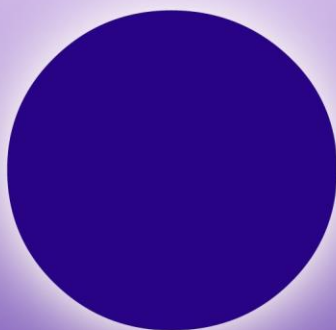


*The*  
**Punctuation**  
*of*  
**JESUS**  
*Good Friday*





www.parkwayucc.org

March 29, 2024

## Contents

- 3 Birthdays and Anniversaries
- 4 7:00pm Worship

## **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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# Welcome *to* Parkway

**Thank you** for joining us this evening! If you are with us virtually, please let us know you are here by commenting in the chat or sending an email.

**Welcome Children** We invite children to full participation in worship. We also have activity bags for young children to use while they are here.

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

**Scripture Readers** Kari Borgmann and Gabriel Requadt  
Please consider signing up to read scripture this spring and/or summer:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4CA4AC23AB9-scripture1>

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

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## 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  
The numbers below are called Warmlines (not Hotlines).  
They are peer run by people with lived experience.  
Not all of them are 24/7/365  
Teen Warm Line: 1 800-248-8336  
Black Warm Line: 1-800-604-5841 (They are divested from the police)  
Trans Warm Line: 1-877-565-8860  
Project Return Warm Line: 1-800-448-9777 (run away)  
Learn more about warm lines: <https://warmline.org/warmdir.html>

## Birthdays

03/31 Katie Wolff  
03/31 Matthew Williams  
04/01 Klover Bowman  
04/01 Liz Lyons  
04/02 Kevin Rauscher  
04/02 Jennifer Woodson  
04/04 Jennifer Krpan  
04/06 Florence Simonson

## Anniversaries

04/04 Mike and Peggy Mohl

# Good Friday

Friday, March 29, 2024 | 7:00pm | Sanctuary & Facebook Live

**Meditation** Ends are not bad things, they just mean that something else is about to begin. And there are many things that don't really end, anyway, they just begin again in a new way. Ends are not bad and many ends aren't really an ending; some things are never-ending. ~C. JoyBell C.

## Welcome

## Passing the Peace of Christ

### Lighting the Christ Candle John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

### Prelude *Partita on O Sacred Head*—Gordon Young

## \*Call to Worship

One: We come tonight keenly aware of the darkness Jesus experienced.

**Many: We see and feel the lack of light... and the fear is here too. It seems as if this is the end.**

One: We yearn to be in the warmth of Christ's light again - as if for the first time... safe, secure, stimulated, sensitized.

**Many: For now we stop here. We wait and watch and wonder.**

One: God meets us where we are - never ever leaving us alone.

**Many: The Spirit enters in as only the Spirit can do.**

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

## \*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!**

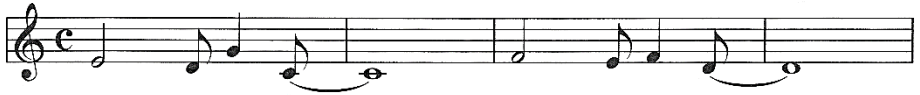
**Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.**

## Lenten Candles

On Ash Wednesday, we lit seven candles as we embarked on this Lenten journey. We wanted the light of the Holy to illumine our path as we always seek to be the words and ways of Jesus. We committed ourselves to being more infused by the Spirit as we traveled. Even as we knew this was good and important work, we recognized that it wasn't easy—and we would come upon the shadow side of humanity and some of our own unique darkness.

We have extinguished one candle each time we've gathered for worship this season, acknowledging that this is tough and exhausting work. Last night, after Jesus and the disciples celebrated Passover, the first Communion and Jesus washed their feet, we extinguished the final candle. Although all of these candles are snuffed out now, we prepare ourselves for the dawn and love of Easter morning...the light and love that is never really gone.

### Response *Here Are Our Hearts* by Susan Drake and Julie Jennings



Here are our hearts.\_\_\_\_\_ Here are our hands.\_\_\_\_\_



Here are our lives.\_\_\_\_\_ Use them as You can.\_\_\_\_\_ Show us those who hurt.



\_\_\_\_\_ Show us those in need.\_\_\_\_\_ Show us how to serve.



\_\_\_\_\_ Teach us how to see.\_\_\_\_\_

## Prayer at the Candles

The Punctuation of Jesus: *How and What He Communicates*

**Holy One, send your spirit that we might find more clarity around what it is that Jesus is trying to share with us. He uses different forms of communication in an effort to reach each and every one of us - regardless of our learning styles, life experiences and ability to focus. He is eager and effective in his attempts. Help us to open our heart, mind, spirit and all of our senses - that we might be more available to receive, understand and pass along what he wants and needs us to know now. Amen.**

## \*Placing Nails in the Cross

Please come forward during the opening hymn to place a nail in the cross. We are not innocent.

## \*Hymn #84—*In the Cross of Christ I Glory* | Red Hymnal



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing  
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -  
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and  
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the  
5 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing



o'er the wrecks of time; All the light of  
ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the  
love up - on my way, From the cross the  
cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that  
o'er the wrecks of time; All the light of



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers 'round its head sub - lime.  
cross for - sake me: Lo! it glows with peace and joy.  
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.  
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.  
sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers 'round its head sub - lime.

## Call to Confession & Silent Prayers

### Assurance of God's Forever Love Based on Romans 8

**We have this assurance that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

### Children's Time Children may remain with their families.

The Nursery is not staffed but is open if your child needs a break from worship. You may also feel at home in the Gathering Space just outside the sanctuary.

### Blessing the Children *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

**Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone;**

**Waking, sleeping, I am with you. You are my own;**

**In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever**

**Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.**

## **Psalter Lesson** Psalm 22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.

Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people. All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads; “Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver—let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”

Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother’s breast. On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help. Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me; they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death. For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me. My hands and feet have shriveled; I can count all my bones.

They stare and gloat over me; they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.

But you, O Lord, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid! Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog!

Save me from the mouth of the lion! From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me. I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him. For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him. Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

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

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

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

#### **Anthem** *Were the Whole Realm of Nature Mine*

Music by Ellen Purchase (1998) / Words by Issac Watts (1707)

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all

#### **Unison Psalter Reading** Psalm 23 in doxology form

**God, You are my shepherd, I shall not want. You make me lie down in green pastures; You lead me beside still waters; You restore my soul. You lead me in right paths for Your name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff—they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in Your house forever.**

#### **Gospel Lessons**

Matthew 26:20-22, 25

When it was evening, Jesus took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.” And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, “Surely not I, Lord?” Judas, who betrayed him, said, “Surely not I, Rabbi?” He replied, “You have said so.”

Matthew 26:30-31a, 33-35

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, “You will all become deserters because of me this night; Peter said to him, “Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.” Jesus said to him, “Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” Peter said to him, “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And so said all the disciples.

Luke 22:39-44

He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, “Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.” Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.”

Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.

Mark 14:32-42

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, “I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.”



And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, “Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.”

He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words.

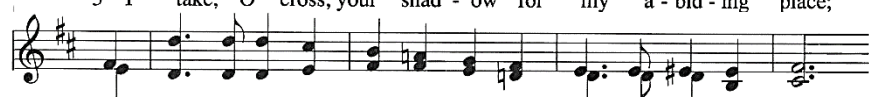
And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him.

He came a third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.”

### **Hymn #92—*Beneath the Cross of Jesus* | Red Hymnal**



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I glad - ly take my stand,  
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus with - in my mind I see  
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land;  
the ver - y dy - ing form of One who suf - fered there for me;  
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of Christ's face;



A home with - in the wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,  
And from my griev - ing heart with tears two won - ders I con - fess—  
Con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain or loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat, and the bur - den of the day.  
the won - ders of Christ's glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.  
my sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all the cross.

### **The Passion in the Gospels**

John 18: 3-5, 19-23, 33-40a

So, Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, “Whom are you looking for?” They answered, “Jesus of Nazareth.”

Jesus replied, “I am he.” Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching.

Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said."

When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?"

Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?"

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?"

Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?"

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here."

Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?"

Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"

They shouted in reply, "Not this man, but Barabbas!"

John 19:16b-19, 25b

So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them.

Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews."

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

**Response** *Jesus, Remember Me* (from The Taizé Community, Scotland)  
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.  
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

## **Moment of Silent Reflection**

### **Sermon**

## Hymn #102—Were You There? | Red Hymnal



1. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you there?)
2. Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? (Were you there?)
3. Were you there when they pierced Him in the side? (Were you there?)
4. Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? (Were you there?)



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?  
Were you there when they pierced Him in the side? Oh!  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?



Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you there?)  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? (Were you there?)  
Were you there when they pierced Him in the side? (Were you there?)  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? (Were you there?)

## Extinguishing the Christ Candle

### The Burial John 19:38-42

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body.

Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

### Return of the Christ Candle Hope to carry us to Easter morning

**Removing Nails from the Cross** Please remove any nail from the cross—place it in the basket below or take it with you. It is a reminder of the reality of nails and the fact that we are called and equipped to remove nails—an act of courage. Jesus is no longer on the cross, which is now a symbol of God's grace and love—and a sign of freedom...but for tonight we relent and tomorrow we reflect and wait.

**Departure in Silence** as we move into our 36-Hour Prayer Vigil to Easter Morning

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Mile Lent & Easter 2024

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## **Lydia's House** [lydiashouse.org](http://lydiashouse.org)

Lydia's House offers secure housing and immediate community for women and children who are victims of domestic violence. We have 50 confidentially located, fully furnished apartments where families can find refuge, safety and support. Our transitional housing is one of the largest in the country and the only program of its kind in eastern Missouri.

Each family at Lydia's House is provided an advocate to help guide them through the process of recovering from abuse. All family members are connected to support services, including individual and group resources, to help them build the skills that are necessary not only for surviving but thriving in the wake of trauma.

**UP - Unleashing Potential** [formerly Neighborhood Houses] [upstl.org](http://upstl.org)  
Neighborhood Houses has loved children in St Louis and helped resilient families to be even more so since 1913.

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

*After School Programs:* UP is the #1 provider of before and after school programming in the St Louis Public Schools... fun & creative activities, homework assistance, character education, cultural awareness, health & fitness focus, arts & crafts, supervised recreation, and much more!

*GeoQuest Program:* expands access to education, hands-on learning, and skill training in geospatial technology for children in K-8 grades.

## **Heifer International** [heifer.org](http://heifer.org)

Heifer International does 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.

## **Eden Seminary** [eden.edu](http://eden.edu)

Eden Theological Seminary is a graduate school preparing people 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 was established in 1850. 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.

Today, students from many different denominations are engaged in theological education at Eden as it remains committed to educating faithful and effective leaders for church and society. The seminary counts among its

Please be sure to clearly mark your financial gifts '2<sup>nd</sup> Mile' throughout the season of Lent, Holy Week and Easter so that these four mission partners can receive evenly from our generosity.