

Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 28, 2021 1st Sunday of Advent

Gathering

A Time for Meditation

"Emmanuel"

Welcome and Ministry Announcements

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

*Opening Hymn

The Celebration Hymnal #186

"Lord, Be Glorified"

*Call to Worship

Worship Leader

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Be vigilant, praying at all times for strength so that we may pass through all

troubles.

People: We will be ready to stand in the presence of the Son of Man.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

"Time to Go Home"

Christian Family

We feel like tired and scared shark hunters, alone on a boat in the middle of sea. We don't know if we have the strength to face what is before us, hunting us, hurting us. We huddle around a table in this hold of a leaky vessel, and we sing what comes to mind.

Show me the way to go home, I'm tired and I want to go to bed. Wherever I may roam on land or sea, you can always hear me singing a song: show me the way to go home.

Home. The prophet Jeremiah speaks of a branch that will be raised. Jesus spoke of a Son of Man that will descend. Both point to a hope - a hope that calls us home. Our true home, where we're welcomed and loved and included, where there is justice and equality and peace. It's time, this Advent season, time to go home.

We light this candle, as a sign of our hope, our strong hope that there is a way to go home. To the home in Christ, and it starts with us, and it starts here, and it starts now. It's time to go home. [Light the first candle on the Advent wreath]

Gathering Prayer

Call to Confession

^{*} please stand

Prayer of Confession

God of all history, the passing of time sometimes escapes us. We live from payday to payday, from party to party, from crisis to crisis. We lose sight of our spiritual state of health until illness or tragedy forces us to take stock again. Forgive our frequent indifferences to the social problems of the world. Help us to mature in our faith for the sake of your perfect Son, Jesus of Nazareth.

Leader: Please continue in silent confession....Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Leader: Friends, hear the good news! God is confirming your heartfelt belief

People: so that we will stand faultless before our Maker.

Leader: Friends, believe the good news!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen!

Word

A Time for Children

Dr. Yvan Kelly

(Children will go to Sunday School)

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

David Christian

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

New Testament Reading

Luke 21:25-36

Dr. Yvan Kelly

"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all

who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Message "People Get Ready" Dr. Yvan Kelly

*Second Hymn The Celebration Hymnal #563 "Open My Eyes That I May See"

Baptism and Welcome of New Member

*Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE
in God the Father, Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ,
his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by
the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;

from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God
the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers and Offering

Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer

the third day he rose again

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 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.

Giving Thanks to God with Our Gifts and Offerings

Offertory Song

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

God our Savior, we stand before you as those who are ready to be led by you in your way, to use what we have for your goodness in full measure, through Jesus and in the Spirit of the Christ. Amen.

Sending

*Closing Hymn The Celebration Hymnal #244 "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Charge and Blessing

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Announcements

Wednesday Night Bible Study at 7:00 p.m. - Wednesday Night Bible Study continues online this week at 7:00 p.m. The link will be in the newsletter and Wednesday email.

Welcome New Member - We welcome Michael Eicholtz into the membership of Kirkwood. He is joining by profession of faith. Welcome Michael!

Presbyterian Women and Quigley House - The Presbyterian Women are sponsoring a grocery gift card drive for the Quigley house. If you would like to help the Quigley House provide meals for their clients, please consider donating a gift card from the following stores: Target, Winn-Dixie, Wal-Mart, or Publix. You can put the gift card in the box on the table in the narthex.

Christmas Joy Offering - By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you are providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. To give to this cause, you may use the special offering envelopes in the friendship pads or the ones on the usher's table in the back of the sanctuary. If writing a check, please note on the memo section of your check "Christmas Joy Offering."

Congregational Meeting December 12 - There will be a Congregational Meeting held immediately after worship on Sunday, December 12. The purpose of this meeting is to elect Session members and church officers for the new year.

Presbyterian Women Christmas Party December 12 - This year's Presbyterian Women Christmas Party will be held at Biscotti's, 3556 St Johns Ave, Jacksonville, 32205, on Sunday, December 12 at 12:15 p.m. Please text Kathy Stanley at 904.803.3736 if you plan on attending.

Newsletter - If you are new to the congregation and would like to receive the newsletter, let us know on the friendship pad form or email the office at home@kirkwooodchurch.org.

Prayer Chain - If you would like to pray for others, please contact the church office at home@kirkwooodchurch.org and ask Suzi to put your name on the Prayer Chain List. Should you have a prayer request, please send it to home@kirkwooodchurch.org.

Financial Giving - You may place your offering in the offering plate, drop off a check at the office, put it in the mail, or use our online giving portal that can be accessed <u>here</u>.

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