

*The voice of God
is over the water.*



PARKWAY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, May 30, 2021



www.parkwayucc.org

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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.

Cover Photo: Falling Spring Mill, Missouri by Mona Herberg

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Anniversaries

5/30 LOWENTHAL, Andrew & Sharon (40)

6/3 DWYER, John & Dottie (47)

6/5 TALLYN, Kent & Diane (22)

Birthdays

5/30 KR PAN, Maggie

6/2 SPERRY, Abby

5/31 SHELTON, Karla

6/3 WATSON, Jenna

6/1 DOMBEK, Claire

6/5 BRUEGGEMANN, Paige

6/2 BUMGARNER, Carmen

6/5 DISCHINGER, Doug

Sunday after Pentecost

May 30, 2021 | 10:00am

Meditation

The Buddha left Bodh Gaya to teach others. Jesus came out of the Judean desert to preach. Spiritual awakening is meaningless if it does not culminate in finding your voice and speaking up for what is right. ~Anthon St. Maarten

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Passing the Peace of Christ

“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

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 melody is simple and welcoming, with lyrics written below the notes. 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 29 (NRSV—New Revised Standard Version)

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory of God's name; worship the Lord in holy splendor. The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders over mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty. The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon. The Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox. The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire. The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in God's temple all say, "Glory!" The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned forever. May the Lord give strength to the people! May the Lord bless the people with peace!

Call to Worship John Leach

One:	We are the church.
Many:	We come together to worship – singing, praying, listening.
One:	We come together to learn. We have so much wisdom to receive.
Many:	We come together to share our lives.
One:	God has put words on our lips—so we get ready to speak.
Many:	We prepare to go out in the world to be the words and ways of Jesus.
One:	God has given us Spirit so that we can be sure that we are never alone.
Many:	God helps to find freedom from parts of our past that didn't build us up.
One:	The Spirit helps us to put things down and to pick new things up.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

Song *Spirit, I Have Heard You Calling* (sung to tune: *Come Thou Fount*)

**Spirit, I have heard you calling, like a mem'ry long grown dim,
crying from creation's moment seeking voice from deep within.
I have heard you in my longing. I have heard you in my pain.
Now I feel you moving in me, feel you burning like a flame.**

**Now I see you all around me, now I hear you call my name.
Now I speak the words you give me, now I feed creation's flame.
You are speaking through my pain.
Now I feel you moving in me, and I'll never be the same.**

**Since you moved upon my waters, since you spoke and set me free,
I have yearned for this communion, for your fire inside of me!
Now your love defines my longing.
Now your love shines through my pain.
Now we dance in endless union, singing out creation's name!**

Opening Prayer Prayer of St Francis

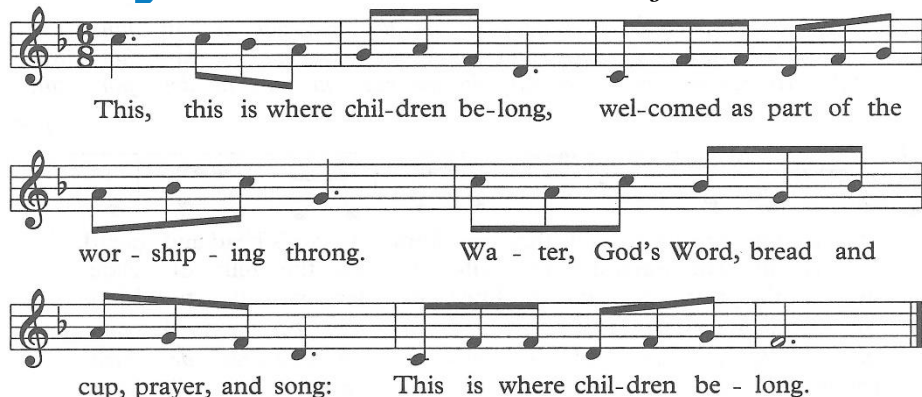
**Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love. Where there is injury, pardon. Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, hope. Where there is darkness, light. Where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love. For it is in giving that we receive. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life.
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 are invited to separate Zoom classrooms immediately following this Children's Time.

Blessing the Children *Where Children Belong*



Scripture Isaiah 6:1-8 (NRSV—New Revised Standard Version)

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke.

And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!" Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

Anointing our Lips with Oil

Have a simple oil handy—e.g., olive, vegetable, sesame, grapeseed

Call to Prayer *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

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.]

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offering Interlude

Prayer of Dedication Carol Penner

We have the means to give, we have the reason to give, and there are many waiting for us to give. Yet often, our hands hold back, and we keep what we have for ourselves. God of grace, help us live and give in your kingdom of love, where there are no enemies, only brothers and sisters, and kindness is the air we breathe. Amen.

Song of Parting *I'm Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing*

I'm gonna *sing* when the Spirit says sing! (x3)
And obey the Spirit of the Lord.

I'm gonna *share* when the Spirit says preach...
I'm gonna *shout* when the Spirit says shout!...
I'm gonna *be silent* when the Spirit says be silent...

Benediction

God's Light Goes Forth

Music for Going Forth

Announcements

Announcements

Tuesday Evening Dialogue—June 8

2nd & 4th Tuesdays | 6:45pm social time | 7:00pm Book discussion | via Zoom
Join us for our second session of discussion on the novel entitled *The Heart's Invisible Furies* by John Boyne. It's about an Irish orphan and takes place from the 1940's to present.

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

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

Missouri Botanical Garden

Wednesday, June 9 | 9:30am – 12:00pm | Missouri Botanical Garden

Enjoy a morning with Parkway UCC at the beautiful Missouri Botanical Garden Wednesday, June 9th (rain date June 16th). Meet at the Parkway parking lot at 9:30 to carpool, or meet out front of the new Botanical Garden Visitors Center at 10. You can purchase a ticket online up to one week in advance for \$6 if you are a St. Louis City or County resident (\$4 for seniors 65 and over), or by phone (314) 678-7442. There are also limited free tickets available at the door on Wednesdays from 9-11 for residents, but the garden cautions on its website that walkup admission can not be guaranteed. It is recommended that you purchase a ticket in advance to save wait time and ensure that you get in. Please check the weather before purchasing your advance ticket. Unvaccinated visitors must wear a mask.

More info? Contact Jackie Eiffert: jeiffert2@gmail.com

Visit to St Louis Art Museum

Wednesday, June 30 | 9:30am - 12:00pm | St Louis Art Museum

Join Parkway UCC as we head to the beautiful St. Louis Art Museum. Meet at Parkway at 9:30 to carpool, or meet at the main entrance to the Art Museum at 10. Admission is free.

More info? Contact Jackie Eiffert: jeiffert2@gmail.com

Prayer List

as of May 26, 2021

Celebrations

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

Students, families, educators as many graduate this month!

The Sablemans - celebrating the birth of a grandson this week!

Concerns

Peter Shelton - healing at home after recent surgery.

Jim Winkelmann's mother Val Weber - healing from back injury.

John - receiving hospice care at home (lifelong friend of Winkelmanns).

All impacted by Covid-19 - individuals, families, healthcare workers.

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.

Peace in the Mid-East.

Memorial Day Weekend.

Continuing

Don Wandless and family as they make plans to celebrate Gloria's life.

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

Gail Haack - healing from torn rotator cuff.

Stoerzbach & Scherrer families - mourning Dan (Audrey's father).

Bob Boyd - recuperating from recent knee replacement surgery.

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

Al & Cindy - healing from car accident (Tarr).

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 30 - **UP Unleashing Potential** (formerly Neighborhood Houses) St. Louis; upstl.org

Week ending June 7 - **Immanuel UCC**, Ferguson; immanuelucc.church

Trinity Sunday

May 23, 2021

Mysterious Encounter

John 3:1-17

Strengthen the Church Offering

In today's Gospel story, the man Nicodemus has an encounter with Jesus that changes his life. As Christ's disciples, we never know what small interaction might be life-changing for those we meet.

Andy DeBraber, generosity officer of the United Church of Christ, tells this true story.

At a gathering of United Church of Christ members who support the National Setting financially, the question was asked, "Why do you support the UCC?"

At first there was silence, but then a man in his 70s from rural Ohio stood up. His wife elbowed him, he explained, so he had been nudged to tell his story.

As a child, he had learned to give to the church and be generous from his father. His father would give him a dime each Sunday to put in the offering plate. Then one Sunday, he turned to his father at the offering for his weekly dime to put in the plate.

His father refused. You see, he had just started delivering newspapers. His father told him that from now on, the boy had to put his own dimes in the plate. Learned early, his practice of giving continued into adulthood.

But why does he now give so generously to all settings of the UCC, 62 years after that long-ago lesson?

"I was a homophobe and racist," he said. "And if it weren't for the UCC, I still would be."

Just like Nicodemus, the man in this story was changed, and changed again. First by his father who taught him the value of giving and then by those who helped him see a way of love and openness. How might your witness bring change to the world?