



Morning has broken



PARKWAY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



www.parkwayucc.org

Sunday, February 20, 2022

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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. If you are with us virtually, please let us know you are here by commenting in the chat.

Welcome Children. We invite children to full participation in worship.

Today's flowers donated by Judy McLachlin in memory of Bob.

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

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Communications Requests: Please use the form at www.parkwayucc.org/communications for all announcements for all our media. Bulletin and eNews deadline is noon Monday.

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Birthdays

2/21 CONNORS, Jessica

2/22 SMITH, Charlotte

2/24 WEAS, Henry

2/25 BECK, Karla

7th Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, February 20, 2022 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

Meditation *Kind words do not cost much. They never blister the tongue or lips. They make other people good-natured. They also produce their own image on our souls, and a beautiful image it is.* ~Blaise Pascal

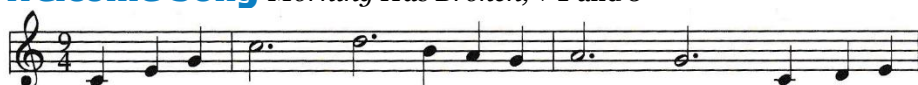
Welcome Let us know you are here!

Passing the Peace of Christ

Prelude

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

Welcome Song *Morning Has Broken*, v 1 and 3



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



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



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

Scripture Genesis 45:3-11, 15 (NRSV – New Revised Standard Version)

Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God. God has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all this house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks,

***Call to Worship** Craig Mitchell

Many: some weary, some energetic, some contented, some disquieted

Many: some trusting, some doubting, with our questions and our certainties

Many: and our achievements, our failures, our public selves,
our hidden selves

Many: With dreams and visions, our despair, our yearnings

Many: We are broken, we are blessed, made in God's image and loved beyond measure

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

***Song** *Make Me A Channel of Your Peace* #2171

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

1 2, 4 *Fine*

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

un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, _____ to be

loved as to love with all my soul. _____ *D.C.*

***Opening Prayer** *Jennie Gordon*

God of life, in your hands 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 in the person of Jesus. 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 are invited to Room 12 (Lower Level) and Youth to Room 15 (Lower Level) following this Children's Time. We will also be on Zoom for those at home. We continue to require masks for all.

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 Luke 6:27-38 (NRSV – New Revised Standard Version)

Jesus said, “But I say to you that listen, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

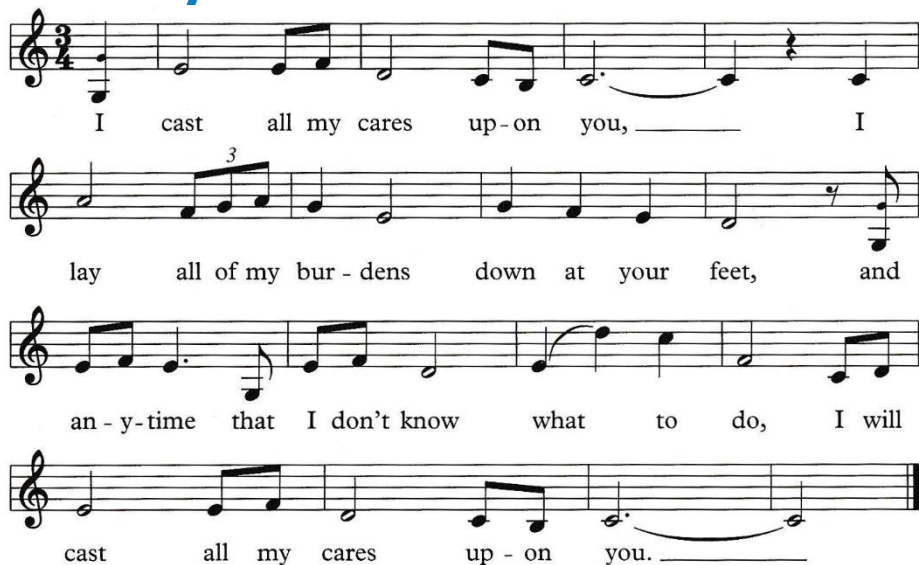
“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for God is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your God is merciful.

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

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

The Servant Song #2222



- 1., 6. Broth - er, sis - ter, let me serve you, let me be as
2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney; we're to - geth - er
3. I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
4. I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll
5. When we sing to God in heav - en, we shall find such



Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to
on this road. We are here to help each oth - er
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
har - mo - ny, born of all we've known to - geth - er



let you be my ser - vant, too.
walk the mile and bear the load.
speak the peace you long to hear.
till we've seen this jour - ney through.
of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

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** Carol Penner

Generous God, over and over your grace sustains us. Over and over your love provides for us. Over and over your arm steadies us. We give you these gifts, with gratitude and joy, thankful that you are God over all. Amen.

***Song of Parting** *Lead Me, Guide Me #2214*

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way,
for if you lead me, I can - not stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. _____

***Benediction**

***God's Light Goes Forth**

***Music for Going Forth**

Announcements

Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue March 1

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

Please join Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue (TAD) in reading *No Cure for Being Human (And Other Truths I Need to Hear)* by Kate Bowler, Associate Professor at Duke Divinity School.

Kate Bowler believed that life was a series of unlimited choices, until she discovered, at age 35, that her body was wracked with cancer. In *No Cure for Being Human*, she searches for a way forward as she mines the wisdom (and absurdity) of today's "best life now" advice industry, which insists on exhausting positivity and on trying to convince us that we can out-eat, out-learn, and out-perform our humanness. We are, she finds, as fragile as the day we were born.

With dry wit and unflinching honesty, Kate Bowler grapples with her diagnosis, her ambition, and her faith as she tries to come to terms with her limitations in a culture that says anything is possible. She finds that we need one another if we're going to tell the truth: Life is beautiful and terrible, full of hope and despair and everything in between—and there's no cure for being human.

From Changing Diapers to Changing the World: *Why Moms Make Great Advocates and How to Get Started*

by Cynthia Changyit Levin

PUCer Cindy has cared deeply about global poverty and hunger even before becoming a parent. But mothering her own children toughened her resolve to stand up for her values and work to become a better world for all kids.

The Pre-Sale for Cindy's book is officially open! Visit her new website at www.changyit.com to pre-order autographed and inscribed paperback copies for \$20.00 (plus shipping) to be mailed out on March 8, 2022. You can even order for friends and she will write a personal inscription for them, too! Just note the names you'd like her to write when you complete the order.

It's been a long journey of learning and she is delighted to share the fruits of her labor with you at last.

Questions? Feel free to contact Cindy...

cynthia@changyit.com | www.changyit.com | Twitter: @ccylevin

If God is Love, Don't Be a Jerk

It's not too late to participate! *If God is Love Online!* with John Pavlovitz.

This experience is designed to be flexible, so whether you're participating on your own or with others you can move at a pace you're comfortable with. See the two-minute intro from John here:

<https://www.ifgodislove.com/membership-area1637547949296>
(login... username: kevin@parkwayucc.org; password: JPAV2022!)

On Demand Chapter Videos

Three pre-recorded videos are added to the If God is Love website each Sunday morning to the member area and each video will cover a chapter from the book. Bookmark the page and come back to view the new videos. Don't feel compelled to watch three videos per week. You'll have these videos on-demand and can watch them whenever you'd like after the six weeks. (Use same web address and login as above.)

Live Zoom Gatherings from your home

Beginning on Wednesday, January 19th, at 7pm CT, we meet with John and others live on Zoom! After John speaks, we'll have an open Zoom chat about anything that's on your mind. You can ask questions about the book, expand an idea, share a story, and encourage one another. If you can't make the live gatherings, don't worry. They will also be recorded.

We will debrief each Zoom as PUCers after each session. Join us:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURYWURLNmkwD0EzV0VHV1IyQT09> Meeting ID: 846 9147 6997; Passcode: 181565

Here is the link for the weekly Zoom gatherings with John on Wednesday eves: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81362160670>

Zoom Gathering Schedule with John and others (all are at 7pm CT):

January 19; January 26; February 2; February 9; February 16;

February 23... and a final wrap up at 8pm CT on Saturday, February 26.

Join us in the Heritage Room (please enter back doors) or from your home.

Questions? Contact kevin@parkwayucc.org; 314-872-9330

Every Day Inclusion: Right Here, Right Now!

Consider attending some or all of this free conference on Tuesday, March 1 and Wednesday, March 2, 2022.

Registration is now open for the 2022 Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Conference -- **Every Day Inclusion: Right Here, Right Now!**

“What can we do?” It is a common question in response to the social inequities that persist in our communities. The Webster University 2022 Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Conference: Every Day Inclusion: Right Here, Right Now! will deliver immediate, practical, and impactful ways to practice everyday inclusion as individuals and institutions. We know that community exists wherever we come together under a common purpose or mission. We see the workplace, classroom, board room, and civic life—as community. Webster University is an agent of change for our students, our community, and for society. The DEI Conference is a key piece of that change strategy, and we've curated it with sessions from compelling thought leaders, interactive workshops and practical exercises that distinguish our conference as a bold and engaging departure from ineffective, boilerplate DEI trainings. The 2022 DEI Conference will be open to both in-person sessions on the Webster University Webster Groves campus and virtual attendance. The conference is FREE to all attendees, thanks to the generous support of our conference sponsors.

Learn more and register here - <https://events.bizzabo.com/380073>

Progress on UCC Build

EVEN THOUGH THE COLD AND COVID HAVE SLOWED US HAS DOWN,
WORK IS PROGRESSING. STAY TUNED FOR A CHANCE TO WORK!



UCC HABITAT NEWS



UCC Churches gave \$75,676 to the UCC Build in 2021!

The figures are just in! Treasurer Tim Weaver sent the final check for 2021 at the beginning of January from UCC churches and individuals who love providing affordable housing for our St. Louis neighbors. And the surprise is that Habitat had another \$20,176 from UCC folk and estates given directly.

Send 2022 Gifts to:

Tim Weaver at
Samuel UCC
320 N. Forsyth Blvd
Clayton, MO 63105



Our UCC AUCTION to support our Habitat work in St. Louis is just around the corner now. When Covid shut down Samuel's St. Pat's Dinner for the third time,

an auction seemed like a fun way to raise money to build affordable housing in St. Louis with Habitat for Humanity.

Samuel would like you to join them and have some fun; raise dollars for our UCC Build with a virtual auction!

Think ahead, UCC partners, to what you as an individual or a church might donate to be auctioned off in MARCH St. Patrick's Day!

- a service from you or your company?
- a handmade needlework, quilt, painting?
- an adventure?
- a dessert of the month?
- an antique?

Your imagination will help make for a lot of fun and dollars!

So, send a picture and description of what you or your church might like to give. We already have more than 30 items: a truck load of great firewood, a few collector's items, gift certificate for restaurants and BEES, a sailing adventure, cardinal autographed hats, a pie of the month and more ...

Let Keith know: Keith.karau@gmail.com

UCC WORKDAYS

Because of Covid and other logistical problems, we are still waiting to schedule Spring workdays. Please be patient so that we safely work on the Habitat Houses shown on the first page. Our work is important and HabitatSTL values all that we have done together for the last 27 and now 28 years.

A few of the latest auction items



The Auction goes Live on the biddingowl.com/ Samuel on March 1. The highest bidder wins the item on St. Patrick's Day at 8pm.

Donations must be made payable to Habitat for Humanity St. Louis to credit our local St. Louis Habitat.

Prayer List

as of Wednesday, February 16, 2022

Celebrations

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

Black History Month.

Intertwine Interfaith Welcome Circle - as we move our new friends from Afghanistan into their nearby apartment this Sunday.

Concerns

Ellie Svenson - healing in FL after a mild stroke earlier this month. She is coming home for additional treatment. She would be encouraged by your blessing -- svensonellie@gmail.com

John Nourse - recuperating from recent knee replacement surgery.

Gladys Sims and family - grieving/giving thanks for husband Russ...
<https://www.schrader.com/obituary/russell-jay-russ-sims>

Doug and Sally Dischinger - mourning and celebrating his sister Anne...
<https://www.boppchapel.com/obituaries/Anne-Doelger?obId=23930834>

Angie Chostner and Family - grieving/giving thanks for her brother Phil...
<https://www.lovefuneralhome.com/obituary/Phillip-Limpach>

Harold and Carol Cobb - remembering his nephew Scott...
<https://www.semissourian.com/story/2933938.html>

Sally Boughman - continued issues with back pain.

Steve and Andrea Barnes - preparing for his surgery on elbows and wrists due to nerve damage from sarcoidosis.

Val Weber - 101st Birthday last weekend; strength and patience as she is hospitalized after a mild stroke (Jim Winkelmann's mother).

Mark McKenzie - healing after open heart surgery (Tom's brother).

Judy White - upcoming cancer surgery (Sue McMillon).

Donna - healing (Dottie Dwyer's sister in Cape Girardeau).

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

The political pressure in the Ukraine.

Continuing

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

Christopher, Gail & Bill Haack - chronic health challenges... Bill has begun the lengthy prep process for extensive back surgery.

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.

Lizzie - awaiting liver transplant (niece of Barb Kuhlmann).

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

Gary - risky behaviors; seeking balance and stability.

Home/Care Facility/Rehab Center

Conrad Damsgaard - *Mason Pointe Care Ctr*; 13190 S. Outer 40 Rd; #1207; Town & Country, MO 63017; 636-236-9639 [birthdate: April 27]

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]

John Nourse *The Village at Cape Albeon*; 3300 Lake Bend Dr, #103; Valley Park, MO 63088 [birthdate: October 26]

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]

Gladys Sims - *Friendship Village - 15200 Village View Dr, #2418*; Chesterfield, MO 63017; 636-898-8873 [birthdate: July 4]

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

Dick Witte - Meramec Bluffs Assisted Living; 40 Meramec Trails Dr; Apt #104; Ballwin, MO 63021; 636-368-7324 [birthdate: March 25]

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.

PUCC Family struggling with employment; healthcare costs and limits.

Our Missouri Mid-South Conference and St Louis Assn UCC

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.

Healing of relationships between the public and the police.

US Military around the globe.

Peace and Justice near and far.

St Louis Association UCC Covenant Partner

Week ending Feb 20 - Eden Seminary, Webster Groves; eden.edu

Week ending Feb 27 - Eden UCC, Affton; edenucc.org

7th Sunday after Epiphany

February 20, 2022

Luke 6:27-38

Love Your Enemies

Dear God,

Today, I pray for my enemies.

I do not pray that they will change their ways.
(Although I secretly believe that they should.)

I do not pray that they become more like me.
(Although that is a mighty temptation.)

I do not pray, even, that they cease to exist.
(Although I may, in my heart of hearts, desire this.)

Instead my prayer for my enemies looks a lot like a prayer for myself.

Help me Holy One, to stop drinking poison, hoping it will hurt another.

Help me instead to be more like you.

Truthful. Powerful. Compassionate.

Remind me today and every day

That my prayer for my enemies makes

Me - not them - more faithful. Stronger. Whole-er.

Today I pray for my enemies, which is really a prayer that I, myself,
grow every day more and more into Your Divine Image,
the Image in which I am created and meant to be.

Amen.