

NEW LIGHT IS STREAMING



PARKWAY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, July 18, 2021



www.parkwayucc.org

Sunday, July 18, 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: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/sunrise-shade-of-a-forest-165812/>

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Anniversaries

7/22 CLIFFORD, Scott & Carol (21)

7/22 WADDELL, Brian & Sheila (21)

Birthdays

7/18 BIONDO, Joe

7/21 WADDELL, Ty

7/18 DEGROOTE, Joan

7/23 BIEST, Kelly

7/21 MCLACHLIN, Judy

8th Sunday *after* Pentecost

Sunday, July 18, 2021 | 10:00am

Meditation *Even after all this time the Sun never says to the Earth, “You owe me.” Look what happens with a love like that: It lights the whole sky.*

~Xāwje Shams-od-Dīn Moḥammad Ḥāfeẓ-e Shīrāzī

Welcome Let us know you are here!

Passing the Peace of Christ

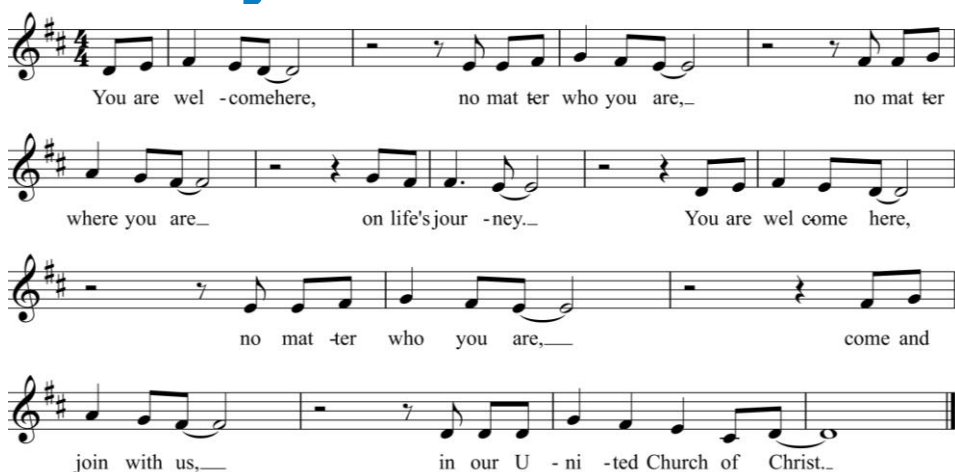
“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

(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*



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 1:1-3 (NRSV—New Revised Standard Version)

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on this law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

Call to Worship based on words from Lavon Bayler

One:	Come away for a while; stand apart from your daily pace and place to experience the Holy now.
Many:	The blessings here are more than we can count.

One:	Sing aloud to God, our strength and supply. Shout for joy to the one who always listens to us.
Many:	God has given us an example to follow. Imitating Jesus enables us to live at our best for one another and for ourselves.
One:	Hear God's word for us and do it. Give to God your loyalty and your labor.
Many:	We are eager to respond to God's direction. We can do this with the gifts of the Spirit.
One:	Grateful to be here, immersing ourselves in this sacred space, we rest and we are empowered to engage again.
Many:	We find heart, healing and hope in being together.
One:	Come away for a while.
All:	Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.

Song *Gather Us In*

1. Here in this place new light is stream-ing,
 2. We are the young — our lives are a mys - t'ry,
 3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter,
 4. Not in the dark of build - ings con - fin - ing,

now is the dark - ness van - ished a - way,
 we are the old — who yearn for your face,
 here we will take the bread of new birth,
 not in some heav - en, light - years a - way, but

see in this space our fears and our dream - ings,
 we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 here in this place the new light is shin - ing,

brought here to you in the light of this day. _____
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race. _____
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth. _____
 now is the King - dom, now is the day. _____



Gath-er us in — the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in — the
Gath-er us in — the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in — the
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
make us your own; gath-er us in — all peo - ples to-geth-er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name. _____
give us the cour-age to en - ter the song. _____
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true. _____
fire of love in our flesh and our bone. _____

Opening Prayer *Lavon Bayler*

God of awesome moments and intense challenges, grant us eyes to see and ears to hear you in our community today. We have come away from our daily routines to encounter you and your mystery. We have dared to step out of our safe places to hear what you have to say to us. We are a bit hesitant at the thought of what you might ask of us, yet we are eager for your presence, your call and your empowerment. 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 Outdoor Sunday School (Fellowship Hall if rain or heatwave) immediately following this Children's Time. We will also be on Zoom for those at home.

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 Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 (MSG—The Message)

The apostles then rendezvoused with Jesus and reported on all that they had done and taught. Jesus said, “Come off by yourselves; let’s take a break and get a little rest.” For there was constant coming and going. They didn’t even have time to eat. So they got in the boat and went off to a remote place by themselves. Someone saw them going and the word got around. From the surrounding towns people went out on foot, running, and got there ahead of them. When Jesus arrived, he saw this huge crowd. At the sight of them, his heart broke - like sheep with no shepherd they were. He went right to work teaching them.

They beached the boat at Gennesaret and tied up at the landing. As soon as they got out of the boat, word got around fast. People ran this way and that, bringing their sick on stretchers to where they heard he was. Wherever he went, village or town or country crossroads, they brought their sick to the marketplace and begged him to let them touch the edge of his coat - that’s all. And whoever touched him became well.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

Call to Prayer *Cares Chorus*

I cast all my cares up-on you, I

lay all of my bur-dens down at your feet, and

an-y-time that I don't know what to do, I will

cast all my cares up-on you.

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 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.

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 *Iona Community*

Holy One, we long for the time when the quiet and humble shall inherit the earth—and all who hunger and thirst after justice shall be satisfied. We believe that, despite the persistence of burden and challenge in the world, now is always the time when more good can be done and we can make a difference. May it be so, through the offering of these gifts and the offering of our lives. Amen.

Song of Parting *Song of Hope*



May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, Fill-ing all our
lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus - tice speed us
on our way, Bring-ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.

Refrain

Pray-ing, let us work for peace, Sing-ing, share our joy with all,
Work-ing for a world that's new, Faith-ful when we hear Christ's call.

Keep a prayer within your heart throughout the day
Hope is always there for those who trust the Lord
Give your time and comfort in a simple way
Call for justice, hope will surely be restored.

Giving, use our gifts with love, Helping, for the ones in need,
Striving, for equality, Justice, when the need demands.

Benediction & God's Light Goes Forth

Announcements

Music for Going Forth

Announcements

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue—July 20

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

Join us as we discuss Psalms 13, 23, and 32 and the related chapters in the book *Great Psalms of the Bible* by Clint McCann. This book works well for summer, as each week's topics do not build on the prior weeks. We hope to see you.

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

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

Neighbors Helping Neighbors thru July 22

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

Back-to-School Fair

Saturday, July 24 | Isaiah 58 Ministries

Isaiah 58 Ministries (where our Give-A-Meal donations often end up!) needs help with their Fair. Please meet at church at 8:30am to carpool; return early afternoon.

We will be bringing/staffing some of the games - ring toss, corn hole and bowling. We are looking for four people to help with each.

(Rain date - Saturday, July 31)

Please sign up here --

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60BoD4CA4AC23AB9-back>

The Other Side of the Hill Documentary

Virtual Screening July 10 - July 25th

Other Side of the Hill is a new film that will be available this summer through IPL for free congregational screenings and individual viewing at home between July 10-25. Where can East & West, Republicans & Democrats, find the common ground needed to address climate change? How can industry and environmentalists work hand in hand? And how can local economies find opportunity in a lower emissions future?

No matter where you are located this important story will inspire you to reach out and bridge the divide. We are more alike than we are different.

Other Side of the Hill explores the impacts of a changing climate in rural Eastern Oregon – as seen through the eyes of local leaders on the ground.

From innovative timber operations to large scale solar, our film amplifies the voices of rural communities often left unheard, and shines a light on stories of progress & hope. In a time of unprecedented cultural divide between rural and urban communities, we find common ground in an urgency to address a changing landscape. The film is 30 minutes long.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR FREE ONLINE SCREENING JULY 10-25.
<https://interfaithpowerandlight.salsalabs.org/trpfilm2021...>

WATCH THE TRAILER HERE:
<https://vimeo.com/403409317>

Contact Polly Rutherford: pollyrutherford@gmail.com

Habitat For Humanity Double your gift with Spire

Habitat for Humanity Saint Louis has partnered with Spire to build affordable housing in St. Louis...and you can help. From June 1 through July 30, your gift to our local office will be matched dollar for dollar by Spire up to \$50,000. Together, we could raise a total of \$100,000! 100% of your gift given directly to Habitat for Humanity Saint Louis stays in our local economy, building homes for people right here in our community.

Thank you for helping Habitat Saint Louis make the most of this opportunity to build more homes, stronger communities, and lots of hope in St. Louis.

Contact Tom McKenzie: mckenzie1947@att.net

Donate: <https://www.habitatstl.org/summer-appeal/>

Gateway Grizzlies Baseball Game - Christmas in July!

Sunday, July 25 | First pitch at 5:45pm | Grizzlies Stadium, Sauget, Illinois
Join us for a great night of baseball – *The Grizzlies are a member of the West Division of the Frontier League, which is a partner league of Major League Baseball.*

Carpool from PUCC at 4:30pm or meet there - a 20 minute drive.

It doesn't matter if you've been naughty or nice, everyone is invited to join us as we celebrate Christmas in July! Pull out the ugly Christmas sweaters again. It may or may not feel like you are in the North Pole with the summer weather... Christmas-themed entertainment and characters from *Frozen* should help!

We have 14 tickets but can get more if needed. Tickets are \$13 each
(Let us know if you need us to defray the cost)

Please RSVP kevin@parkwayucc.org; 314-872-9330

**The Grizzlies Stadium is at 2301 Grizzlie Bear Blvd; Sauget, IL 62206*

Movie Night – Take Two! - The July Movie Night was rained out

Friday, August 6 | 7:30pm | Out back at church

Come one, come all to our outdoor movie night! Meet us in the back parking lot for fellowship time! When the sun goes down we will enjoy a family friendly movie and popcorn! Bring lawn chairs or a blanket. We can't wait! Questions? Contact BarbK@parkwayucc.org; 314-872-9330

Sandwiches for St Patrick' s Center A Day on the Farm—Earth Dance Farms

We are setting up some August dates to make sandwiches for St Patrick' s Center and do some dirty work at Earth Dance Farms.
Stay tuned for more details.

A Stroll and A Sweet

Sunday, August 8 | 3pm | Tower Grove Park and Cherokee Street
Carpool from church at 2:30pm or meet us outside the Piper Palm House at 3pm. We will take a stroll through Tower Grove Park
<https://www.towergrovepark.org/>
then head over to enjoy a bit of Cherokee Street—including Diana' s Bakery at 2843 Cherokee St, St. Louis, MO 63118

150th Anniversary Celebration of Parkway UCC Historic Sanctuary

Sunday, August 22 | 10:00 am worship | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm Sanctuary and Elm Lawn Cemetery tours | PUCC Historic Sanctuary lawn, 2840 N Ballas Rd, east side of Ballas Rd

On August 20, 1871, the building known today as the Historic Sanctuary of Parkway United Church of Christ was dedicated.

On Sunday, August 22, 2021, the 150th anniversary of this special day will be celebrated during the 10 am worship service. After the service, the Historic Sanctuary will be open for tours. Church volunteers will be available to provide background on the building. Members of the Elm Lawn Cemetery Board will also be providing tours of the cemetery located immediately behind the Historic Sanctuary.

Return to this posting each week to learn more about the story of this building.

More info: Kim Livengood | kimclivengood@gmail.com

Parkway UCC Night at the Muny

Friday, August 27 | 8:00 – 10:pm | Muny Theater, Forest Park

Join us for a night at the Muny to see the debut of *On Your Feet!*

Discounted tickets are \$13.50 per person. No backstage tours available this year. Great new show and fun night for all.

Based on the inspiring true story of the queen of Latin pop, Gloria Estefan and her husband, Emilio, *On Your Feet!* is a universal sensation that shows what can happen when two people believe in their talent, music and one another. Their moving rags-to-riches story features some of the most chart-topping songs of the past quarter-century, including *Rhythm is Gonna Get You, 1-2-3, Coming Out of the Dark* and the title hit, *Get On Your Feet*. With this Muny premiere, audiences will leave ready to *Conga!*

RSVP to Dan Connors: connorsd@aol.com | (314) 651-0279

Tour and Visit to World Bird Sanctuary

Wednesday, July 28 | 9:00 – 10:30am (arrive 8:45am) | World Bird Sanctuary
The World Bird Sanctuary is open from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of the tour. Tour will start at 9:00, Led by WBS Staff. Will learn about WBS' s History, birds and programs. For ease of walking, the tour will be on asphalt with plenty of stops and benches!
At the entry gate, please inform the greeter that you will be joining a tour under the name of Linda Tossing. Masks are required unless you have been vaccinated. We have 10 spots, so contact Linda at 314-495-3063 for reservations.

This is the Way I Play with the Bible Mark Saline

Here' s the playground on which my bible rubs against others
learning to get along and being healed of its bullying ways...

It sits on a book shelf squeezed between Jung, King, Etty Hillesum
Ellie Wiesel and dozens of other books where it learns humility.

Like a circle dance, I docey-doe its shelf position weekly to expose it
to other wisdom: Maya Angelou, Dillard, Joe Campbell, James Baldwin.

Once a month I send my bible to school as I sandwich it between
The Tibetan Book of the Dead, Black Elk Speaks ,the Tao Te Ching,
or the Irish Book of Kells. No grading in this peer led class room.

For playmates I befriend my bible with books of poetry and song
science fiction, and Gary Larson or "Far Side" cartoon books
stirring its soul to joy and imagination. Ever heard a bible laugh?

My bible has a difficult time in school not bullying others
in discussion with my science, biology, or physics books.
Science mystics soothe my bible out of its childish tantrums.

My bible shuns people' s Bible Ego - using it as performative religion.
My bible is most happy when it is used as a balm of grace, or as
prophetic hope. It laments loneliness when justice calls go unheard.

In its most intimate and vulnerable moments, my bible confesses
it longs to be held by human hands, read by eyes, quoted by lips,
and pondered by hearts. Once with tears running down its cover
it told me: "I wish I were a word made flesh like Jesus and you."

I hugged my bible when it said this, just like on the nights I took
my bible off the shelf and hugged it in bed when my mother died,
my wife left me, my dog ran away, and I got fired from a job.
It hugged me back. Now my bible is one of my best friends.

Prayer List

as of Wednesday, July 14, 2021

Celebrations

All the acts of kindness, justice and equity near and far!
David Comens and Megan Graham married last weekend!
We begin in-person worship this Sunday at 10am!

Concerns

Ellie & Skip Larson - as she is back at the Care Center at Meramec Bluffs receiving hospice care.

Pete Shelton - additional abdominal surgery this Wednesday.

Family/Friends of Father Gerry Hammel (missionary in Zambia) - as they grieve/give thanks for him as he just died from COVID. He helped set up an all boys school in Zambia where he is chaplain. (Schulenburg).

Beth Watson - treatment for stomach cancer (UCC - Searcy, AR). **

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

If anyone needs support or if anyone vaccinated would like to on the Care Team, please reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org; 314-330-0629

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

Grieving families and workers in Miami after condo collapse.

Haiti - finding equilibrium after assassination of their President.

Continuing

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

Christopher, Gail & Bill Haack - chronic health challenges.

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

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.

The extended Eggebrecht Family - healing and wholeness.

Marthoma - welcoming their new Achen - Rev Thomas Mathew.

** We received a letter in the mail from a woman in a UCC church in Searcy, Arkansas, asking us to pray for her friend Beth and asking us to send blessings to her at her home – 2219 Daniel Drive, Searcy AR 72143

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 July 18 - **Prince of Peace UCC**, St. Louis;

princeofpeaceucc.com

Week ending July 25 - **Samuel UCC**, Clayton; samuelucc.org

8th Sunday *after* Pentecost

July 18, 2021

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Wherever You Are

Today's scripture tells the story of the Ark of the Covenant, the holy place where scripture was kept (and kept moving) in ancient times. The ark helped the people to see that God's Word was on the move. Like our ancestors, our modern interpretation of and witness to God is not confined to our church buildings.

For example, pastor Oby Ballinger of Edina Morningside Community Church in Edina, Minnesota was heartbroken at the unnecessary discomfort caused to those who lost access to a driver's license due to immigration status. He took the good news out of the church building, and into his local legislature, delivering the following message of faith and justice:

"...In my ministry I have seen the grief and loss caused when a driver's license is taken away. Without a license, one person has to settle for the minimum wage job that's within walking distance. Another has lost the freedom to attend worship or get groceries independently. Children become chaperones as their parents talk about the loss of dignity that comes without a license. None of these people are new to Minnesota, but theirs is the experience of any immigrant who was here when drivers' licenses were taken away, causing untold grief, job-loss, and harm to human decency.

We start worship every Sunday by saying, "No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here." We do so not because it's a politically-correct, warm-and-fuzzy thing to say. We do so because the God we follow and serve has made all people welcome, has made us welcome, and has called us to offer that welcome to every person in Christ's name. Like Jesus, we believe each person is made in the image of God with creativity, purpose and joy, regardless of what they look like, where they were born, or what boundaries they have crossed or stayed inside. Indeed, our Savior broke laws and fearful customs that denied God's image in others by denying them health, dignity, and safety. He healed on the Sabbath, ate with the disrespected, spoke with outcasts, and caring for those who were not like him. Christ taught us that the greatest commandment—the purpose of all the other laws—is to love God, and love your neighbor as yourself.

It is past time to restore the right to drive to immigrants who bear the image of God just as you and I do. The current law must change, so that the higher law of honoring God's image in each person can be fulfilled. "No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here." God has made it so; let us follow."