



WHERE CAN I GO
FROM YOUR SPIRIT?



www.parkwayucc.org

Sunday, May 16, 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.

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Anniversaries

5/18 WILLIAMS, Meera & Roy (31)

5/19 RUIZ, John & Joyce (37)

5/20 LIVENGOOD, Ross & Kim (43)

Birthdays

5/18 WAITE, Felix

5/21 DOTY, Nathaniel

5/21 CLIFFORD, Thomas

5/21 OEHLER, Kurt

7th Sunday of Easter

May 16, 2021 | 10:00am

Meditation *What the poor need is not charity but capital, not caseworkers but coworkers. And what the rich need is a wise, honorable and just way of divesting themselves of their overabundance. ~Clarence Jordan*

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Passing the Peace of Christ

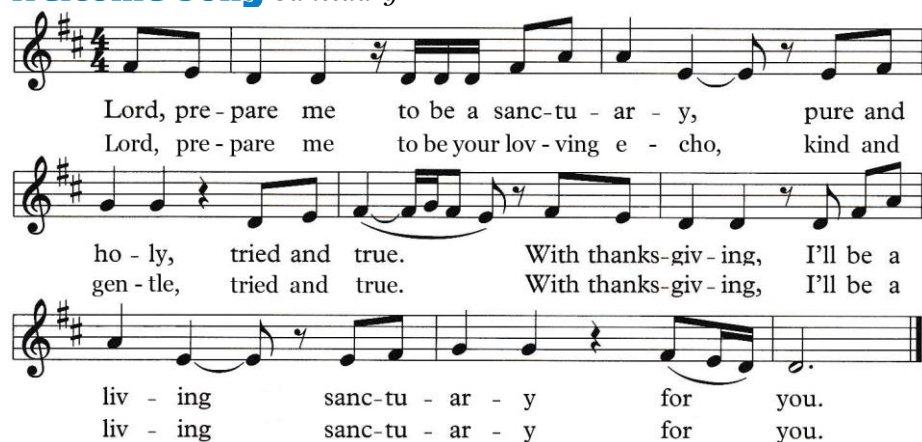
“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

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

Prelude

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song *Sanctuary*



Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and
Lord, pre - pare me to be your lov - ing e - cho, kind and
ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a
gen - tle, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a
liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for you.
liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for you.

Scripture Psalm 139: 1-18a (NRSV – New Revised Standard Version)

O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night," even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.

Call to Worship Christ Church, New Zealand

One: God, who is beyond us and closer than our own breath, maker of heaven and earth -

Many: **We open our eyes to see the wonder of Your creation!**

One: God, who is made known in the life of Jesus back then and here with us now -

Many: **We open our hearts to know the deep love of Christ!**

One: God, who is in each one of us as Holy Fire to kindle our true purpose -

Many: **We open our beings to each other to confirm that we all belong together in the Spirit!**

All: **Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.**

Song *Morning Has Broken*



1. Morn-ing has bro - ken Like the first morn - ing, Black-bird has
2. Sweet the rain's new fall Sun - lit from heav - en, Like the first
3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing Born of the



spo - ken Like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
dew - fall On the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness Of the wet
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, Praise ev - ery



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing Fresh from the Word!
gar - den, Sprung in com - plete - ness Where God's feet pass.
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion Of the new day!

Opening Prayer *Be Praised by Butterfly—Mary Goergen*

Be praised, my God, by butterfly and dragonfly wings exercising for their first flight. Be praised by lightning and thunder causing spring showers. Be praised by the silent voice of grass growing and trees budding. Be praised by all the colored flower trumpets of spring. Be praised by downy feathers freshly dried on newly hatched ducklings and chicks. Be praised by the songs of birds, crickets and frogs. Be praised, my God, by all your creation which tells of new life. May we also be fresh expressions of You and Your springing love. 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 in worship today.*

Blessing the Children *Jesus Loves the Little Children*

Jesus loves the little children,

All the children of the world.

Every child in every land,

Jesus holds them by the hand.

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

1st Gospel Lesson *Luke 1:26-38 (CEB – Common English Bible)*

When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a city in Galilee, to a virgin who was engaged to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David's house. The virgin's name was Mary. When the angel came to her, he said, "Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!" She was confused by these words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. The angel said, "Don't be afraid, Mary. God is honoring you. Look! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and he will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. He will rule over Jacob's house forever, and there will be no end to his kingdom."

Then Mary said to the angel, "How will this happen since I haven't had sexual relations with a man?"

The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come over you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the one who is to be born will be holy. He will be called God's Son. Look, even in her old age, your relative Elizabeth has conceived a son. This woman who was labeled 'unable to conceive' is now six months pregnant. Nothing is impossible for God."

Then Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant. Let it be with me just as you have said." Then the angel left her.

2nd Gospel Lesson Matthew 1:18-25 (MSG – The Message)

The birth of Jesus took place like this. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. Before they enjoyed their wedding night, Joseph discovered she was pregnant. (It was by the Holy Spirit, but he didn't know that.) Joseph, chagrined but noble, determined to take care of things quietly so Mary would not be disgraced.

While he was trying to figure a way out, he had a dream. God's angel spoke in the dream: "Joseph, son of David, don't hesitate to get married. Mary's pregnancy is Spirit-conceived. God's Holy Spirit has made her pregnant. She will bring a son to birth, and when she does, you, Joseph, will name him Jesus—'God saves'—because he will save his people from their sins." This would bring the prophet's embryonic revelation to full term:

Watch for this—a virgin will get pregnant and bear a son; They will name him Immanuel (Hebrew for "God is with us").

Then Joseph woke up. He did exactly what God's angel commanded in the dream: He married Mary. They named the baby Jesus.

New Testament Lesson

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 (NRSV – New Revised Standard Version)

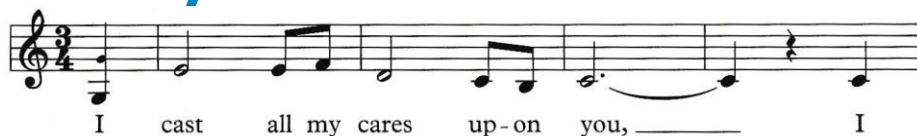
In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus— for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry."

So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

Call to Prayer *Cares Chorus*





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 *Here I Am, Lord*

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My peo - ple cry.
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My peo - ple's pain.
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

All who dwell in deep - est sin My hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them, They turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin - est bread I will pro - vide Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain Unison

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have
 heard You call-ing in the night I will
 go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your
 peo - ple in my heart.

Fine

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offering Interlude

Response *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

I'm gonna live so God can use me

Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna live so God can use me

Anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me...

Prayer of Dedication *Somewhere Someone*—Binkley and McKeel
 Holy One, we are so grateful that your kingdom love is near as
 somewhere someone is kind when others are unkind; somewhere
 someone shares with another in need; somewhere someone
 refuses to hate, while others hate; somewhere someone is patient -
 and waits in love; somewhere someone returns good for evil;
 somewhere someone serves another in love; somewhere someone
 is calm in a storm; somewhere someone is loving everybody. Help
 me to be that someone again and again in old and new ways. Amen.

Song of Parting *Will You Come and Follow Me?*



- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at-tract or scare?
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Benediction

God's Light Goes Forth

Music for Going Forth

Announcements

Canceled - Speaker Series: Investing for the Future

Sunday, May 16 | 11:15am | Zoom

“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

Video: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84898581439?pwd=V1JhZXNod1JSTjVJcm1QYWWhOck9JQT09>

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

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=bUxPZEdDMlU4ay9oNndkWW4yZUYwUT09>

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

Tuesday Evening Dialogue – May 25

2nd & 4th Tuesdays | 6:45pm social time | 7:00pm Book discussion | via Zoom
New book discussion begins. Stay tuned for details.

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

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

Prayer List

as of May 12, 2021

Celebrations

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

Students, families, educators as many graduate this month!

Concerns

Ellie & Skip Larson - as she settles in to a care unit at Meramec Bluffs.

The Taylor Family as they grieve and give thanks for Beverly Taylor.

Al & Cindy - healing from car accident; he's back in the hospital (Tarr).

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 and other violence across the US and other lands.

Continuing

Gail Haack - healing from torn rotator cuff.

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).

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.

Transitional Conference Minister Mary Nelson and our Missouri

Mid-South Conference - beginning our shared ministry.

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 16 - **Hope UCC**, DeSoto; hopeunitedchurchofchrist.com

Week ending May 23 - **Hope UCC**, St Louis; hopeuccstl.org

Notes

Notes

7th Sunday of Easter

May 16, 2021

Guided in Prayer

John 17:6-19

Mental Health Sunday

Myra lives with her husband Howard in the home they have shared for 43 years. A year ago, Howard started forgetting words and losing things more than usual. Now, he has been diagnosed with dementia and he gets more confused every day.

Pastor Deb is the only other person in the congregation who knows that Joel's brother Carl died by suicide. Even though it's been more than a decade since his death, every year on the anniversary of Carl's death, Joel becomes depressed and angry.

After his tour in Afghanistan, Raoul began having nightmares that would wake him from sleep. He sometimes breaks into a sweat and starts shaking in crowded places.

Several years ago, Angela had surgery on her back and was prescribed pain medicine. She became addicted to their numbing effects and has struggled to keep a job.

When the church secretary arrives at the building in the morning, she sometimes finds Doreen sleeping in the outside stairwell. Doreen talks to people that no one else can see and, even when information is offered to her, refuses to go to the shelter.

These people and scenarios are imagined, but the reality of dementia, addiction, PTSD and mental illness almost certainly touch the lives of people in your congregation. Although the church community wants to help in situations like this, it's hard to know what to do.

Fortunately, the mental health network of the United Church of Christ has created toolkits for congregations who yearn to be places of safety and caring in these and countless other situations. You can find the toolkits, and much more at:

<https://www.mhn-ucc.org/congregational-toolkits/>.