



PARKWAY  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



www.parkwayucc.org  
Sunday, January 1, 2022

---

## Contents

- 3 Birthdays
- 4 10:00am Worship
- 9 Announcements
- 10 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]

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]

Kim Livengood, *Church Historian* [historian@parkwayucc.org]

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. 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.

**Bell Rung During Lord's Prayer.** A tradition begun when farmers working in surrounding fields would stop work and join in prayer.

**Scripture Reader:** Evelyn Buretta

**Subscribe to our email lists:** Text your email address to 22828 or sign up at [www.parkwayucc.org](http://www.parkwayucc.org)

**All word and service music reprint** permission covered under CLLI License #2464265; CLLI Streaming License #21357331

**Photos/Videos:** Please be aware that our worship services are video recorded, streamed live on Facebook Live, and made available for later viewing through that service.

Photos should generally not be taken of children in church except as part of organized activities and programs, and any requests of children or their parents or guardians should be respected. Please be respectful of privacy and mindful that this is a safe and sacred space for all who enter.

Media uploads: <https://tinyurl.com/PUCCmedia>

## Mental Health Support

988 (new nationwide 3-digit number similar to 911... call or text)  
24/7 Crisis Hotline 800-273-8255 (TALK) | 800-SUICIDE: 800-784-2433  
24/7 Missouri Department of Mental Health 800-811-4760  
Text 741741 and someone will text right back...[www.crisistextline.org](http://www.crisistextline.org)  
Behavioral Health Network of Greater St Louis 314-449-6713

## Birthdays

1/1 Barry Luedloff

1/2 HOGARTY, Rosanna

1/3 BURKHARDT, Connie

1/3 RISTAU, Nicole

1/4 SIMONSON, Ryan

1/6 HILGEMAN, Bill

1/6 TILLY, Ethan

1/7 MCDOUGALL, Marilyn

# First Sunday after Christmas Day

Sunday, January 1, 2023 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

**Meditation** *We must sit still, doing nothing at all. We must wait...In contemplation we must take God in by allowing ourselves to be taken in.*  
~Maria Harris

**Welcome** Let us know you are here!

## Passing the Peace of Christ

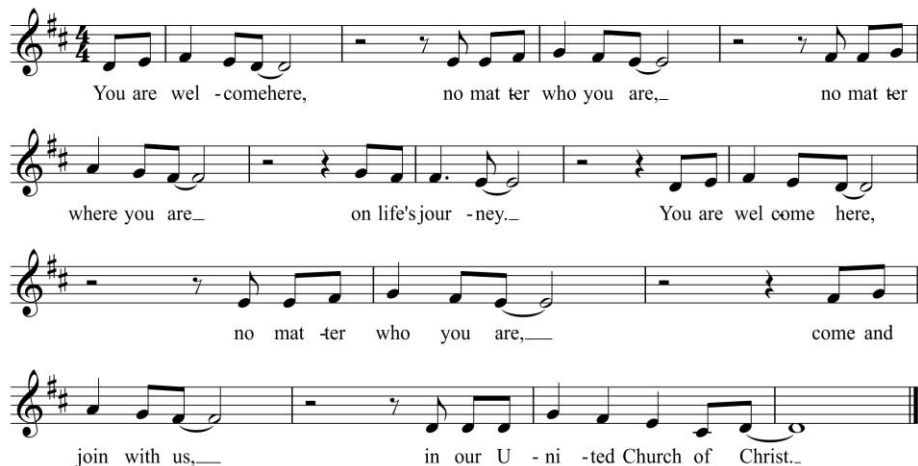
“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

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

**Prelude** *IRBY (Once in Royal David's City)*—Henry John Gauntlett, 1849

## Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

**Welcome Song** *You Are Welcome Here*



**Scripture** Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (CEB – Common English Bible)

There's a season for everything and a time for every matter under the heavens: a time for giving birth and a time for dying, a time for planting and a time for uprooting what was planted, a time for killing and a time for healing, a time for tearing down and a time for building up, a time for crying and a time for laughing, a time for mourning and a time for dancing, a time for throwing stones and a time for gathering stones, a time for embracing and a time for avoiding embraces, a time for searching and a time for losing, a time for keeping and a time for throwing away, a time for tearing and a time for repairing, a time for keeping silent and a time for speaking, a time for loving and a time for hating, a time for war and a time for peace.



## **\*Call to Worship**

One: It is the first day of the New Year.

**Many: We are in the middle of the 12 Days of Christmas.**

One: We are suspended in time and space as we remember yesterday and make plans for tomorrow.

**Many: We want to be more faithful this year. We model ourselves after Jesus, that we might embody his compassion, laser focus and uncompromising grace.**

One: Like Mary, Joseph and the shepherds, we say “yes” to what God is asking of us.

**Many: We aren’t exactly sure where the Holy will lead us, but we will trust and lean into the work as we are given the gifts needed to fulfill our roles.**

One: Like the wise ones, we bring our gifts—and discover some that we didn’t even know we had.

**Many: We are ready. We are eager. We will grow and mature in our efforts to live and love like Jesus did.**

One: We place ourselves in the momentum of the Holy Spirit.

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

## **\*Song** *The First Nowell*

**The first Nowell the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay a-keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.**

Refrain: **Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.**

**They look-ed up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far,  
And to the earth it gave great light  
so it continued both day & night.**

**And by the light of that same star,  
Three wise men came from country far;  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.**

**This star drew nigh to the northwest;  
O’er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
and there it did both stop and stay,  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.**

## **\*Opening Prayer**

Holy One, we know that you are guiding us, loving us, correcting us and are patient with us every step of the way. We are here as vulnerable and vital individuals and as a flawed and faithful community. Come now to melt us, mold us, fill us, use us. 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**

### **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.

### **Offering Our Gifts to God**

If you have an offering today, please place it in the plate on the communion table before the end of the closing hymn. There are also offering plates in the Gathering Space just outside the sanctuary. Thank you for your generosity.

### **Offering Interlude** *Still, Still, Still*—arr. Walter Ehret (b.1918)

Based on the traditional Austrian carol melody.

## **\*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 meek shall inherit the earth and all who hunger and thirst after justice shall be satisfied. We believe that, despite the persistence of challenge, burden and grief, 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.

### **Scripture** Matthew 25:31-45 (NRSV – New Revised Standard Version)

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by God, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and

welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’

## Moment of Silent Reflection

### Sermon

**Invitation to the Communion Table** We invite *all* to this **open table**. All accepted—no exceptions—as we commit ourselves to limitless love, courageous action and spirited inquiry.

### Communion Song *I Come with Joy* #507, v2-5



1. I

2. I

3. As

4. And

5. To

come

come

Christ

thus

geth

with

with

breaks

with

er

joy

Chris

bread

joy

met,

to

tians

and

we

to

meet

far

bids

meet

geth

my

and

us

our

er

Lord,

near

share,

Lord.

bound,

For

To

Each

His

We'll

-

find,

proud

pres

go

giv

as

di

ence,

our

-

all

vi

al

dif

en,

are

sion

ways

ferent

and



free,

fed,

ends.

near,

ways,

In

The

The

Is

And

awe

new

love

in

as

and

com

that

such

His

won

-

made

friend

peo

der

mu

us,

ship

-

to

-

us,

bet

ple

re

ty

makes

-

in

call

of

us

ter

the

His

love

one,

known:

world,

In

In

And

We

We'll

His

of

And

We

We'll

life

Christ's

stran

see

live

laid

com-mu

-

and

and

down

-

now

praise

live

for

nion

are

Him

His

me,

bread,

friends,

here,

praise,

His

In

And

We

We'll

life

Christ's

stran

see

live

laid

com-mu

-

and

and

down

-

now

praise

live

for

nion

are

Him

His

me.

bread.

friends.

here.

praise.

## 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.]


## \*Breaking Bread & Pouring Wine/Juice

## \*Prayer of Thanksgiving


Thank you, generous God, for blessing us with this simple and sacred meal. Your presence in this feast on this holy day—as well as in your interactions with us on ordinary days—will inspire, encourage and enliven us to be who you want and need us to be. Amen.

## \*Song of Parting *This Is a Day of New Beginnings*


*Unison*



1 This is a day of new be - gin - nings, time to re -  
2 For by the life and death of Je - sus, God's might - y  
3 Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing, step from the  
4 Christ is a - live, and goes be - fore us to show and  
\* In faith we'll gath - er 'round the ta - ble to taste and



mem - ber and move on, time to be - lieve what love is  
Spir - it, now as then, can make for us a world of  
past and leave be - hind our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt, and  
share what love can do. This is a day of new be -  
share what love can do. This is a day of new be -



bring-ing, lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.  
dif - ference, as faith and hope are born a - gain.  
griev-ing, seek - ing new paths, and sure to find.  
gin-nings— our God is mak - ing all things new.  
gin-nings— our God is mak - ing all things new.

\*Alternate fourth stanza for Holy Communion

## \*Benediction

## \*God's Light Goes Forth

## \*Music for Going Forth

Four Variations on *Flii et filiae*—Fr. Walczynski, arr Carlo Rossini



# Announcements

Please use the form at [www.parkwayucc.org/communications](http://www.parkwayucc.org/communications) for all announcements for our media. Bulletin and eNews deadline: noon Monday.

**8<sup>th</sup> Day of Christmas** Traditional English carol (1780) – sung by members of the Twelfth Night Feast and Festival singers.

## Twelfth Night Feast & Choral Festival

Thursday, January 5, 2023 – 6:30pm-8:30pm here at Parkway UCC

**HEAR YE! HEAR YE!** Plan to attend this wrap-up of the Christmas Season. Multiple choirs, food and FUN! Loosely modeled after the ancient English tradition, we did it very successfully just before the Covid lock-down; after 3 years we're resuming the tradition! The "Festival" music starts at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary featuring several choirs and musicians, with the "Feast" starting at 7:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. **FREE ADMISSION, OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**, so bring your friends and family. We just ask that everyone bring one plate of "heavy hors-d'oeuvres" (about 12 portions) to share for the Feasting Table. Drinks (including non-alcoholic "wassail" punch) provided. Contact Music Director Barry: [barry@parkwayucc.org](mailto:barry@parkwayucc.org)

## Tuesday Evening Dialogue New Book January 10

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays | 6:00pm potluck | 7:00pm book discussion | Heritage Rm

Please join us for our next TED session when we discuss the first half of the novel *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman. It is a beautifully written story and incredibly funny about the importance of friendship and social connection. Contact Helen Race: [raceh@att.net](mailto:raceh@att.net).

## 2022 Walk to End Alzheimer's Recap

The results of the St. Louis Walk to End Alzheimer's have been tabulated. The St. Louis Walk as the 7<sup>th</sup> largest in the country totaling \$1,062,160. Parkway's contribution was \$2,215.00. Thanks to all who donated, walked in our small group of five and supported the "Walk to End Alzheimer's".

Joyce Ruiz, PUCC Faith Outreach Ambassador and Team Captain

## Speaker Series: On the Frontlines of Amazon

January 8, 2023 | 11:15am-12:15pm | Heritage Room & Zoom

Amazon is an American multinational technology company which focuses on e-commerce, cloud computing, digital streaming, and artificial intelligence. It has been referred to as "one of the most influential economic and cultural forces in the world." The company was founded by Jeff Bezos from his garage in 1994, initially as an online marketplace for books. It is the now the world's largest online retailer.

Our speaker, Pat Wilkins, is on the front lines of Amazon's distribution network in the St. Louis area and in his capacity as Sr. Operations Manager is in charge of 1000 employees at Amazon's facility in Berkeley. His insights into the culture of Amazon and its commitment to the economic welfare of the community promises to be eye-opening, and instructive.

### Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURYWURLNmkwD0EzV0VHV1IyQT09>

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

# Prayer List

## Celebrations

**The Twelve Days of Christmas!**

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

## Concerns

**Marion Pleis** - settling in at Rehab Ctr after hip surgery on Christmas Eve.

**Joe and Lana Biondo** - as he is home from the hospital, recuperating from the flu and pneumonia

**Pinky Wilcoxon** - at *The Quarters*; Covid quarantine ended on Christmas ... she would love cards and/or phone calls ... see next column.

**Doug and Val Detjen** - healing after his recent hip surgery.

**Family of Phil and Jena** - grieving/giving thanks for Phil (Rogers).

**Schulenburgs** as Kaylyn & David's *Milo William* born 11-30 is in NICU.

**Matt Albers** - recent cancer diagnosis (Lori Connors' friend's son).

**All impacted by Covid-19.**

**Families grieving at the holidays.**

## Continuing

**Family & friends of Joan Biest** - grieving and giving thanks for her.

A Memorial Service will be here at PUCC on Saturday, January 7.

**Alice** - healing after recent surgery (sister of Ellie Svenson).

**Edwin & Maria** - his cancer returned; thought he was cured (Runtz).

**Angie** - recent diagnosis of stage 2 Hodgkin's Lymphoma (Rosenberger).

**Gail, Bill and Christopher Haack** - chronic health challenges.

**Patty and mom Estelle** - as Patty receives hospice care (Pleis/Eiffert).

**Jackie** - special needs adult battling Parkinson's, cancer, dementia.

**Josh** - receiving chemo; needs a bone marrow transplant (Tarr).

**Sharon** - variety of health challenges (Rogers).

**Sue Linson** - recently diagnosed with leukemia (McKenzie).

**Mary Beth Anderson** - health challenges; apt break-in (Brueggemann)

**Brooke** - that she would find love and start a family of her own.

**Val** - strength and patience (Jim Winkelmann's 101 year-old mother).

**Cherie & Mike Stolze** - her health; her father's kidney disease.

**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-Centered/Care Facility/Rehab Center

**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, #166; 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]

**Naomi Runtz** - 272 N Lindbergh Blvd; StL MO 63141; 34-993-0469 naomiruntz@sbcglobal.net [birthdate: August 30]

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

**David Smith** - *Anthology of Town & Country*; 1020 Woods Mill Rd; #310; St Louis, MO 63017; 636-200-5076 [birthdate: July 24]  
(Father of Deb Carter).

**Pinky Wilcoxen** - *The Quarters*; 13230 Manchester Rd, #1223; Des Peres, MO 63131; 314-984-5681 [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.**

**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.**

**Peace and Justice** near and far

**US Military** around the globe.

# First Sunday after Christmas Day

Sunday, January 1, 2023

## **Psalm 148** ***Cosmic Praise***

Some people make resolutions at this time of year. Others prayerfully select a word or phrase to guide them into the days ahead. Still others prefer to find renewal every day, not setting aside only the first of the year as a day to intentionally promise a fresh start to God or self. Whichever camp you fall into, take your cue from Psalm 148, and begin with PRAISE.

In difficult times (and for many of us these mid- and post-pandemic days are definitely difficult times) praise can feel unnecessary or even inappropriate. Praise - the outward expression of gratitude - can seem like an extra we can't afford. But scientists today affirm what people of faith have known for centuries. Praise is not just good for God, it's good for you, as studies continue to show that gratitude felt and expressed lowers stress and increases overall happiness. Here are some ways to make your New Year praise-full

- ❖ Find and maintain a regular prayer practice.
- ❖ Notice God in the glory of creation, whether your vista of nature is a vast desert landscape, a stand of towering trees, a small city park, or simply the sun rising and setting.
- ❖ Make praise a part of your giving to your United Church of Christ congregation. (Haven't pledged what you plan to give this year to your church? It's never too late!)
- ❖ Bring your praise to social media, which too often trades in snark and unhealthy competition. How can you notice what is praise-worthy and uplift that instead?
- ❖ Look for ways that family members or friends shine God's light in the world through their own acts of praise. Make sure to notice and thank them.

Keep a gratitude journal, writing down what you are grateful for each evening or morning.