



JESUS DOES.
How about you?



Sunday, March 20, 2022

PARKWAY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



www.parkwayucc.org
Sunday, March 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 given by Joe and Lana Biondo.

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

Cover Image: Mona Herberg

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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Anniversaries

3/26 CARTER, Deborah & Greg (28)

Birthdays

3/20 REED, Lara

3/20 SIMONSON, Andrew

3/25 WITTE, Dick

3/26 BRUEGGEMANN, Brad

3rd Sunday in Lent

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

Meditation *And the night shall be filled with music, and the cares that infest the day, shall fold their tents, like the Arabs, and quietly steal away.*
~Henry Wadsworth Longfellow ... *The Day is Done* (1844)

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 *Praise Ye the Lord!*—Robert J. Hughes

Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

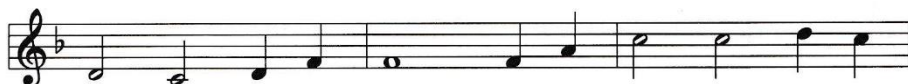
Welcome Song *As a Fire is Meant for Burning* #2237, v3



1. As a fire is meant for burn - ing with a bright and warm-ing
2. We are learn - ers; we are teach - ers; we are pil - grims on the
3. As a green bud in the spring-time is a sign of life re -



flame, so the church is meant for mis - sion, giv - ing
way. We are seek - ers; we are giv - ers; we are
newed, so may we be signs of one - ness 'mid earth's



glo - ry to God's name. Not to preach our creeds or
ves - sels made of clay. By our gen - tle, lov - ing
peo - ples, man - y hued. As a rain - bow lights the



cus - toms, but to build a bridge of care, we join
ac - tions we would show that Christ is light. In a
heav - ens when a storm is past and gone, may our



hands a - cross the na - tions, find - ing neigh - bors ev - ery - where.
hum - ble, lis - tening Spir - it we would live to God's de - light.
lives re - flect the ra - diance of God's new and glo - rious dawn.

Gathering at the Lenten Candles *Jesus Does. How about you?*

Scripture Psalm 23 (KJV – King James Version)

Sue Mollering, reader

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

***Call to Worship** David Sparks – chosen for this first day of Spring

One: Discover God's vision and work to bring it to reality. God's vision sees that creation is good and climate change is serious.

Many: The reality is a world where emissions are uncontrolled and smog, storms and floods are on the increase.

One: God's vision sees that those with much share with those who have little.

Many: The reality is that the rich get richer while the poor struggle to make ends meet.

One: God's vision sees women and men equally respected and protected.

Many: The reality is that women are often treated as inferior to men.

One: To see as God sees is to begin the change.

Many: We will work to serve God's vision.

One: Discover God's vision and work to bring it to reality. God's vision sees no young person bullied or harassed.

Many: The reality is that bullying happens on the playground and in social media.

One: Discover the vision of God and work to bring it to reality. God's vision sees each one of us being patient with challenging family members, friends and strangers.

Many: The reality is that it is easy to hold grudges and speak out of turn.

One: God's vision sees us making the most of every day.

Many: The reality is that we lose our focus and get distracted.

One: Come now to experience the Holy and to be refreshed so you can go out from here to be God's love in the world.

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

***Song** *Mothing God, You Gave Me Birth* #2050



1. Moth-er - ing God, you gave me birth in the bright
2. Moth-er - ing Christ, you took my form, of - fer - ing
3. Moth-er - ing Spir - it, nur - t'ring one, in arms of



morn - ing of this world. Cre - at - or, source of
me your food of light, grain of life, and
pa - tience hold me close, so that in faith I



ev - ery breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.
grape of love, your ver - y bod - y for my peace.
root and grow un - til I flow'r, un - til I know.

***Opening Prayer**

Holy One, as we make this Lenten journey, we see what Jesus does—in order that we might do similar things. We can. We sense his power and we can exercise our own agency and make choices. We feel his empathy and we can bring more love into the world. We see him spend time apart from everything else and we can take time to step away and be still. We listen to his stories and can weave our stories together with people near and far. We watch him touch people and we can release our reassurance to others. We hear him speak up and we can be bold for ourselves and others. We sense his struggles and we can find our own courage and stamina. We receive his peace and we can become calm amid storms of every kind. Amen.

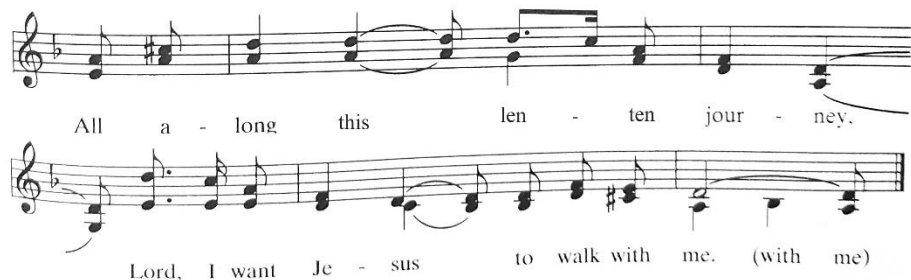
***Response** *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* #363, v1



I want Je - sus to walk with me: (Walk with me)



I want Je - sus to be in me.



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

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 *Sue Mollering*, reader

Mark 6:30-32

The apostles returned to Jesus and told him everything they had done and taught. Many people were coming and going, so there was no time to eat. He said to the apostles, "Come by yourselves to a secluded place and rest for a while." They departed in a boat by themselves for a deserted place.

Luke 5:15-16

News of him spread even and huge crowds gathered to listen and to be healed from their illnesses. But Jesus would withdraw to deserted places for prayer.

Luke 6:12-13

During that time, Jesus went out to the mountain to pray, and he prayed to God all night long. At daybreak, he called together his disciples. He chose twelve of them whom he called apostles:

Matthew 14:12-13

But John's disciples came and took his body and buried it. Then they went and told Jesus what had happened. When Jesus heard about John, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. When the crowds learned this, they followed him on foot from the cities.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Sermon

Song *Come and Find the Quiet Center* #2128



1. Come and find the quiet center in the crowd-ed life we
2. Si - lence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the
3. In the Spir - it let us trav - el, o - pen to each oth - er's



lead, find the room for hope to en - ter, find the
 pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our
 pain, let our loves and fears un - rav - el, cel - e -
 frame where we are freed: clear the cha - os and the
 be - ing, touch - es base, mak - ing space with - in our
 brate the space we gain: there's a place for deep - est
 clut - ter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the
 think - ing, lift - ing shades to show the sun, rais - ing
 dream - ing, there's a time for heart to care, in the
 things that real - ly mat - ter, be at peace, and sim - ply be.
 cour - age when we're shrink - ing, find - ing scope for faith be - gun.
 Spir - it's live - ly schem - ing there is al - ways room to spare!

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.]

Mission Moment 2nd Mile Lent/Easter Sue Moellering

Heifer Project | Lydia's House | Unleashing Potential | Eden Seminary

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offertory *Interlude*—Bonnie Barrett

*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

Holy One, thank you for giving us the opportunity to give, which we do with joyful, grateful hearts. We look at the needs of the world, and our offerings are small. May they be like yeast, gifts that grow in the world bringing a rich harvest of love. Amen.

*Song of Parting *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve* #2241



1. The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we
2. We go to com - fort those who mourn and
3. We go to be the hands of Christ, to
4. Then let us go to serve in peace, the



go in Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
set the bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
scat - ter joy like seed and, all our days, to
gos - pel to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
share a dream and help the blind to see.
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

*Benediction

*God's Light Goes Forth

*Music for Going Forth *Stand Up for Jesus!*—arr. Edward Broughton Based on the tune *Webb* by George G. Webb

Announcements

Today! Speaker Series

Select Sundays | 11:15am | Heritage Room & Zoom

Back once more is the always popular and interesting Jan Worley. He will lead us in discussing the question: What is religion? and the similarities and other aspects of the major religions, and then provide a survey of world history that shows how religion has influenced every period of that history. *This will be a two hour presentation.*

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURYWURLNmkw0EzV0VHV1lyQT09>

Meeting ID: 8469147 6997 | **Passcode:** 181565 | **Dial** (312) 626-6799

Tuesday Evening Dialogue New Book Starting March 22

2nd & 4th Tuesdays | 6:45pm social time | 7:00pm Book discussion | via Zoom

Please join us on Zoom for our first session to discuss *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi. We will be covering the first 110 pages. It's considered historical fiction and is about two half sisters born into different villages in Ghana in the 18th century. It follows their parallel paths and the paths of their descendants through 8 generations. It illuminates slavery's troubled legacy both for those who were taken and for those who stayed - and shows how the memory of captivity has been inscribed on the soul of our nation.

Video: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86172300024?pwd=bFdGGQ0xKRHFGTnZXM0kyRC9FdDZGQT09;>

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

Our Own Lenten Daily Devotion via Email

Our Lenten Theme this year is: JESUS DOES. How about you?

We are sending a brief email each day to help you along this journey.

These devotions rotate through seven categories –

Things Jesus did.

Things Jesus said.

Stories Jesus told.

Someone Jesus met.

Song lyrics about Jesus.

Names for Jesus.

Quotes about Jesus.

We hope that one of these invited you to ponder, pray and share with others.

Please consider writing a brief devotion with a focus on one of the categories above. Submissions and questions to kevin@parkwayucc.org

Video Project Update and Request for Contributions

Parkway has a new video system, which streams Sunday services and other programs. We've eliminated our previous patchwork video system and its many frustrations. If you are Covid-concerned, shut in for other reasons, or a PUCF friend outside of St. Louis, you can now participate directly in worship and the life of our congregation.

Thanks to the team headed by Kent Tallyn that selected the video system, helped install it (at significant savings to the church), and continues to refine it as the final components are installed. This system serves us today, and will also help Parkway better serve its members and friends and carry out its mission in the coming years.

This approximately \$30,000 project, which arose unexpectedly because of Covid-19, fell outside of our normal church budget. It is now about two-thirds funded. About half of the project was funded out of memorial funds (primarily the Ruth Murray fund), and we have received another \$3,850 in special gifts from members. Remaining final payments in the range of \$10,000 will become due after audio enhancements are installed, hopefully in May.

Please consider making a contribution to help complete this project. Please designate your gift with the notation "video project." Thank you!

For those who may wish to donate stock, our new securities donation procedures are explained below.

1. Send UCF (by email to info@ucfunds.org or by Fax to 332-219-8758) either a current account statement, or information about the stocks you wish to donate and the account in which it is held. Specify that you intend to make a donation to Parkway UCC, Town & Country, Missouri. UCF will review your information and contact you about the next steps.
2. Ask your broker or financial institution to transfer stocks to UCF using the information below:

BNYM/Perishing, LLC, DTC# 0443
Account # N7M001442
Account name: United Church Funds, Inc.

For Further Credit To: (Parkway United Church of Christ/Account No. 381574)

3. Notify both UCF and Dawn Friedmann, Parkway's bookkeeper (dawn@parkwayucc.org) once you have requested the transfer. In this notice, you can specify any particular uses for the funds (e.g., the video project).

After this process is complete, your donated stocks will be immediately sold, and the proceeds will be deposited into Parkway's account at UCF. Because UCF is a non-profit and ministry of the UCC, it does not charge for its services, although an SEC fee and broker fee is applied at the time of sale. Your gift will be acknowledged in writing by PUCF. The amount of a charitable tax deduction is usually based on the average price of the security on the date of donation. Of course, you should consult your tax advisor regarding all tax issues including charitable deductions.

Questions? Contact Mark Sableman: 314-602-6103 | msableman@att.net or Dawn Friedman: 314-872-9330 | dawn@parkwayucc.org. Thank you for using this means of supporting Parkway's mission!

UCC Issues Appeal for Ukraine

Members of the United Church of Christ are joining the global community to respond to the events unfolding in Ukraine. We are praying for Ukraine, for peace and for the many displaced people on the move. We give thanks for the host countries providing refuge and humanitarian aid. We are adding our resources to ensure that all can have access to safety and shelter.

The UCC, through Global H.O.P.E. and Global Ministries, is collaborating with **Act Alliance** (actalliance.org) and the **Reformed Church of Hungary** to bring aid to Ukraine. RCH is responding to the situation in the war-torn country through its agency, Hungarian Reformed Church (<https://reformatus.hu/english/news/emergency-response-for-ukraine/>) This group has been offering humanitarian assistance since Russian troops first attacked Ukraine on February 24. It's working with elderly and other vulnerable communities inside the country who have not been able to leave, including immigrants and migrant populations who are experiencing difficulties crossing into other European countries. HRCA is also working with refugees who are leaving the country.

We are particularly grateful the Reformed Church of Hungary is prioritizing care of vulnerable populations who are unable to leave Ukraine for multiple reasons. The elderly and other internally displaced persons have emerging needs requiring attention.”

Gifts to the **UCC Ukraine Emergency Appeal** provide shelter, food and other care to war refugees and internally displaced people. It also will help refugees and asylum seekers from African, Middle Eastern and other countries who had sought refuge in Ukraine and now are twice displaced, as well as other citizens of more than 125 countries living in Ukraine.

<https://support.ucc.org/global-h-o-p-e/ukraine-emergency-appeal>

The UCC's advocacy office in Washington, D.C., is encouraging people to urge the Biden administration to bolster support for Ukrainians by:

- + Providing significant humanitarian assistance, both in terms of financial support and operational personnel.
- + Rebuilding a robust, well-resourced refugee program that can effectively process refugees from a variety of regions across the globe, including Ukraine.
- + Designating Ukraine for Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) or Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to protect Ukrainians already in the U.S.
- + Granting Special Student Relief (SSR) to allow eligible students from Ukraine to remain in the U.S.

2nd Mile Lent & Easter 2022

Go the 2nd Mile with us!

We are pleased to announce that Parkway will again support four worthy organizations with its Second Mile Giving for Lent and Easter. We believe this blend of support will help Parkway create a local, national and international impact with its gifts. Please remember that Second Mile Giving is over and beyond the Operational Budget and donations will be divided evenly among

the organizations listed below. Please be generous as these organizations need on our gifts in order to be more faithful and effective.

Lydia's House

Lydia's House works in faith to end domestic violence in St Louis by being a place of healing and a voice of hope for abused women and their children. The agency provides safe, confidentially-located furnished apartments for up to two years, assists women in creating and implementing goal plans that will help them live independently, and increases community awareness of domestic violence. For more information, please visit lydiashouse.org

UP—Unleashing Potential (formerly Neighborhood Houses)

For more than 100 years, Neighborhood Houses has loved children in St Louis. Currently, there are three main facets to their mission:

Early Childhood Education—Caroline Mission is a licensed and accredited Early Childhood facility operated by Neighborhood Houses. Our Mission is to provide quality affordable childcare for children from 6 weeks to 5 years of age. Caroline Mission is a “home away from home.”

Girls' Night Out: Neighborhood Houses and Parents as Teachers collaborated together in the design and execution of a program dedicated to supporting and assisting young mothers, ages 13-22. *Girls Night Out* is designed to promote healthy individuals and families.

After School Programs: Neighborhood Houses is the #1 provider of after school programming with the St Louis Public Schools ... fun & creative activities, homework assistance, character education, cultural awareness, health & fitness focus, arts & crafts, supervised recreation, and much more! For more information, please visit neighborhoodhouses.org

Heifer International

Heifer International does so much more than put food in the mouths of hungry people. Heifer helps people to feed themselves. The goal of every Heifer project is sustainability—project partners achieving self-reliance. And year after year, as partner families “pass on the gift” of knowledge and one or more of their animals' offspring to others in need, they become links in a network of hope, dignity and self-reliance that helps hundreds of others care for themselves. For more information, please visit heifer.org

Eden Seminary

Eden Theological Seminary is a graduate school preparing women and men for ordained Christian ministry. One of the six seminaries of the United Church of Christ, Eden is a community that seeks God's justice and peace in the world. Eden is welcoming, inclusive and ecumenically diverse. Eden was established in 1850 at Marthasville, Missouri. It was established because a European education was not adequate to prepare pastors for Evangelical churches on the North American frontier. From its beginning, Eden has embodied an ecumenical spirit. Its first graduating class included six Evangelicals as well as a Methodist and a Mennonite.

Eden admitted its first African American student in 1933. In 1965, the late Joseph Cardinal Ritter of the Saint Louis Archdiocese became the first Roman Catholic Cardinal to address a graduating class in a Protestant seminary. Today, students from many different denominations are engaged in theological education here. Eden remains committed to educating faithful and effective leaders for church and society. The seminary counts among its distinguished graduates Reinhold and H. Richard Niebuhr and Walter Brueggemann.

Eden Theological Seminary is committed to the study of theology in the context of the ecumenical Christian community and the contemporary interfaith world. For more information, please visit eden.edu.

Please be sure to clearly mark your 2nd Mile gifts throughout the season of Lent.

Prayer List

as of Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Celebrations

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

Women's History Month.

Lenten Journey.

Concerns

Richard Gaillardetz - recent cancer diagnosis (Barnes).

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 war in Ukraine.

Continuing

Ellie Svenson - healing in STL after a mild stroke and ankle surgery.

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 recently; strength and patience as she recuperates from a couple of mild strokes (Jim Winkelmann's mother).

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.

Kevin Ceballos - sudden death of husband, Darryl Luffman (Schmelig).

Intertwine Interfaith Welcome Circle - Afghan family in St Louis.

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 Wilcoxon - 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]

St Louis Association UCC Covenant Partner

Week ending March 20 - Faith UCC in Little Rock, Arkansas

Week ending March 27 - First Congregational UCC, Bonne Terre

Love is what God is, love is why Jesus came, and love is why he continues to come, year after year to person after person... May you experience this vast, expansive, infinity indestructible love that has been yours all along. May you discover that this love is as wide as the sky and as small as the cracks in your heart no one else knows about, and may you know, deep in your bones, that love wins. ~Rob Bell

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022

Isaiah 55:1-9

Open Invitation Amistad Sunday

Among the resolutions at the United Church of Christ's 2021 General Synod was a resolution declaring racism to be a public health crisis. On this Amistad Sunday, we remember the brave captives aboard a slave ship who took on the system of slavery through the legal system. Nearly two hundred years later, people of faith are still called to address the systems and institutions that perpetuate racism. Only by addressing these systems of oppression can the evil of racism be dismantled. We follow a Christ who himself took on systems and institutions that perpetuated power for a few at the expense of a marginalized many. How is your faith community living out the powerful language of this General Synod resolution? Portions of the resolution follow:

“...WHEREAS “racism is a marriage of racist policies and racist ideas that produces and normalizes racial inequities,” in the words of Ibram X. Kendi.

WHEREAS without exception and across generations, racial inequities persist in every system of society—as evidenced through health care access, education, criminal justice, employment, housing, access to food and clean water, services to youth, older adults, and persons with disabilities, organizational leadership, governmental office, voting, and immigration, among many others—and thus a specific anti-racist lens is required for health equity and broader systemic change.

WHEREAS inequities based on race also intersect with other dimensions of identity—such as income, sex, gender, sexuality, citizenship and incarceration status, geographic location and housing status, ability, education, language proficiency, etc.— and thus racial justice is a necessary method from which to respond to other intersecting oppressions impacting health and equity overall.

WHEREAS public health promotes and protects the health of people and the communities and environments in which they live, learn, work and play.

WHEREAS the word crisis comes from the ancient Greek word that means “turning point,” and comes from the verb meaning “to decide”—thus connoting a call to change and action.

WHEREAS framing racism as an issue of public health rallies and compels faith communities, organizations, and the government to address the crisis through systemic change, in the same way other threats to public health have been addressed, such as through policies, practices, enforcement, education, and support services....”

“...NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Thirty-Third General Synod of the United Church of Christ declares racism a public health crisis.”

You can find more of the implications and calls for action that are the result of this bold resolution here: <https://www.generalsynod.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Racism-Public-Health.pdf>