

**Seventh Sunday of Easter/Ascension Sunday**

**May 20<sup>th</sup> 2012 - 11:15 AM Service**

**Gathering** Greet others joyfully and then prepare for worship in quiet reflection during prelude

**Preludes** “Supper Time” – Ron Brusven

**Lighting of the Candles**

**Welcome, Introductions and Announcements**

**Greeting One Another in the Joy of Christ**

**Praying the News**

**Call to Worship (responsive)**

L: This is the time, and this is the place. We wait for you, God, to come to us.

**C: To change our minds, to remold our lives, to fill us with hope.**

L: We praise you, our God.

**C: For your love revealed to us in Jesus,**

L: We praise you, our God.

**C: For setting us free and making us one,**

L: We praise you, our God.

**C: For giving us the vision of your reign, the hope of life in you.**

L: Make our worship worthy of you and our lives a sign of your presence.

**All: We wait for you, and praise you! Hallelujah! Amen.**

**HYMN** “We Sing to You, O God” TFWS # 2001

**Prayer for Guidance (unison)** Come, O Creator, O Immensity of love, O Eternity of mercy. Come, and be with us and in us and beside us and over us. Be as hands upon us, and fashion us for shining. Be as warmth within us, and fire us for caring. Be as strength beside us, and shape our lives for healing. Abide in our prayers, the spoken and the unspoken; and make your Word come true in our flesh; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen  
(Arnold Kenseth)

**Scripture** John 15:9-17

“The Word of God” - **Response: “Thanks be to God!”**

**SERMON** “Hearing your own story”

Pastor Rory Swenson

**HYMN** “We've a Story to Tell to the Nations” #569

**Prayers of the Congregation, followed by the Lord’s**

**Prayer** (Our Father, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen)

**Offering and Dedication Hymn**

“Blessed Assurance”

#369

**Sending Forth (Unison)** Send us, O God in ministry, as we entrust ourselves to your care and keeping. Be for us, guide and protector, companion and friend, Savior and Lord. By your love and grace-full power in us, may we be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ and the story of his love. Amen

**Postludes**

**TFWS= “The Faith We Sing” Hymn Book**

**Visitors Welcome! Please sign our guest book**

**And please introduce yourself to the pastor**

**LARGE PRINT HYMNALS, BIBLES, AND BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE FROM AN USHER.**

**Let us be your church home!**

**A WORD ABOUT THE 11:15 “Informal” WORSHIP SERVICE**

**To help us feel a better sense of gathering, please sit more as a group together in one part of the sanctuary.**

The style will be less formal. My hope is that we can grow to a comfortable sharing to name prayer requests. I urge your participation in the worship in many ways, would you like to lead music, provide a music ministry, read a scripture, usher, greet, help plan services? Please see Pastor Rory. Most of all, invite others, and keep this new venture in your prayers.

**Please come early and have coffee downstairs** at the social hour from 10:30 to 11:05. That’s a good time to visit with the church family from the 9:30 worship service. I plan to honor our noon time closing for worship. From Sept, to May, Sunday School classes are from 10:50 to noon. (Classes are for ages 3 to adult!) There is nursery care available downstairs for children younger than age 2.

Children’s worship bulletins are also available on the table behind the guest book stand. I invite you to read the announcements, as I will not be highlighting each of the many ways that Park Church is doing Christ’s ministry!

**CHILD CARE** is available downstairs off the fellowship hall for ages 6 months through Kindergarten. Baby changing station is in the Wesley Room at the old “Powder Room.”

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK:**

Emma McKenny (6 yrs old), Donna Stoll, Rusty Ramp, Betty Jessen. Glenn Brown, Mary Ellen Wensing, Randy Jessen, Hope Strey, Tyler Burgen, , Bill Graphenteen, Sergeant Erin M. Scheafer, Karol Goedker, Marn Moody, Kirk Norstrom, Verna Hoffmann, and Marvin Montgomery

Complete Announcement Handout are available from Ushers

Park UMC  
e-mail Address:  
[park@parkunitedmethodist.org](mailto:park@parkunitedmethodist.org)

Park UMC Website:  
[www.parkunitedmethodist.org/](http://www.parkunitedmethodist.org/)

**Members of the Congregation**  
**The Rev. Rory Swenson** Minister  
**Clayton Oberg,** Pastor  
**Tom Chesley** Retired Pastors  
**Stephen Newnum** Missionary - Brazil  
**Wilma Roberts** Retired Diaconal Minister  
**Leslie Hobson, Deaconess** Youth Director  
**Brenda Pfeffer** Treasurer  
**Bill Fortune III** Admin. & Financial Secretary

**Donna Dahl** Chancel Choir Director  
**Claudette Kitzman** Gregoryan Handbell Director  
**Clinton Rhodes** Accompanist  
**Cleo Kuelbs** Pianist  
**Joyce Bachman** Flower Steward  
**Jim Trott** Custodian  
**Anna Young** Childcare

**ATTENDANCE: Last Sunday 9:30** 165 ca. **11:15** 30 ca.  
**Sunday School: 23 Visitors: 6 ca.**

*April Children in attendance at church events: 95*

**Flowers in Chancel – This Week:**  
**In Memory of: Evelyn Widgren & Helen Bercher**  
 By: Tom & Elaine Bercher



**Please Help with these Ministries**  
**2012 Sign Up Sheets For**  
**Ushers – Altar Flowers – Greeters**  
 Are on the bulletin board  
 in the Education Wing

*See Vacation Bible School needs on table in lobby*

----- **Sunday, May 20, 2012** -----

9:30 AM - Worship Service  
 10:30 AM - Fellowship Time - Social Hall  
 10:50 AM - Discipleship Formation - All Ages  
 11:15 AM - Worship Service  
 5:00 PM - Cooking Group at New Light UMC

----- **Monday, May 21, 2012** -----

9:30 AM - Mocha with the Father 2 at Mocha With the Father 2  
 will be meeting at the church in the Wesley room or  
 across the hall from there. Bring your own coffee cup  
 and a pot of coffee will be made. Questions - Diane -  
 829-8837

Noon luncheon & program: "High Blood Pressure and Strokes"  
 with Dr Furda

1:00 PM - Needlework Ministry - Park UMC  
 3:30 PM - 9th-12th Grades Coco Moon gathering  
 6:30 PM Deborah Circle

----- **Tuesday, May 22, 2012** -----

7:00 AM - Mocha with the Father- NW Pizza  
 1:30 PM-Myasthenia Gravis (MG) Support

----- **Wednesday, May 23, 2012** -----

Noon - Naomi Circle  
 5:00 PM - Youth Pizza & salad supper  
 6:00 PM - GUMY's (Grades 1-5)  
 6:00 PM - BUMY's (Grades 6-12)  
 6:00 Wednesday Night Bible Study  
 7:00 PM - Choir

----- **Thursday, May 24, 2012** -----

5:00 PM - Montessori using the fellowship hall  
 6:00 PM - SPRC Meeting

----- **Friday, May 25, 2012** -----

8:45 AM - Sunday Bulletin and Announcement folding

----- **Sunday, May 27, 2012** -----

Pastor Rory's Last Sunday  
 9:30 AM - Worship Service  
 10:30 AM - Fellowship Time - Social Hall  
 11:15 AM - Worship Service  
 Noon - Final Gathering with Pastor Rory  
 1:00 PM Farewell Service for Rory.

----- **Munday, May 28, 2012** -----

**Memorial Day – Office Closed**

**May 20, 2012**  
**Seventh Sunday of Easter**  
**/Ascension Sunday**  
**11:15 AM**  
**Worship Service**

**PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 315 North Sixth Street  
 Brainerd MN 56401-3304  
 218-829-4116

*“To be used by God to make disciples of Jesus Christ for  
 the transformation of the world”*



**Open Hearts**  
**Open Minds**  
**Open Doors**

**The People Of**  
**The United Methodist Church**