

Make Ready





www.parkwayucc.org

Sunday, December 5, 2021

Contents

- 3 Birthdays & Anniversaries
- 4 10:00am Worship
- 11 Announcements
- 14 Prayer List

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

2841 North Ballas Road | St. Louis, MO 63131 | 314-872-9330 [p] | 314-872-9014 [f]
parkwayucc.org | contact@parkwayucc.org

Linda Tossing, *President of the Church Council* [puccpresident@parkwayucc.org]

Kevin Cameron, *Pastor* [kevin@parkwayucc.org]

Barb Kuhlmann, *Director of Christian Education/Youth* [barbk@parkwayucc.org]

Barry Luedloff, *Music Director* [barry@parkwayucc.org]

Mona Smith Herberg, *Office Administrator* [mona@parkwayucc.org]

Kathy Ferrell, *Office Assistant* [kathy@parkwayucc.org]

John Dwyer, *Treasurer* [treasurer@parkwayucc.org]

Dawn Friedmann, *Bookkeeper* [dawn@parkwayucc.org]

Julie Connors, *Nursery* [juliestl1992@yahoo.com]

Emma Pennycuik, *Nursery* [epennycuick1@live.maryville.edu]

Joyce Ruiz, *Alzheimer's Assn Faith Outreach Ambassador* [JoyceRuiz7@gmail.com]

Polly Rutherford, *Environmental Justice/Sustainability Seekers* [pollyrutherford@gmail.com]

John Nourse, *Pastor Emeritus*

Welcome to Parkway

Thank you for joining us this morning virtually or in person. 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.

Today's flowers are given by Charlotte Smith and family in memory of Dwight Smith.

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.

All word and service music reprint permission covered under CLLI License #2464265.

Birthdays

12/05 GUERRI, Millicent

12/08 BORGMANN, Kari

12/05 RUZICKA, Ryan

12/10 SINGER, Michelle

12/06 MATTEUCCI, Ava

12/11 FAGERBERG, Roger

12/06 WINKELMANN, Polly

2nd Sunday of Advent: *Peace*

Sunday, December 5, 2021 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Meditation

Do not let the behavior of others destroy your inner peace. ~Dalai Lama

Welcome and Passing the Peace of Christ

Prelude

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, v3



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
2. O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer Our spir - its
3. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind All peo - ples



cap-tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
by Thine ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
in one heart and mind; Bid en - vy, strife, and dis - cord



here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
cease; Fill the whole world with heav - en's peace.



Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Scripture Malachi 3:1-4 (CEB – Common English Bible)

Look, I am sending my messenger who will clear the path before me; suddenly the Lord whom you are seeking will come to the temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you take delight is coming, says the Lord of heavenly forces. Who can endure the day of this coming? Who can withstand this appearance? It is like the refiner's fire or the cleaner's soap. They will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver. They will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. They will belong to the Lord, presenting a righteous offering. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in ancient days and in former years.

Gathering at the Advent Wreath: Peace

***Call to Worship**

- One: As we come to find peace, repair peace, sustain peace, we look to scripture as one source of peace...
- Many: **Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."**
- One: Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
- Many: **Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.**
- One: If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.
- Many: **Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.**
- One: And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.
- Many: **Now may the Lord of peace give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all.**
- All: **Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.**

***Song** *Lord, What Is All Our Fighting For?*

tune: O Waly Waly, Hymnal #94

**Lord, what is all our fighting for? We train our young to go to war.
A young girl sees the terror spread
As soldiers shoot her parents dead.**

**Lord, what is our acceptance for? We tolerate what you abhor.
Each day more little ones are lost;
May we seek truth and count war's cost.**

**How can we help your peace to spring?
You do not want an offering.
"Do what is just," you simply say;
"Love what is kind and seek my way."**

**Lord, what is all our silence for?
Now make us bold to say, "No more!"
The world need not be what it's been;
Your peace will reign! Your love will win!**

Biblical References: Micah 4:3, 6:8; Isaiah 2:4; Matthew 5:9

Tune: Traditional English melody ("Though I May Speak")

Text: Copyright © 2005 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. Used with permission.

***Opening Prayer** Maren Tirabassi

Holy One, we light again the candle of hope. We also light the candle of peace – for as God lights both gentle dawn and a slash of lightning strike, we affirm all the ways we seek peace—kind persuasion with eye contact; a justice march with big signs; a silent

vigil of prayer and fasting; the gift of food, toys, or dignity for the most vulnerable; our quiet visits to a therapist or recovery group; and loud demands to change gun laws. We light today's candles so we will listen to the angel mandate of 'Peace on Earth'... for the ordinary, available, gentle and brave, are the hope and peace of Advent. Amen.

***Response** *Make Me A Channel of Your Peace*



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



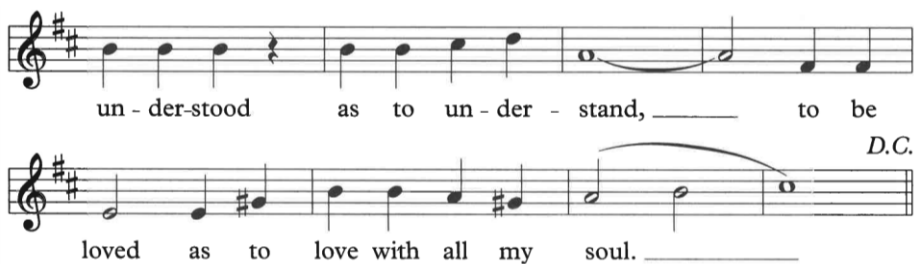
where there's doubt, true faith in you. _____
 where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy. _____
 dy - ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life. _____



3. Oh, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev - er seek _____ so



much to be con - soled as to con - sole. _____ To be



Children's Time Children are invited to Room 12 (Lower Level) and Youth to Room 15 (Lower Level) following this Children's Time. Masks for all.

Blessing the Children *Be Near Me, Lord Jesus*

**Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
And teach us, dear Jesus, to laugh and to share.**

Mission Moment Second Mile Advent

Circle of Concern | Emmaus Homes | The Christmas Fund

Offering Our Gifts to God

***Response**

**Praise God for gifts of hope and peace
Praise God for gifts of joy and love
Praise God for sending Christ to dwell
On earth for us—Emmanuel. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication** Traci Blackmon

Holy One, fill us up with hope, and give us tangible reminders today that hope is an unbreakable spiritual lifeline. Where there is injustice, fill us with truth. Where there is chaos, fill us with peace. Where there is isolation, fill us with your presence. Where there is disappointment, strengthen our trust. Our hope and peace are in You. Amen.

Scripture Luke 3:1-6 (NRSV – New Revised Standard)

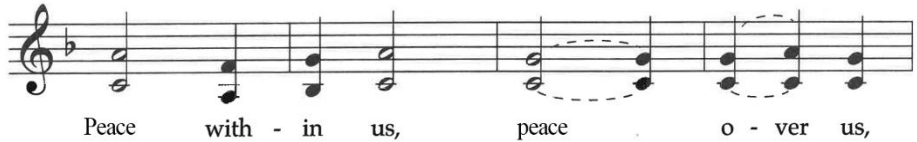
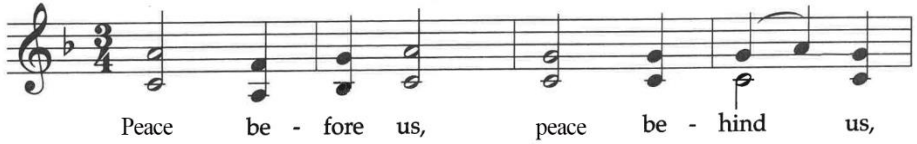
In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

Invitation to the Communion Table

Call to Prayer *Peace Before Us*





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.]

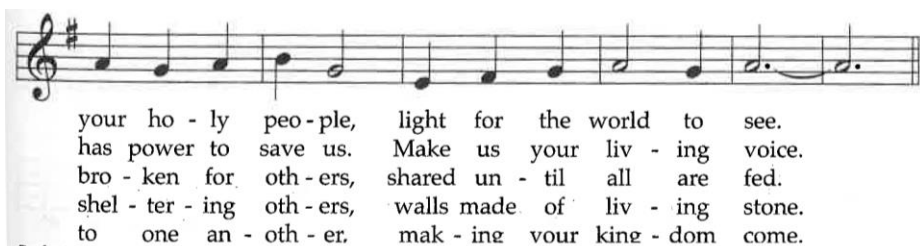
Sharing Christ's Life & Love

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, for the love and nourishment of spirit, mind, and body, for hope that we begin to see, and for comfort from the Prince of Peace, we share our gratitude. Encourage us in these shortened days and long nights of this season May your hope and peace carry us until dawn arrives again - that we will experience and share deep joy. Amen.

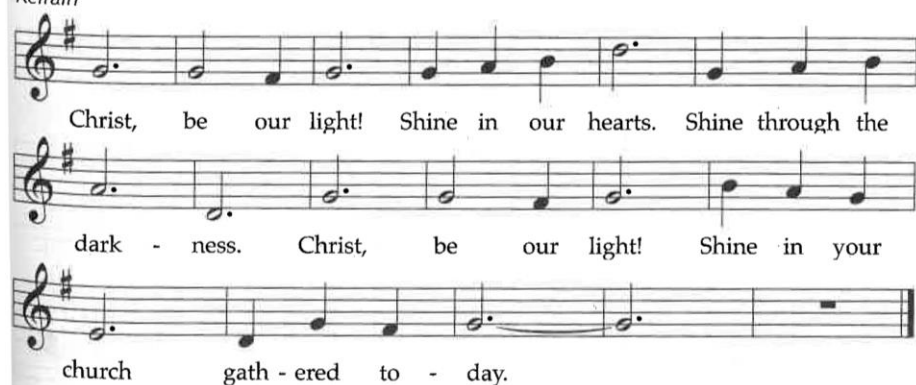
*Song *Christ Be Our Light*

1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
3 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for
4 Long-ing for shel - ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has power to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come.

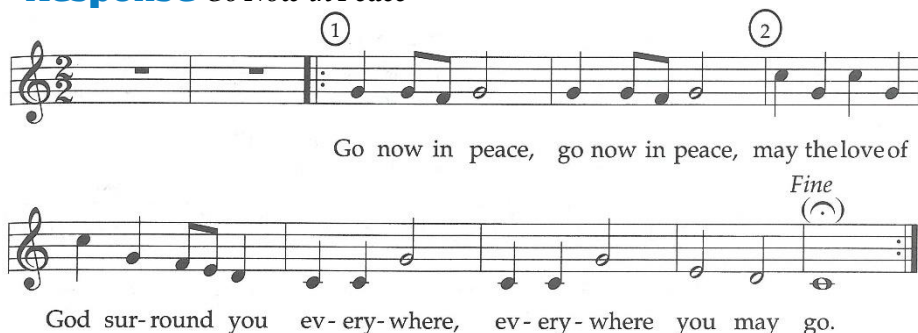
Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
 dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
 church gath - ered to - day.

***Benediction**

***Response** *Go Now in Peace*



Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of
 God sur-round you ev-ery-where, ev-ery-where you may go.

Fine
 (.)

***God's Light Goes Forth**

***Music for Going Forth**

Announcements

Speaker Series: The Fall of County Executive Steve Stenger – As I Saw It by Winston Calvert

Sunday, December 12 | 11:15am | Heritage Room and Zoom

In April of 2019, Steve Stenger, the then St. Louis County Executive, was convicted of public corruption, resigned, and subsequently was sentenced to federal prison following an FBI probe. Winston Calvert, a senior member of the current St. Louis County Executive's office, observed the downfall of Stenger as it unfolded, and will share his views and observations, some of which may not generally be known by the public.

This event will be presented live in the Heritage Room following worship and will also be available via Zoom conference.

Contact Richard Scherrer: 90fivetpr@gmail.com | (314) 591-6803

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURYWURLNmkwD0EzV0VHVllyQT09> Meeting ID: 846 9147 6997 | Passcode: 181565 | Dial (312) 626-6799

Embrace: Paintings & Poetry by Angela L. Chostner-Solo Art Show opening!

Sunday, December 16 | 4:30 – 7:30pm

Longview Farm House Art Gallery, 13525 Clayton Road, Town & Country

<https://www.facebook.com/events/532907704770441/?ref=newsfeed>

Come experience new angels with themes of harmony, healing and imagination! PUCCer Angela L. Chostner's solo exhibit runs December 16th through January 27th. Opening reception Thursday, Dec. 16th from 4:30 to 7:30pm. This is a free event, children are welcome. (This event complies with active St. Louis County mandates and orders.)

Reminder from The Stews

"Making a list, checking it twice. Did I remember to do my pledge card?"
We are still accepting pledge cards. So you can mark it off your "to-do" list.

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue

1st & 3rd Tuesdays | 1:45 Fellowship | 2:00pm book discussion | via ZOOM

We welcome you to join the discussion of Matt Haig's *The Midnight Library*, a novel about all the choices that go into a life well lived. What would happen if you had the opportunity to go back and change all the decisions you made in your life? On December 7 we will discuss pages 102-200, and December 14 pages 201-288. Discussion starts at 2pm... 1:45pm for fellowship.

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 12/14

2nd & 4th Tuesdays | 6:45pm Fellowship | 7:00pm book discussion | via ZOOM
Please join us Tuesday December 14 at 7 pm to discuss the book *Hallelujah Anyway: Rediscovering Mercy* by Anne Lamott. We will be discussing the last three chapters. We will also be choosing our next TED book to start in January.

Everyone is welcome to join us. You may find it's a fun way to connect with our PUCC family!

Zoom:

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

Meeting ID: 861 7230 0024; **Passcode:** BookClub

Crop Walk Results

The totals for the 2021 St Louis Metro Area Crop Walk have been tabulated. Parkway UCC raised \$3270.00 well above our goal of \$1500.00. Parkway was the largest donor of all area churches and organizations THANK YOU PARKWAY for your support and generosity as we try to eliminate hunger both here and abroad...one step at a time.

Month of Grace + Prayer: *An Advent Retreat in Everyday Life*

Get ready for Christmas by praying on your own 20 minutes each day and meeting one-on-one with a spiritual companion one hour each week for four consecutive weeks. All meetings will be virtual (Zoom or phone if you prefer). Weekly meeting times set around your schedule. This is an individually directed retreat tailored to your own deep desires. Committed couples also have the option to participate as a couple. This is an ecumenical ministry, with all adults are welcome regardless of denomination or affiliation. For more information, visit www.momentsofgraceandprayer.org and to register contact Clarence Heller at clarenceheller@gmail.com.

Hospitality is Parkway UCC's Middle Name

Speaking biblically, hospitality is treating strangers and friends alike. We are looking toward the future as we plan Sunday Hospitality Weekly Teams. Each team would be responsible for just one Sunday a month, with a total of 12 Sundays in a year. Some tasks can be done now, others in the future.

A church group met recently to discuss the forming of weekly teams to provide for ushering, greeting, coffee makers, food hosts, beverages, clean up, flower purchasers/arrangers, and preparing bouquets for shut-ins. We have some former hospitality volunteers willing to continue, but we could use more volunteers for specific or any tasks needed.

We especially need ushers for first Sunday and Communion servers, ushers for fourth Sunday and subs for any week, and one flower purchaser/arranger.

Please contact Ellie Svenson svensonellie@gmail.com (314) 323-7194 or Carol Cobb ccjacob@aol.com (314) 640-8166 to volunteer for a specific week and possibly a particular task. Many hands make the tasks lighter.

Prayer for Oxford High School

Maren Tirabassi, UCC Pastor in New Hampshire

God who calms our fears and
teaches compassion in your school of hope,
help us,
for suddenly going to school
is about fear.

We pray this week for those weeping
in Michigan, family and friends
of the three high school students
who have no more future.

We lift up those who are caring
for three who have been in surgery,
for their families and friends,
as well as six whose bodies
are in stable condition.

No one's mind or heart
is in stable condition - not these
and those who love them,
not the family of the one who shot the gun,
not students, teachers, administrators
in the farthest wing of the building,
not even those asked tomorrow
to be available to counsel.

Not there, not tomorrow, not Christmas,
not long into the new year ...
not students in other schools,
not partners who are pregnant,
or college students deciding whether
they want to teach.

The boat of our schools
tips in a terrible wind.
Teacher, say the words – “peace, be still.”
and teach us to be storm-stillers. Amen

[The Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting occurred on December 14, 2012, in Newtown, Connecticut, when 20-year-old Adam Lanza shot and killed 26 people, including 20 children between 6-7 years old, and six adult staff members - the deadliest mass shooting at an elementary school in U.S. history, and the fourth-deadliest mass shooting overall.

The shooting prompted renewed debate about gun control, including proposals to make the background-check system universal, and for new federal and state gun legislation banning the sale and manufacture of certain types of semi-automatic firearms and magazines which can hold more than ten rounds of ammunition. The debates continue....]

Prayer List

as of Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Celebrations

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

Advent One: Hope!

Concerns

Ellen Albers and Jeff Mitchell and family - grieving the sudden death of her daughter, Kayla... prayers for her husband and young son.

<https://www.osfuneralhomes.com/obituary/kayla-molina>

Steve and Andrea Barnes - preparing for surgery on his elbows and wrists due to nerve damage from sarcoidosis and as his mother undergoes treatment for cancer.

Grieving families at the Holidays - incl Larson, Nolte, Sperry, Stappenbeck, Wessel.

Marv Herpel - healing after back surgery at Delmar Gardens, Chesterfield.

Conrad Damsgaard - healing after heart surgery at REACH Rehab.

Mona Herberg - healing from recent *successful* cancer surgery.

Bill Haack - beginning the lengthy prep process for extensive back surgery in early summer - approximate recovery time will be one year.

Tom McKenzie's brother and sister - healing and hope now.

Natalie Dixon Crewell - enduring round 1 of leukemia chemo (Lyons).

Christmas Parade victims and their families in Wisconsin.

All impacted by Covid-19 - individuals, families, healthcare workers; is If anyone needs help getting vax/booster or if anyone vaccinated would like to be on the Care Team, please reach out to kevin@parkwayucc.org

Continuing

Sally Boughman - strengthening at home; pain management.

Lana Biondo - healing from her recent knee replacement.

Jim and Polly Winkelmann - healing and strengthening at home.

George & Peg Lestina - as he recuperates from surgery in a rehab ctr.

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

Cindy & Ralf and Andrew Wessel - grieving Tyler.

Skip Larson, Karen Nolte, Janet Prendergast - remembering Ellie.

Avery - due 1/6 born 10/17 - doing well in the NICU (Borgmann).

Pat & Janet - his radiation/chemo treatment (Skip Larson's son-in-law)

Joan and Larry Brannigan - continuing health concerns for Larry.

Val - healing of fractures in her back (Jim Winkelmann's mom).

Bob - continues to struggle with Parkinson's.

Christopher, Gail & Bill Haack - chronic health challenges.

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.

Anthony - multiple challenges as he lives his post-incarceration life.

Gary - risky behaviors; seeking balance and stability.

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]

Sue Houser - *Bethany Ctr for Rehab & Healing*; 421 Ocala Dr - #209B; Nashville, TN 37211; 615-577-2049. [birthdate: July 8]

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]

Ruth Peace - 10379-D Forest Brooke Ln; StL MO 63146; 314-983-0253; meadletter222@gmail.com [birthdate: August 8]

Pearl Sellenriek - *Friendship Village Memory Care Division* #1001; 15250 Olive Blvd, Chesterfield, MO 63017 [birthdate: March 31]

Pinky Wilcoxon - 10379-D Forest Brooke Ln; StL MO 63146; 314-983-0253; meadletter222@gmail.com [birthdate: April 7]

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.

Caregivers of all shapes and sizes.

Individuals in all levels of leadership as they make decisions today.

PUCF 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.

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

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 December 5 - **St. Martin UCC**, High Ridge; stmartinucc-hr.com

Week ending December 12 - **Ivy Chapel UCC**, Chesterfield; ivychapel.org

2nd Sunday of Advent: *Peace*

December 5, 2021

Luke 3:1-6 *Make Ready*

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. -Luke 3:1-2, NRSV

The list of people whose names begin this chapter of the book of Luke are powerful and important. The emperor Tiberius was not merely the ruler of the whole known world, he was considered an infallible god. Tiberius himself appointed Pontius Pilate, whose powerful name very loosely translated means, Free Person Who Carries a Sharp Spear. Just hearing his name, everyone would know that Pilate was not only master of his own destiny, but also that his military prowess was unrivaled. Herod and Philip were brothers in a politically successful family who ruled with the twin fists of nepotism and corruption. Lysanias is not mentioned elsewhere in scripture, but in his own time he was a big deal, big enough that he came to the attention of Cleopatra who sent Mark Anthony to depose him. Last but certainly not least, the two high priests mentioned shared the most important religious role of their time. Together occupying a role meant for one person, they were constantly jostling for position and power.

John's words fell into this world of the famous and powerful, the politically savvy and the militarily successful. He spoke not in the city, or the temple, not in the palace or the town square, not on social media or television, but in the wilderness. John was a nobody, and he spoke in the middle of nowhere to an audience (at first) of no one.

And yet, all these centuries later, his message is the one that is still heard, still followed. It was John, the voice on the margins, who pointed the way to Christ, rather than those at the center of privilege and popularity.

Somewhere in each community, a voice is crying in the wilderness right now. Somewhere on the margins, a messenger is urgently telling of Christ's way. The voice may be hard to hear over the clamoring of the powerful. But this Advent, may we open our ears to hear.