



**Fourth Sunday in LENT**

March 19, 2023

# JESUS

Met & Known



**PARKWAY**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



www.parkwayucc.org  
Sunday, March 19, 2023

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## Limitless Love | Courageous Action | Spirited Inquiry

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### 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.

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

**Scripture Reader** Kathleen Tarr from her home in Ohio

**Today's Flowers** Joyce Ruiz in celebration of John's birthday

**Subscribe to our email lists:** Sign up at [www.parkwayucc.org](http://www.parkwayucc.org)

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**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

03/19 RUIZ, John

03/20 REED, Lara

03/20 SIMONSON, Andrew

03/25 WITTE, Dick

# 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 19, 2023 | 10:00am | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

We welcome Rev. Donna Pupillo as our guest worship leader this morning. Donna is both a registered nurse and an ordained UCC minister. She is the Executive Director for Deaconess Nurse Ministry which seeks to create communities of holistic health by providing professional registered nurses in St Louis region area non-profits (food pantries, soup kitchens, affordable housing units, independent senior facilities, youth treatment centers, day care centers, charter schools and congregations). She graduated from Deaconess School of Nursing, University of Missouri - St Louis, and Eden Seminary. She has served two churches - Friedens Chapel in St Louis and Fieldon UCC, Fieldon IL. She has served on numerous Missouri Mid-South Conference and St Louis Association committees. Thank you for being here, Donna!

**Meditation** *A love revolution is forming far out to sea like a series of waves that build on one another until the whole earth is consumed. The first set of waves releases a quickening anointing. The second set of waves, a love revolution. The third set of waves will sweep across the world and release a worldwide revival. I believe that we can position ourselves to catch this incoming set of waves that will release to you a “quickenning spirit” or “quickenning anointing.” It is being released—now. Catch the wave!*  
~Julia Loren

**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** *In the Garden*—arr. Jay Rouse

Based on the tune by C. Austin Miles.

*Kyrie Eleison...Kyrie Eleison*

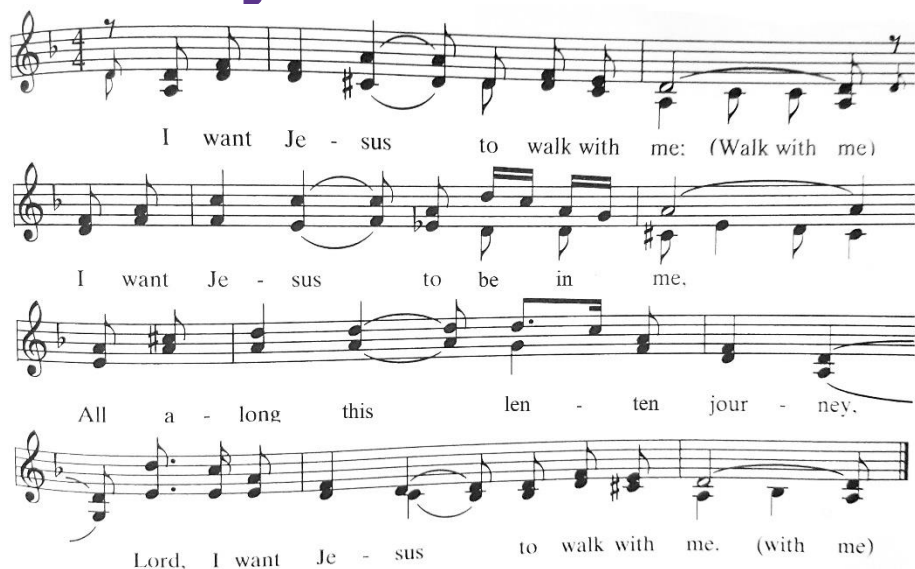
*Christe Eleison...Christe Eleison*

*Kyrie Eleison...Kyrie Eleison*

**Kyrie Eleison**—Greek, then early Latin, meaning “Lord have mercy.” Our use of “the Kyrie” translates as “Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.” The Kyrie is a very old, even pre-Christian, expression used in Greek and Roman civic gatherings or ceremonies. In that pre-Christian context, it was used widely as an acclamation of the magnificent (the emperor in Roman civic gatherings). It began use in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century in early Christian churches as an invocation of God/Christ into the gatherings of early Christians and their worship, and then later (4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> century) as part of a penitential rite in both the Latin and the Greek (later Orthodox) mass. In the season of Lent, we at Parkway UCC use it as a reminder that God is with us and does, indeed, love us.

# Lighting of the Candles & Ringing of the Bell

## Welcome Song *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*



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

I want Je - sus to be in me.

All a - long this len - ten jour - ney,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. (with me)

## Scripture 1Samuel 16: 1-13 (CEB – Common English Bible)

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long are you going to grieve over Saul? I have rejected him as king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and get going. I’m sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem because I have found my next king among his sons.”

“How can I do that?” Samuel asked. “When Saul hears of it he’ll kill me!”

“Take a heifer with you,” the Lord replied, “and say, ‘I have come to make a sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will make clear to you what you should do. You will anoint for me the person I point out to you.”

Samuel did what the Lord instructed. When he came to Bethlehem, the city elders came to meet him. They were shaking with fear. “Do you come in peace?” they asked.

“Yes,” Samuel answered. “I’ve come to make a sacrifice to the LORD. Now make yourselves holy, then come with me to the sacrifice.” Samuel made Jesse and his sons holy and invited them to the sacrifice as well.

When they arrived, Samuel looked at Eliab and thought, That must be the Lord’s anointed right in front.

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Have no regard for his appearance or stature, because I haven’t selected him. God doesn’t look at things like humans do. Humans see only what is visible to the eyes, but the Lord sees into the heart.”

Next Jesse called for Abinadab, who presented himself to Samuel, but he said, “The Lord hasn’t chosen this one either.” So Jesse presented Shammah, but Samuel said, “No, the Lord hasn’t chosen this one.”

Jesse presented seven of his sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord hasn’t picked any of these.” Then Samuel asked Jesse, “Is that all of your boys?”

“There is still the youngest one,” Jesse answered, “but he’s out keeping the sheep.”


“Send for him,” Samuel told Jesse, “because we can’t proceed until he gets here.”

So Jesse sent and brought him in. He was reddish brown, had beautiful eyes, and was good-looking. The Lord said, “That’s the one. Go anoint him.” So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him right there in front of his brothers. The Lord’s spirit came over David from that point forward. Then Samuel left and went to Ramah.

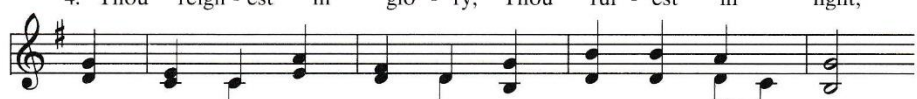
**\*Call to Worship**

One:	Draw near to the light of God’s love. Flock to the one who leads us daily.
Many:	<b>The Lord is our shepherd. We shall not want. God is the light for all who stumble in darkness.</b>
One:	Awake, all who are sleeping through God’s wonder. Look around you and observe what the light of Christ gives.
Many:	<b>We gather in the name of Jesus Christ, who is the light of the world - and our light.</b>
One:	God revealed in Jesus Christ our host, we are guests of the one who feeds and heals us.
Many:	<b>We have come to worship the God of mercy. We are here to be fed and enlightened.</b>
All:	<b>Let us worship our God together—Creator, Christ and Spirit.</b>

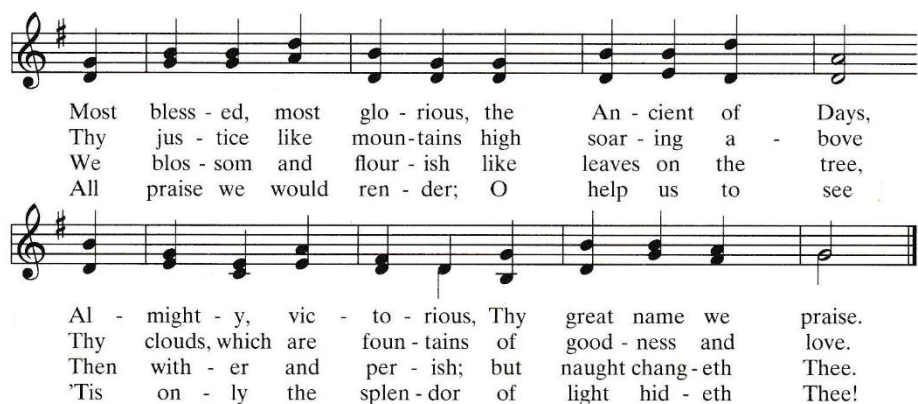
**\*Song** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise #263*



1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
3. To all, life Thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
4. Thou reign - est in glo - ry, Thou rul - est in light,



In light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
Nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, Thou rul - est in might;  
In all life Thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
Thine an - gels a - dore Thee, all veil - ing their sight;



Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 Thy jus - tice like moun-tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

Al - might - y, vic - to - rious, Thy great name we praise.  
 Thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 Then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth Thee.  
 'Tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth Thee!

## Lenten Candles *Jesus Met and Known*

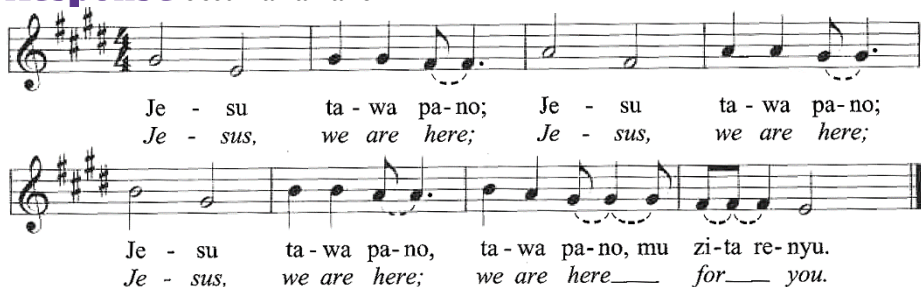
We light seven candles as we embark on this Lenten journey. We want the light of the Holy to illumine our path as we seek to be the words and ways of Jesus. We commit to being more infused by the Spirit as we travel. Even as we know this is good and important work, we recognize that it isn't easy—and we will come upon the shadow side of humanity and some of our own unique darkness.

We extinguish one candle each time we gather for worship this season, acknowledging that this can be tough and exhausting work. As we approach the desertion and depletion of Good Friday, we also prepare ourselves for the dawn and love of Easter morning...the light that never goes out.

## Prayer at the Candles

**Holy One, Jesus met a variety of people on his journey—and he knew even more Biblical characters because of being raised in the faith. As we meet these same people and personalities in the scriptures, they mingle with us and our unique stories. We also meet Jesus and he meets us this season...and we know him and we are known by him. As we live further into our individual and communal Christian identities, help us to be more intentional and authentic about our faithfulness and effectiveness. Amen.**

## Response *Jesu Tawa Pano*



Je - su ta - wa pa - no; Je - su ta - wa pa - no;  
 Je - sus, we are here; Je - sus, we are here;

Je - su ta - wa pa - no, ta - wa pa - no, mu zi - ta re - nyu.  
 Je - sus, we are here; we are here\_\_\_\_ for\_\_\_\_ you.

**Children's Time** Children are invited to Room 12 (Lower Level) and Youth to Room 15 (Lower Level) following this Children's Time. Please meet your child/youth in the Gathering Space just outside the Sanctuary after worship - as the teachers will bring them there after class.

**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** John 19: 1-41 (CEB – Common English Bible)  
As Jesus walked along, he saw a man who was blind from birth. Jesus' disciples asked, "Rabbi, who sinned so that he was born blind, this man or his parents?"

Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents. This happened so that God's mighty works might be displayed in him. While it's daytime, we must do the works of the one who sent me. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." After he said this, he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and smeared the mud on the man's eyes. Jesus said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (this word means *sent*). So the man went away and washed. When he returned, he could see.

The man's neighbors and those who used to see him when he was a beggar said, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?"

Some said, "It is," and others said, "No, it's someone who looks like him."

But the man said, "Yes, it's me!"

So they asked him, "How are you now able to see?"

He answered, "The man they call Jesus made mud, smeared it on my eyes, and said, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and then I could see."

They asked, "Where is this man?"

He replied, "I don't know."

Then they led the man who had been born blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus made the mud and smeared it on the man's eyes on a Sabbath day. So the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see.

The man told them, "He put mud on my eyes, I washed, and now I see."

Some Pharisees said, "This man isn't from God, because he breaks the Sabbath law." Others said, "How can a sinner do miraculous signs like these?" So they were divided. Some of the Pharisees questioned the man who had been born blind again: "What do you have to say about him, since he healed your eyes?"

He replied, "He's a prophet."



The Jewish leaders didn't believe the man had been blind and received his sight until they called for his parents. The Jewish leaders asked them, "Is this your son? Are you saying he was born blind? How can he now see?"

His parents answered, "We know he is our son. We know he was born blind. But we don't know how he now sees, and we don't know who healed his eyes. Ask him. He's old enough to speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jewish authorities. This is because the Jewish authorities had already decided that whoever confessed Jesus to be the Christ would be expelled from the synagogue. That's why his parents said, "He's old enough. Ask him."

Therefore, they called a second time for the man who had been born blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know this man is a sinner."

The man answered, "I don't know whether he's a sinner. Here's what I do know: I was blind and now I see."

They questioned him: "What did he do to you? How did he heal your eyes?"

He replied, "I already told you, and you didn't listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?"

They insulted him: "You are his disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spoke to Moses, but we don't know where this man is from."

The man answered, "This is incredible! You don't know where he is from, yet he healed my eyes! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners. God listens to anyone who is devout and does God's will. No one has ever heard of a healing of the eyes of someone born blind. If this man wasn't from God, he couldn't do this."

They responded, "You were born completely in sin! How is it that you dare to teach us?" Then they expelled him. Jesus heard they had expelled the man born blind. Finding him, Jesus said, "Do you believe in the Human One?"

He answered, "Who is he, sir? I want to believe in him."

Jesus said, "You have seen him. In fact, he is the one speaking with you. The man said, 'Lord, I believe.' And he worshipped Jesus."

Jesus said, "I have come into the world to exercise judgment so that those who don't see can see and those who see will become blind."

Some Pharisees who were with him heard what he said and asked, "Surely we aren't blind, are we?"

Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you wouldn't have any sin, but now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

## **Moment of Silent Reflection**

### **Sermon**

## Invitation to Prayer *Sanctuary*



Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y, pure and  
Lord, pre - pare me to be your lov - ing e - cho, kind and  
ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks-giv - ing, I'll be a  
gen - tle, tried and true. With thanks-giv - ing, I'll be a  
liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for you.  
liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for you.

## 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.]

### Mission Moment <sup>2nd</sup> Mile Lent/Easter

Unleashing Potential—Florence Simonson

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

### 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

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*—arr. Edward Broughton

Based on the American folk melody *Restoration*.

### \*Response

**Praise God for visions great and small,  
Praise God who calls us one and all,  
Praise God whose Spirit gives new sight,  
Praise God who fills our lives with light. Amen.**

## \*Prayer of Dedication

We come today as givers and receivers. We receive the gifts that God gives us—inspiration and hope, compassion and grace. We give our gifts—time and talent spent in service and treasure to work outside of these walls to care for others. As a receiver, make us grateful. As a giver, make us joyful. May these offerings be received and given to your sacred service. Amen.

## \*Song of Parting *God of Grace and God of Glory #420*



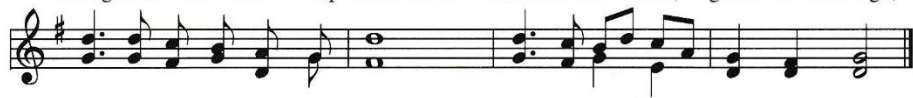
1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, On Thy peo - ple
2. Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us Scorn Thy Christ, as -
3. Cure Thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, Bend our pride to
4. Set our feet on loft - y pla - ces; Gird our lives that



pour Thy power; Crown Thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;  
sail Thy ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
Thy con - trol; Shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
they may be Ar - mored with all Christ - like gra - ces,



Bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
Free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
Rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
Pledged to set all cap - tives free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



For the fac - ing of this hour, For the fac - ing of this hour.  
For the liv - ing of these days, For the liv - ing of these days.  
Lest we miss Thy king - dom's goal, Lest we miss Thy king - dom's goal.  
That we fail not them nor Thee! That we fail not them nor Thee!

## \*Benediction

## \*God's Light Goes Forth

## \*Postlude *Jerusalem, My Happy Home*—arr. Patricia Lou Harris

Based on an early American melody.

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Mile Lent & Easter 2023

## Go the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mile with us!

We are pleased to announce that Parkway is again supporting 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](http://lydiashouse.org)

### **UP—Unleashing Potential (formerly Neighborhood Houses)**

For more than 110 years, Neighborhood Houses has loved children in St Louis.

Currently, there are four main facets to their mission:

*Early Childhood Education:* Caroline Mission is a licensed and accredited Early Childhood facility operated by UP. Their 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.”

*Youth Development:* The approach relies on positive, mutually beneficial relationships between youth and their families, peers, schools, workplaces and communities that allow youth to enhance their knowledge, interests, skills and abilities. Through our coaching and guidance, they are able to build the competencies, skills and abilities needed to have a productive life and contribute to their community.

While our support changes to meet the evolving interests and needs of youth, our efforts have included:

- employment opportunities
- scholarships for participants or their siblings
- safe spaces for meeting
- after school and weekend programs and camps
- mentoring programs
- college visits
- community outreach events
- referral services

*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!

*Enrichment Camps:* UP camps provide school-age girls and boys an opportunity for unleashing their potential through educational and recreational programs. UP camps are held at churches and other locations throughout the St. Louis region.

For more information, please visit [upstl.org](http://upstl.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](http://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](http://eden.edu).

Please be sure to clearly mark your 2<sup>nd</sup> Mile gifts throughout the season of Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

# 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.

## **TODAY—A Family of Firefighters...the Current Generation**

Speaker Series presentation by Justin Nienhaus

Sunday, March 19 | After Worship | Heritage Room

St. Louis City firefighter Justin Nienhaus is a third generation first responder. Come and hear his story, and, honor his call to duty. Parents—bring your children.

**Zoom:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURYWURLNmkw0EzV0VHV1IyQT09>

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

## **Tuesday Afternoon Dialogue thru Lent – March 21**

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays | 2:00-3:00pm | Zoom only

"In *Have a Little Faith*, Mitch Albom offers a beautifully written story of a remarkable eight-year journey between two worlds - two men, two faiths, two communities, *Have a Little Faith* begins with an unusual request: an eighty-two-year-old rabbi from Albom's old hometown asks him to deliver his eulogy. Feeling unworthy, Albom insists on understanding the man better, which throws him back into a world of faith he'd left years ago. Meanwhile, Albom becomes involved with a Detroit pastor - a reformed drug dealer and convict - who preaches to the poor and homeless in a decaying church with a hole in its roof. *Have a Little Faith* is a book about a life's purpose; about losing belief and finding it again; about the divine spark inside us all." - Amazon Review

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURYWURLNmkw0EzV0VHV1IyQT09>

**Meeting ID:** 836 7061 7428 | **Passcode:** 480007 | **Dial** (312) 626-6799

## **Nest Week! Return to Vietnam**

*Two Parkway Church Veterans Recount Their Experiences During the War and Decades later, when they Returned*

Speaker Series Presentation by John Russell and Roger Fauss

Sunday, March 26 | 11:15am | Heritage Room

People who opposed American involvement in the Vietnam War tended to blame American troops for the tragic situation in Vietnam, instead of blaming the government leaders who had sent them there. By the 1980s, however, many Americans began to change their views of Vietnam veterans. They began to see that even if the war was wrong, most of the men who fought it were just ordinary men and women doing their jobs. Soldiers who had served in Vietnam finally began receiving recognition. In 1985, Newsweek reported that "America's Vietnam veterans, once viewed with a mixture of indifference and outright hostility by their countrymen, are now widely regarded as national heroes."

And then, thousands of former servicemembers journeyed to Vietnam, including John Russell. Aided by vivid and compelling photographic images of their experiences, Roger and John each have a remarkable tale to share. Honor their legacy by not missing this riveting and historic Speakers Series presentation.

**Zoom:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84691476997?pwd=aEM2ZURYWURLNmkwD0EzV0VHV1lyQT09>

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

## **Tuesday Evening Dialogue (TED) New Book Starting Mar 28**

2nd & 4th Tuesdays | 6:00pm potluck | 7:00-8:00pm Discussion | Heritage Room

Please join us as we start our new book entitled Disability Visibility, edited by Alice Wong. One in five people in the US live with a disability. Some are visible and others are less apparent. In this book, activist Alice Wong brings together a galvanizing collection of contemporary essays by disabled people. This anthology gives a glimpse into the rich complexity of the disabled experience, highlighting the passions, talents and everyday lives of this community. Please read Part One Being for March 28. Contact Helen Race: raceh@att.net | 314-401-4382

## **Sign up for a beautiful fern for decorating our sanctuary on**

**Easter morning.** The Sanctuary Team has ordered 20 large hanging baskets of annual ferns. They may be taken home immediately after Worship on Easter. Please sign up for a fern on the poster in the Gathering Space. Let's make Easter Service beautiful. Two donated lilies will be on the pedestals, also. Contact Carol Cobb: ccjacob@aol.com | (314) 640-8166.

## **Easter Prayer Vigil**

Our Annual Easter Prayer Vigil begins Good Friday Night and continues through our Easter Sunrise Service. Please sign up to be in prayer for at least one of the 36 hours at your home - not at church. Please let us know if you would like some suggestions as to what to do during your hour. We have a booklet that you can use. Thank you for participating:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/g1kknobqajbjux/36%20Hour%20Prayer%20Vigil%20Booklet%20-%20Holy%20Week%202023.docx?dl=0>

## **Holy Week at Parkway**

7:00pm Maundy Thursday (April 6) in the Gathering Space.

12pm Good Friday (April 7) in the Historic Sanctuary across the street.

7:00pm Friday in the Sanctuary.

Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at 6:15am in Elm Lawn Cemetery.

Easter Sunday 10:00am Worship service in the Sanctuary.

Easter Sunday following worship: Easter Egg Hunt

## **Candy for Community Egg Hunt and Easter Morning at PUCU**

We would appreciate donations of individually wrapped Easter candy as we prepare for the Community Easter Egg Hunt and the Easter Morning Egg Hunt. Please drop in marked Easter Pail in the Gathering Space. Thank you very much! Kevin Cameron: kevin@parkwayucc.org | 314-872-9330





**To help with the Egg Hunt, contact Lauren Schneider:  
laurenrene81@gmail.com or 314-960-3955  
Remember to take and submit photos and video.**



# 52 Ways to Care for Creation

## Week 10

### **Climate Resilience**

What affect is climate change having/going to have in your community? Learn how your church can be a hub for climate resilience by watching our webinars on Creation Justice Ministries' YouTube channel!

## Week 11

### **First Day of Spring**

This is the season of rebirth. Pay attention as buds appear on the trees, seedlings sprout, and animals are born. When you come across these signs of spring, say a blessing (aloud or silently) for God's new creation.

## Week 12

### **Write To Your Elected Officials**

Write to your members of congress or local elected officials, asking them to support an environmental issue that you care about. How does the issue you've chosen relate to racial justice? Include this information in your letter or email.

## Week 13

### **Women's History Month**

Learn about women making environmental change! Some inspiring creation justice heroes include Dr. Vandana Shiva, Sister Dorothy Stang, and Dr. Wangari Muta Maathai.

Find more theological & educational resources at  
[creationjustice.org/climatechange](https://creationjustice.org/climatechange)



[CreationJustice.org](https://CreationJustice.org)



@CreationJustice

# Prayer List

as of Wednesday, March 15, 2023

## Celebrations

**Barb Harris** - settling in after relocating to a new home in the area.

**Women's History Month.**

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

**Lenten Journey.**

## Concerns

**Jo Grove** - hospitalized over the weekend for tests; waiting for results.

**Greg Schmelig** & fam - grieving/giving thanks for Godfather Ron.

**Peter LaSalle** - healing after hospitalizations in AZ and MO.

**Joseph Miller** - home after hospitalization & rehab (son of Deb Carter).

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

He's making strides: moving steadily toward 8lbs; met big sis yesterday!

**Cassie Rosenberger's mother Martha** - aggressive chemo has begun

**Cassie Rosenberger** - healing at home after recent surgery.

**Bill Linson** - some very difficult health issues. (McKenzie)

**Baby Woodson** - 6 month-old healing after heart transplant (Yakel).

**All impacted by Covid-19.**

**People who have been sexually assaulted.**

**The devastating earthquakes in Turkey & Syria**

When we asked our Muslim friends from TASOM (Turkish American Society of Missouri) about relief agencies -- <https://embracerelief.org>

**The continuing war in Ukraine.**

## Continuing

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

**Bill Darland** - ongoing health issues.

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

**Jan** - experiencing dementia (great-grandma of Coree Mix).

**Angie** - living with Hodgkin's Lymphoma (Rosenberger).

**Matt Albers** - 3<sup>rd</sup> round chemotherapy soon (Connors' friend's son).

**Theresa** - surgery/treatment/recovery - aggressive cancer (Schwarz).

**Patty** - doing ok in hospice care; grieving mother's death (Pleis/Eiffert).

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

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

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

**Val** - strength and patience (Jim Winkelmann's 102 year-old mother).

**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** - 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

**JoJo & Derek and Natty Kersting** as they await a baby this summer.

**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 & those dealing with meds.**

**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.

# 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 19, 2023

John 9:1-41

## Restored

### *One Great Hour of Sharing Offering*

For many churches, generations of givers have placed their tithe to the church in a basket or plate that is passed during worship. Usually taking place toward the end of the worship service, the receiving of the offering in this way was both practical and also symbolic of the gifts that each congregation member has to offer. In the past couple of years, spurred by pandemic changes, many congregations have made a shift from receiving the offering in person to receiving it online or virtually. This shift in giving is the tip of the iceberg, a symbol of all the changes that have visited all churches in these unprecedented times.

In today's story, Jesus' healing of a man blind from birth is met with skepticism and uncertainty by those who have known the man. They are not prepared for this change and may feel ill equipped to handle it. Like the townspeople, you may feel unready for change. And yet, you have been living with and adapting through change as it happens both without and within.

In your lifetime, there has been nearly unfathomable change in the world. Borders have opened and closed, names of countries have changed, allies have banded together to make war on other nations, and then turned on one another, and the English language has added hundreds of new words to the dictionary. (Before 2020, had you ever heard or used the word "superspreader" before?)

And that doesn't even count the individual changes that you have adapted to in your lifetime. You have weathered and even thrived through changes in self-understanding, knowledge, relationships, emotional landscape, climate, education, fortune, health, travels, travails, employment status, living arrangements, and multiple television remotes with their array of mysterious black on black buttons.

You may push back against change or wish it would not come so fast, but in fact your whole life has been preparing you for the changes we are experiencing now. Whether your giving is the "old" way in a passed plate, or a "new" way through a computer terminal, you have everything you need to weather the changes around you.

*One Great Hour of Sharing®* is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries. <https://www.ucc.org/giving/ways-to-give/our-churches-wider-mission/one-great-hour-of-sharing/>