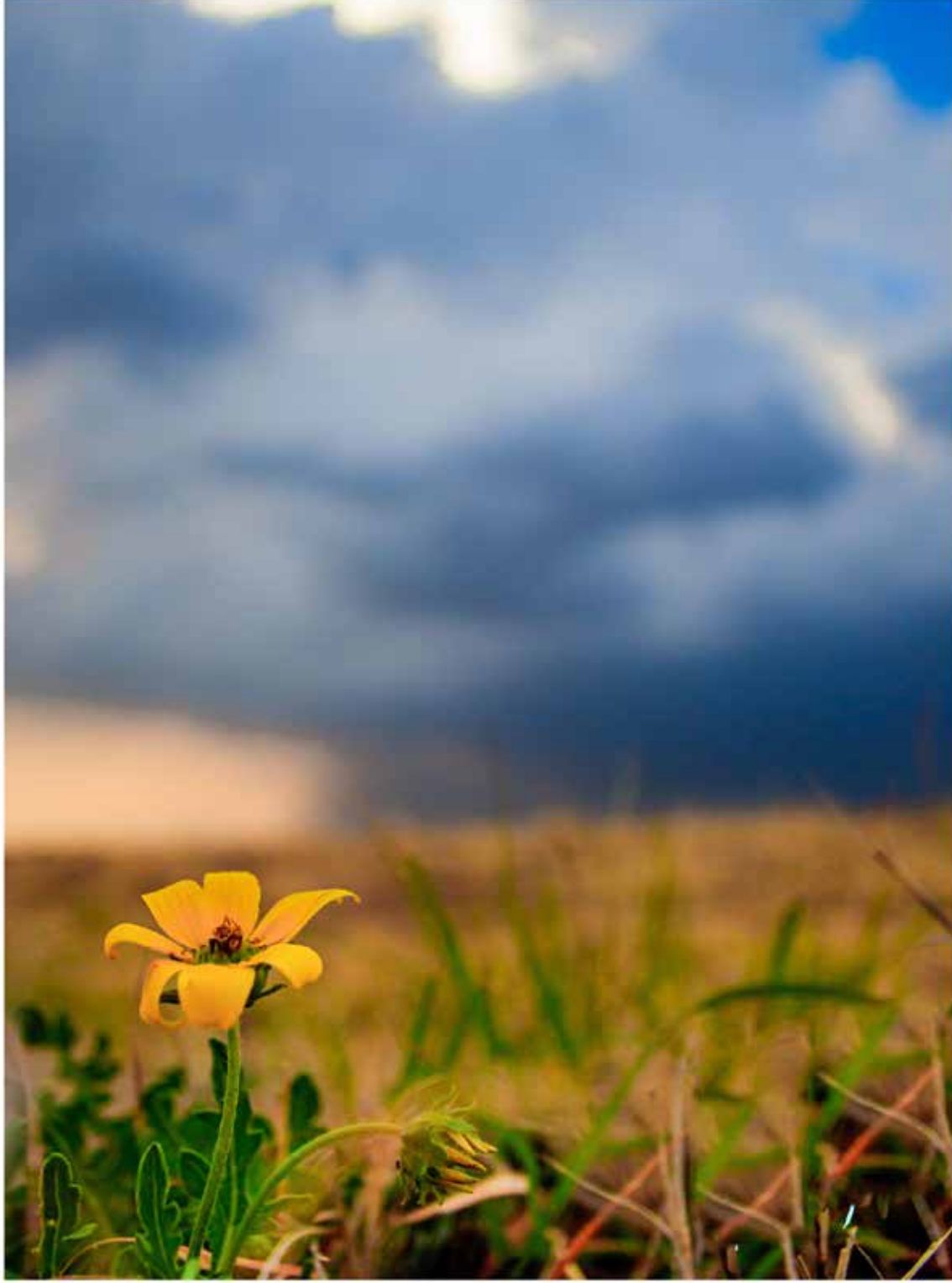


**FIRST (PARK) CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC**  
**, Communion and Graduation Sunday, June 4, 2023**



## *Order of Worship for June 4, 2023*

Graduation Sunday

Gathering, Centering, Announcements - 10:15am

Sanctuary Worship - 10:30am

Gathering Music

Phyllis Ann Miner, piano

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Darryl Kistler

Prelude

Steven B. Smith, organ  
*Trinity Procession on "Nicaea"*

Phil Lehenbauer

Call to Worship

Reading Responsively  
Janet Mitchell, liturgist

One: We gather this morning  
in the name of the Creator,

**All: the One who created time and space,  
galaxies and stars and planets.**

One: We gather in the name of Jesus, the Christ,  
born on planet Earth,

**All: the one who shattered legalism,  
and through love and grace  
showed us the way back to the Creator.**

One: We gather in the name of the Holy Spirit,  
who fills Earth and our hearts with the Spirit's presence.

**All: In this time, in this space,  
we will worship,  
knowing the presence of Creator, Christ and Spirit  
are already among us.**

+ Opening Hymn - No. 1

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

Tune: NICAEA

+ Prayer of Invocation

Reading in Unison

**Holy God, Three-in-One,  
from the communion of your being,  
love overflowed,  
endowing us with your image  
and calling us into community.  
Help us to listen for your word  
that our lives may be ordered  
by your peace alone;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

+ Chimes

*The Chimes give us an opportunity to center ourselves as we stand in silence  
and prepare our eyes, ears, hearts and minds to receive the message God has for us.*

Blessing of the Children and Youth

*Children and youth are dismissed to Sunday activities.  
Visitors, we invite you to go with your children and then come back and join us for worship.*

The Psalm

Psalm 51:1-12

Pew Bible page 492

Janet Mitchell, liturgist

+ Congregational Response - No. 581

Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father (Creator),  
and to the Son (Christ) and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.  
World without end. Amen, amen.**

Sermon

Rev. Darryl Kistler

Meditation

Steven B. Smith, organ  
*Holy God We Praise Thy Name*  
Paul Manz

Rite of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution

Serving of the Bread and Cup

*Communion (from the Devotional Suite)*  
Charles Talmadge

*Wondrous Love*  
C. Callahan / Dale Wood

Prayer after Communion/Our Savior's Prayer

concluding, the congregation prays in unison:

...Our Father/Mother/God, 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.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music

The Summer Singers  
*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*  
Joel Raney

*(For text, see Hymn 366.)*

+ Doxology - No. 606

*Praise God, From Who All Blessings Flow*

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him (God) all creatures here below;  
Praise him (God) a bove ye heavenly hosts;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
(Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost). Amen.**

+ Prayer of Dedication

Reading in Unison

**Lord of our life,  
our hopes and dreams often are self-serving.  
We give to others material things  
that we hope will convey just the right message.  
But You invite us to question if we are as busy bringing grace to a hurting  
world. Through giving, may we proclaim a message that is exemplified by our  
generosity, our kindness, and our prayers.  
Amen.**

*~ written by David S. Bell  
(inspired by Matthew 3: 1-12)*

+ Hymn - See Bulletin Page 11

*Freedom and Life are Ours*

Tune: DIADEMATA

+ Our Common Commission

Reading in Unison

**Let us now go forth into the world in peace; being of good courage;  
holding fast to that which is good; rendering to no one evil for evil;  
strengthening the faint hearted; supporting the weak; helping the afflicted;  
honoring all people; loving and serving the Lord and rejoicing in the power  
of the Holy Spirit.**

Postlude

Steven B. Smith, organ

*Trumpet Tune III*

Paul Fey

## ***Thank you for joining us this morning!***

We'd like to know that you were here, answer any questions you have, and support you in prayer. Please fill out the information card and place it in the offering plate.

**Stop by the P.O.P Table in Allinder Commons after worship today.** You can learn about summer plans for Camp Talahi. Be sure to pick up your Whitecaps tickets or contact Terrie Hunter ([thunter@parkchurchgr.org](mailto:thunter@parkchurchgr.org)) to make arrangements. The Summer Book Club June selection, *The Story of More* is available to purchase for 10.00. There is no charge if you commit to attending the discussion in person on June 27.

**Pastor Darryl will be out of the office from Thursday June 8 - Sunday June 11.** Pastoral care remains available. Please contact Jonathan Shotwell at [jshotwell@parkchurchgr.org](mailto:jshotwell@parkchurchgr.org) or call the office. 616-459-3203.

## ***Joys and Concerns***

Please pray for those navigating illness/treatment including: **Bruce Dybas, Bob Rieger, Bill Smith, and Bev VanDuinen**

Remember those serving in the military including: **Joe Birkhold, Jesse Campbell, Kit Grant, Andy MacGregor, Stefan Pawelka, and Matthew Quick.**

*Pastoral care is always available.* Reach Pastor Darryl at [dkistler@parkchurchgr.org](mailto:dkistler@parkchurchgr.org) or Jonathan Shotwell at [jshotwell@parkchurchgr.org](mailto:jshotwell@parkchurchgr.org), or call the office. 616-459-3203.

## **Deacon's Fund Collection**

The Deacon's Fund provides confidential short term relief or emergency assistance for Park Church members, friends, and neighbors in crisis. **On the first Sunday of each month,** we invite you to make a designated gift to the Deacon's Fund in support of this important work. You can scan the QR code on the back of this bulletin to give online or use a pew envelope and place it in the offering plate. If you or someone you know is experiencing an unexpected hardship and could find some immediate relief through the Deacon's Fund, please contact Pastor Darryl directly.

## **Park Church Graduates**

### ***High School Graduate***

#### ***Lily Kugler***

Lily is graduating from East Grand Rapids High School She enjoyed playing Varsity Golf and Varsity Tennis, volunteering for Make A Wish and Cards for Community Club, working at Beacon Hill, and spending time with family and friends. A recipient of the University of Dayton President's Merit Scholarship and the Matt F. Fouch Scholarship of Character, Lily will be attending the University of Dayton in Ohio. Her course of study is to be determined!! Congratulations, Lily!

### ***Post Secondary Graduates***

*Andrew DeBoer*

*St. Olaf Collage*

*BA in Kinesiology*

*Abby Barnum*

*Kalamazoo College*

*BS in BioChem and German*

*Abby Liggett*

*Butler University*

*BS in Healthcare Business*

*Madelyn O'Malley*

*Grand Canyon University*

*BS in Elementary Education*

*Sarah Myers*

*Ferris State University*

*BS in Integrative study*

### ***The Sanctuary Flowers***

**The flowers on the Altar are in  
loving memory of John Bilsky.  
Given by his wife, Margaret.**

**The flowers on the Children's Altar are in  
memory of Melissa Bilsky.  
Given by her family.**

## **Summer Sunday Fundays**

**Every Sunday from June 4 - August 27**

Park Church offers a multi-age spiritual formation and education time each Sunday in the summer. Following the Blessing of Children and Youth each Sunday, our children and youth are invited to gather in Merriam Hall during the rest of the worship service for a fun and festive time of music, dance, crafts, snacks, story, and prayer. Any child 5 years old and up is welcome to attend. Children under 5 years old will be invited to be part of our childcare in the nursery and Little Lambs rooms.

Middle and high school youth are especially encouraged to help out, serving as junior leaders and assistants. **If you are interested in helping out for a Sunday or two or more during the Summer Sunday Fundays, please contact Pastor Darryl at [dkistler@parkchurchgr.org](mailto:dkistler@parkchurchgr.org).**

## **Youth Group Outing**

**Saturday, June 23 in Spring Lake**

We are planning a youth group summer fun day! Get ready to paddle your way into an awesome adventure on June 23rd! We'll be heading to Lakeshore Kayak Rental in Spring Lake for some fun in the sun. We've got 8 tandem kayaks, which means 16 of us can hit the water and make some waves! The journey will take us about an hour from the church parking lot, but trust us, it's worth it!

We need some drivers, so make sure you rally up your friends to join in on the fun. Even those who will be in 6th grade next year - we've got room for everyone!. Don't forget to RSVP directly with us and bring some snacks. And of course, we'll need plenty of sunscreen! After we're done kayaking, we'll head to Grand Haven for some lunch together. *Have any questions?* Email Jonathan [jshotwell@parkchurchgr.org](mailto:jshotwell@parkchurchgr.org).

## **Friendly Tech Support Sundays**

Are you having trouble finding service videos or receiving the Congregationalist? We'd like to help keep you connected. Bring your phone, laptop or ipad to church on June 11, July 9, or August 13. Some friendly faces will be on hand after worship to help you out.



**Low-Key, Low-Commitment Summer Book Club: Come Join Us!**  
**Tuesdays June 27, July 25, August 29 at 6:30-8:30**  
**Locations to be announced**

The IDEA committee is hosting a summer book club to get folks talking and connecting around interesting and meaningful topics. We'll read three different books, one for each summer month, and gather in a friendly home to discuss each one. Read them all or just pick one - we'd love to have you when it works for you!

The June selection is *The Story of More* by Hope Jahren which is available at the P.O.P. table for 10.00. If you commit to attending the June 27 meeting, the book is free.

### **One-Liners**

**We are welcoming many visitors lately. Please wear your name tags!**

**Were you or a someone you know married in Thompson Chapel? We'd like to see your pictures! Please contact Terrie Hunter. (thunter@parkchurchgr.org)**

**If you would like to mark an occasion by dedicating Sanctuary flowers talk with Marcia Streeter about signing up! mabiti1@gmail.com**

**The Church Historian could use some help cataloging on Wednesday mornings. Contact Fritz Crabb to find out more. heritage@parkchurchgr.org**

**The Park Church Golf League meets in Byron Center on Wednesdays at 4:00pm. Contact Jim Butler to find out more. (616-802-4355).**

**For all you baby-minders, did you know there are changing tables in both the men's and womens' restrooms?**

**Nimble Needles handcrafting group meets after worship on Sundays. Contact Mary Raab to find our more. (m\_c\_raab@yahoo.com)**

**Do you get the weekly Congregationalist E-Newsletter? To get signed up, send a quick note to office@parkchurchgr.org.**

## **Coming up at Park Church**

**Tues. June 6 at 6:30pm** - Board of Deacons meeting

**Sun. June 11** Sanctuary Worship

Youth Choir Musical “*Good Kings Come in Small Packages*”

P.O.P table: Friendly Tech Support Sunday and book club book pickup.

**Tues. June 13 at 7:00pm** - Board of Trustees meeting

**Fri. June 16 at 9:00am** - Cooking at Park for Degage

**Sun. June 18** Pride Sunday

Sanctuary Worship - Rev. Darryl Kistler, senior minister

Sundae Sunday - hosted by Ofield Ten after worship.

**Mon. June 19** - Office Closed for Juneteenth

**Mon. June 19 at 9:00am** - Cooking at Park for Degage

**Tues. June 20 at 6:00pm** - Whitecaps game at LCMU Park (tickets at P.O.P Table)

**Fri. June 23 all day** - Youth Group kayaking day in Spring Lake

**Sun. June 25** 66th Anniversary of the formation of the United Church of Christ

Sanctuary Worship - Rev. Darryl Kistler, senior minister

P.O.P table: summer book club book pickup. (July selection)

**Tues. June 27 at 6:30pm offsite** - Summer Book Club Discussion (*The Story of More*)

**Wed, June 28 at 4:30pm** - Mobile Food Pantry

The Youth Choir musical, *Good Kings Come in Small Packages*” was postponed last week due to illness. We are pleased to announce that the program will be presented during the worship service on Sunday, June 11.

### **Office Hours:**

Summer office hours began this week: **Monday - Thursday from 9:00-3:00**

The office will be closed on June 19 in recognition of Juneteeth.

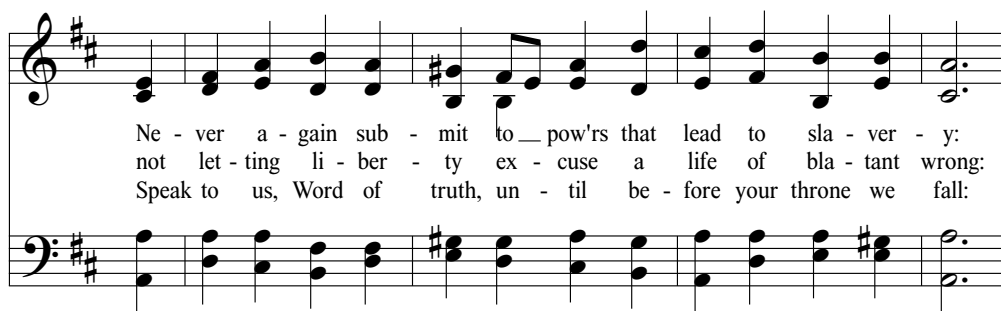
Volunteers are needed for the Degage food ministry for several shifts in **June, July, and August**. Click on the QR code to sign up.



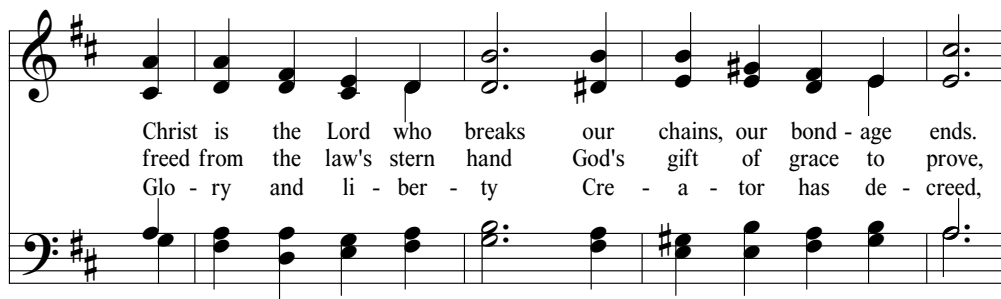
# Freedom and Life Are Ours




1. Free - dom and life are ours for Christ has set us free!  
2. Called by the Lord to use our free - dom and be strong,  
3. Spir - it of God, come, fill, e - man - ci - pate us all!



Ne - ver a - gain sub - mit to pow'rs that lead to sla - ver - y:  
not let - ting li - ber - ty ex - cuse a life of bla - tant wrong:  
Speak to us, Word of truth, un - til be - fore your throne we fall:



Christ is the Lord who breaks our chains, our bond - age ends.  
freed from the law's stern hand God's gift of grace to prove,  
Glo - ry and li - ber - ty Cre - a - tor has de - creed,



Christ is the res - cu - er who makes the help - less slaves his friends.  
know that the law's en - tire de - mand is glad - ly met by love.  
and if the Christ shall make us free we shall be free in - deed!



IN THE CITY FOR THE CITY  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



## *We are an Open and Affirming Congregation*

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.

### ***Serving With You Today***

Ushers: Richard Rowe, Kathy Miller, John Miller, Mike Cairns

Greeters: Pat Schaub, Ruth McCarty

Childcare Providers: Jerika Kihn, Alexia Dominguez, Brianna Kim.

Sound: Sam Johnson

Video: Kevin Arnett

Name Tag Organizer: Teddy Cottrell-Gammage

Flower Care: Kathy Miller

[office@parkchurchgr.org](mailto:office@parkchurchgr.org)

[www.parkchurchgr.org](http://www.parkchurchgr.org)

[www.facebook.com/parkchurchgr](https://www.facebook.com/parkchurchgr)



Access the online donor and payment portal by using the camera on your phone and clicking the link that appears.

10 E Park Pl NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
616-459-3203

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday from 9:00 - 4:00.

The wifi password is parkchurchguest.