	mother's day

Sunday morning –	evening class
humming a tune	a toddler comes in
my mother taught me	with her mother

cutting the moon cake	silence
just like my mother	the baby finds
Mid Autumn Festival	the breast

World History	winter sunset
my mother's	buttoning mother's coat
margin notes	up to her chin

so suddenly winter	the daughter taps flour
baby teeth at the bottom	into a mixing bowl . . .
of the button jar	mother's apron tight

cool evening . . .	mother-daughter
mother takes me by the arm	small talk
from grave to grave	snap beans

mom makes
grandma's holiday soup –
steam and tears

Prayer List

as of May 5, 2021

Celebrations

All the acts of kindness, justice and equity near and far!

Students, families, educators as many graduate this month!

Concerns

Brian - healing after double lung transplant due to COVID... is at the Transplant House in Cleveland for six weeks before release (Tossing).

Dan Stoerzbach - receiving hospice care (Audrey Scherrer's father).

All impacted by Covid-19 - individuals, families, healthcare workers... India and other hot spots.

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

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

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.

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 concluded our shared ministry last week.

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.

The people of Yemen, Iraq, Afghanistan, Indonesia, Turkey.

The people of politically unstable countries across the globe.

St Louis Assn UCC Covenant Partner

Week ending May 9 - Holy Trinity Community UCC, Memphis; holyltrinitymemphis.org

Week ending May 16 - Hope UCC, DeSoto; hopeunitedchurchofchrist.com

6th Sunday of Easter

May 9, 2021

Friends Together

John 15:9-17

Rural Life Sunday/Mother's Day

Church coffee hour is as important a weekly ritual as church worship. On this Rural Life Sunday, consider how your church community is intentional about making relationships with the farmers who produce the treats you enjoy each Sunday morning. Through Equal Exchange coffee, your church can celebrate its relationship with farmers every day, not just on Rural Life Sunday.

*“Started in 2004, the UCC Fair Trade Project allows your congregation to partner with the United Church of Christ and Equal Exchange in building fair trade for small farming communities by serving fairly traded coffee, tea and cocoa, and chocolate, snacks, and olive oil for justice at fellowship hour on Sundays.

This project is a way for your congregation to join hands with communities in the developing world. As Christians we can address a consumer dilemma by buying coffee and other commodities that are fairly traded. Through the project, small farmers and their families gain more control over their lives, earn a fairer share of income, have access to credit and technical support, and gain a trading partner they can trust. Members of your congregation can learn about consumption habits that support small scale farmers and workers throughout the world and encourage careful stewardship of God's creation. At fellowship hour, you will be taking action in a spirit of love.

Through the UCC Fair Trade Project, you get access to Organic, fairly-traded products at discounted wholesale case prices, ensuring that more of the money you spend on coffee and other products reaches the hardworking farmers who actually grow them.” *(<https://equalexchange.coop/ucc>)

Find out more about how your church community can partner with Equal Exchange at <https://equalexchange.coop/ucc>.