



KINDOM



PARKWAY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, June 13, 2021



www.parkwayucc.org

Sunday, June 13, 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.

Cover Photo:

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Anniversaries

6/18 SCHOWALTER, Todd & Laura (27)

Birthdays

6/14 LANE, Melissa

6/19 DUKE, Ben

6/14 WOTTRICH, Evelyn

6/19 DUKE, Josie

6/15 MCKENZIE, Lucia

6/19 SVENSON, Ellie

6/15 MOELLERING, Susan

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, June 13, 2021 | 10:00am In-Person Outdoors & Facebook Live

Meditation *The Christian life is not about pleasing God the finger-shaker and judge. It is not about believing now or being good now for the sake of heaven later. Christianity's goal is not to escape from this world. It loves this world and seeks to change it for the better. ~Marcus Borg*

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Passing the Peace of Christ

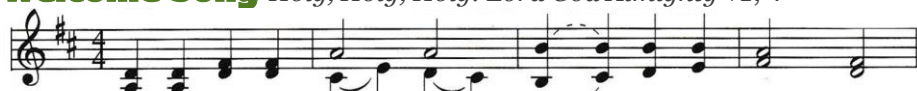
“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

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

Prelude

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty* v1, 4



1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore Thee,
3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark-ness hide Thee,
4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to Thee;
Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
Though the eye of sin - ful-ness Thy glo - ry may not see,
All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth and sky and sea;



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!
Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore Thee,
On - ly Thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side Thee
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
Who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
Per - fect in power, in love and pu - ri - ty,
God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Scripture Mark 4:26-34 (MSG - The Message)

Then Jesus said, “God’s kingdom is like seed thrown on a field by someone who then goes to bed and forgets about it. The seed sprouts and grows—they have no idea how it happens. The earth does it all without their help: first a green stem of grass, then a bud, then the ripened grain. When the grain is fully formed, they reap—harvest time!

“How can we picture God’s kingdom? What kind of story can we use? It’s like an acorn. When it lands on the ground it is quite small as seeds go, yet once it is planted it grows into a huge oak tree with thick branches. Eagles nest in it.”

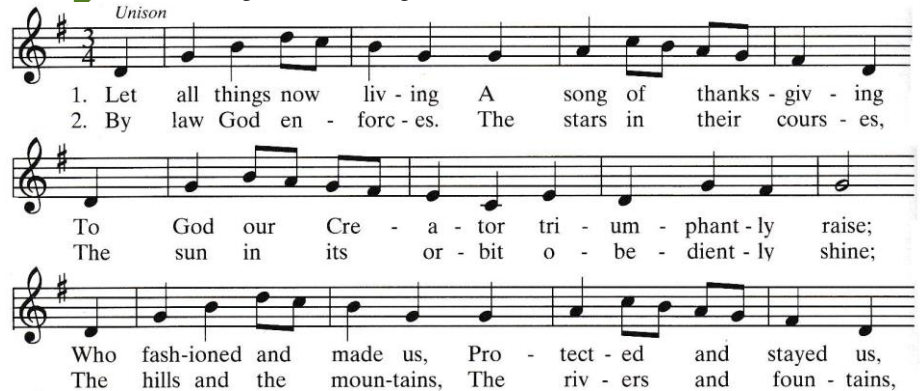
With many stories like these, Jesus presented his message to them, fitting the stories to their experience and maturity. He was never without a story when he spoke. When he was alone with his disciples, he went over everything, sorting out the tangles, untying the knots.

Call to Worship Jaroslav Vajda

One:	God of the sparrow, God of the whale, God of the swirling stars
Many:	God of the earthquake, God of the storm, God of the trumpet blast
One:	God of the rainbow, God of the cross, God of the empty grave
Many:	God of the hungry, God of the sick, God of the prodigal
One:	God of the neighbor, God of the foe, God of the pruning hook
Many:	God of the ages, God near at hand, God of the loving heart
One:	How do we express awe, worry, grace, fear?
Many:	How do we share care, confusion, love, peace?
One:	We open ourselves up this hour – to be more available, vulnerable, imprintable.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

Song Let All Things Now Living

Unison



1. Let all things now liv - ing A song of thanks - giv - ing
2. By law God en - forc - es. The stars in their cours - es,
To God our Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise;
The sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;
Who fash - ioned and made us, Pro - tect - ed and stayed us,
The hills and the moun - tains, The riv - ers and foun - tains,



By guid - ing us on to the end of our days.
The depths of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

Harmony

God's ban - ners are o'er us, Pure light goes be - fore us,
We, too, should be voic - ing Our love and re - joic - ing

A pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night:
With glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise:

Unison

Till shad - ows have van - ished, All fear - ful - ness ban - ished,
Till all things now liv - ing U - nite in thanks - giv - ing,

As for - ward we trav - el from light in - to Light.
To God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise.

Opening Prayer Jennie Gordon

God of life, in your hand we find our lives. Be present with us in this time together. Let your Spirit mold us, shape us and remake us this morning and every day until we conform to the shape that you call us to take—the shape of love known and shown. 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/Youth will meet with Barb after the Children's

Time with masks/physical distance for a fun time together. Parents may pick their children up in the front of the Church following the Church meeting.

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.

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

1
still and know I am here. _____
come and rest in
all will know my
up, now walk, and

2-4 *Refrain*
me. _____
name. _____ Do not be a-fraid, I am
live! _____

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 Sung to the tune by Nate Stout

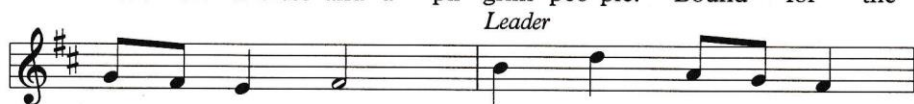
Our [Creator/Mother/Father/Holy One] **who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is 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.]

Song *Bring Forth the Kingdom of God*



1. You are salt for the earth, O peo-ple: Salt for the
2. You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: Light for the
3. You are a seed of the Word, O peo-ple: Bring forth the
4. We are a blest and a pil-grim peo-ple: Bound for the



King-dom of God! Share the fla - vor of
Cit - y of God! Shine so ho - ly and
King-dom of God! Seeds of mer - cy and
King-dom of God! Love our jour - ney and



life, O peo - ple: Life in the King-dom of God!
bright, O peo - ple: Shine for the King-dom of God!
seeds of jus - tice, grow in the King-dom of God!
love our home-land: Love is the King-dom of God!



Bring forth the King-dom of mer - cy, bring forth the



King-dom of peace; bring forth the King-dom of jus - tice,



bring forth the Cit-y of God!

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offering Interlude

Response

Praise God whose many names abound;
Our Peace, our Rock, Our Holy Ground,
Our Home, our All, Earth's Majesty,
Love, Spirit, Light and Mystery. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication Quentin Chin

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

Song of Parting *In the Midst of New Dimensions*



- 1 In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of chang-ing ways,
- 2 Through the flood of starv-ing peo - ple, war-ring fac-tions and de - spair,
- 3 As we stand a world di - vid - ed by our own self - seek - ing schemes,
- 4 We are one and we are man - y all per-sua-sions, old and young,
- 5 Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with-draw in pain,



Who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples wan-dering in their sep - arate ways?
Who will lift the ol - ive branch-es? Who will light the flame of care?
Grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage, might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams.
Each a gift in your cre - a - tion, each a love song to be sung.
May your blaz-ing phoe-nix spir - it res - ur - rect the church a - gain.

Refrain



Am

God of rain-bow, fier - y pil - lar, lead-ing where the ea-gles soar, We your



peo-ple, ours the jour-ney now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

Benediction

Annual Congregational Meeting: Leadership

Announcements

Georgia Herpel Memorial June 15

Marv Herpel and his daughter, Ann, cordially invite the PUCC family to a memorial service for Georgia Herpel on Tuesday, June 15, at 11:30 a.m. The service will be held at Schrader Funeral Home, 14960 Manchester Rd. Luncheon to follow at 16350 Peppermill Dr, Wildwood.

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue—June 15 New Book

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

Please join us this summer – starting June 15 – as we read *Great Psalms of the Bible* by Clint McCann. McCann is an internationally recognized Psalms scholar at Eden Theological Seminary, and he comes highly recommended by several PUCCers who have taken his classes. Feel free to join us whether or not you've studied the Bible before, or can't make all of the meetings because of a busy summer. This promises to be an excellent study of twelve Psalms. 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—June 22

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. For June 22, read up to page 423 which is the start of the section Fathers and Sons.

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

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

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

June 2021 Alzheimer's News

June is Alzheimer's and Brain awareness month. Please make brain health an important part of your return to normal from the COVID-19 pandemic. Eat healthy. Have breakfast. Granola and fruit are great. At least have a granola bar. Salads, fruits and vegetables are wonderful. Pork is better for us than beef.

Share your story. You have heard Joyce Ruiz talk about the fact that her mother passed from Alzheimer's. When you share, you will often hear others

share in return. With over 6 million Americans affected, most of us know someone who has been affected by Alzheimer's. June 20th is the summer solstice- the day with the most light; "The longest Day." Wear purple, the official color of the Alzheimer's movement to show your support.

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

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Parkway UCC continues to serve our long-time outreach midtown ministry, Isaiah 58. Socks and underwear for all sizes and ages are being requested by this ministry for a 24 July Carnival, (raincheck on 31 July). Parkway UCC is also contributing a special requested bulk item as a separate gift. There will be an opportunity to donate school supplies later in the summer during the August Back-to-School sales. As you are able, please consider placing socks and underwear in the designated box in the church lobby and/or add to monthly food pantry donations now through 22 July. Thanks in advance. Questions? Contact Evelyn Buretta at burettaevelyn@gmail.com

Prayer List

as of June 9, 2021

Celebrations

**All the acts of kindness, justice and equity near and far!
LGBTQ+ Pride Month.**

Concerns

Polly & Mike Rutherford - as they grieve/give thanks for her mother.

Ellie Svenson - knee replacement surgery next Monday.

Larry & Joan Brannigan - healing from heart surgery.

Dan & Kim, Ben/Henry/Davis Weas - amid Dan's cancer diagnosis.

Edwin - in midst of cancer (spouse of Maria, care giver of Joe Runtz).

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.

Gun violence and other violence across the US and other lands.

Continuing

Peter Shelton - healing at home after recent surgery.

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

<https://stlouiscremation.com/obituaries/gloria-elaine-wandless/>

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

Gail Haack - healing from torn rotator cuff.

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

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

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

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

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).

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.

Healing of relationships between the public and the police.

US Military around the globe.

The people of politically unstable countries across the globe.

Peace in the Mid-East.

St Louis Assn UCC Covenant Partner

Week ending June 13 - **The Missouri Mid-South Conference UCC**; mmsucc.org

Week ending June 20 - **Kirkwood UCC**; kirkwooducc.org

PUCC Leadership Slate

Proposed 2021-2022

Church Council - *two year term with two separate optional years*

Ingrid Scharf; Tom McKenzie (fourth year)

Linda Tossing (third year)

Jackie Eiffert; Mike Ruzicka; Mark Sableman (second year)

Treasurer - *two year term*

John Dwyer (2023 proposed)

Leadership Commission - *two year term*

Harold Cobb; Betty Scherrer (2022)

Sally Dischinger (2023 proposed)

Stewardship Commission - *two year term*

Amy Yakel; Harold Cobb; George Lestina (2022)

Ellie Svenson; Phil Waite (2023 proposed)

Property Commission - *two year term*

Kent Tallyn; Roger Fauss; Mike Mason (2022)

Ben McDougall; John Ruiz; Brad Brueggemann (2023 proposed)

Affirmation of ministry is the act whereby a local church of the United Church of Christ recognizes the diverse gifts of its members and celebrates the particular ministry of each person in the life of the church or in various settings in the world. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

There are different ways of serving, but the same God is served.

There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us for our particular service.

The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.

Christ is like a single body, which has many parts.

It is still one body even though it is made up of different parts.

If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness.

All of us are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it.

These people have been called by God, in accordance with the faith and order of this church, to serve among us. They have accepted their call and are before us in witness to their willingness to serve.

We thank them, we bless them and we promise to support their leadership.

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

June 13, 2021

Flourishing

Mark 4:26-34

Look around. What if just *this* was enough?

What if this choir was enough, for example?

Consider the miracle that each week, a group of mostly volunteers gathers to sing together in (occasionally im)perfect harmony. Whether there are three of them, or thirty or three hundred, isn't it some kind of miracle that week after week this group of working folks and retired folks and just plain folks leave their daily occupations and raise their voices together in song?

What if our youth and children were enough? What if instead of worrying about the youth and children we don't have, we started noticing, naming and celebrating the youth and children we do have? If there are no children in this congregation right now, what if we recognized the abundance of children in our neighborhood, or in our nation or in our world? What if we asked ourselves to notice the way we can be in community with THOSE children?

What if this congregation's leadership was enough?

What if God has called to this place and time exactly the people with just the skills, passions and gifts of the spirit that are needed for this moment? What if the church of the future is happening right now, today?

What if our church building was enough?

What if God has granted us this space in this time so that we might recognize it not as a burden or a project, but as a gift that we are privileged to steward?

The farmer in today's scripture throws seeds recklessly on seemingly infertile ground as well as obviously healthy soil. This image invites us to think the same way about our ministries and presence in the world. Rather than being obsessed with scarcity, scanning articles about the church in decline and worrying about the bottom line, what if we looked around at what we do have? What if we allowed ourselves to imagine our church in a new way, as a part of God's kingdom that has not just enough, but more than enough to share?