



Let us know that you are here

## Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 19, 2023

4th Sunday in Lent

### Gathering

**Welcome and Ministry Announcements**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ**

**\*Opening Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #192

“Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining *Shine, Jesus, Shine*”

**\*Call to Worship**

Worship Leader

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

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Christ is the light of the world. As Christians, you are light and should leave darkness behind.

**People: We will live like those who feel at home in daylight.**

**Gathering Prayer**

Don Kent

**Call to Confession**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

**Prayer of Confession**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

**People: Our one true judge, you know us better than we know ourselves. You know our hearts and our thoughts, our motives as well as our actions. We confess that we tend to judge others and ourselves too much by appearances, by looks rather than by behavior. We would dread your true judgment, except for the mercy and goodness you offer us in Jesus Christ.**

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

**Assurance of Pardon**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Leader: Friends, hear the good news! Though you once were all darkness, now as Christians you are light.

**People: Though we once were darkness, now as Christians we are light.**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news!

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

## Word

### Minute for Mission - Gideons

#### A Time for Children

Dr. Yvan Kelly

(Children will go to Sunday School)

#### Old Testament Reading

Psalm 23

Don Kent

The Lord is my shepherd,  
I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down  
in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;  
he restores my soul.  
He leads me in right paths  
for his 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 the house  
of the Lord my whole life long.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

#### New Testament Reading

John 9:1-41

Dr. Yvan Kelly

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him.

Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*Middle Hymn**

“Indescribable”

**\*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;  
the third day he rose again**

**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**

**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**

**People: Divine God, only the Holy Spirit enables us to perform any service worthy of offering to you. Receive what we offer for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **Sending**

**\*Closing Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #39

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

**Charge and Blessing**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

## Announcements

**Session Meeting** - The Session will meet today after worship.

**Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt with the Easter Bunny March 25** - This year's Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt with the Easter Bunny will be held on Saturday, March 25. Breakfast is from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. and the Easter Egg Hunt begins promptly at 10:30 a.m. If you plan to attend just the egg hunt, please be here prior to 10:30 a.m. A reservation sheet is on the table in the narthex and in tomorrow's newsletter.

**One Great Hour of Sharing** - During Lent, join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world. To donate to this special offering, use the blue One Great Hour of Sharing envelopes in the friendship pads. You may also fill the fish bank (on narthex table) with coins during Lent.

**Monthly Potluck Luncheon March 26** - Our monthly potluck luncheon for March will be held on Sunday, March 26, following worship. If you plan on attending, please bring a dish to share.

**Spring Grounds Clean Up April 1** - On Saturday, April 1, we will be cleaning up the garden area for spring and especially for Easter Sunrise Service. We will start between 7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. and we will work until about 1:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Please bring your own garden tools, saws, and motivation. We will provide the sweat! Remember, many hands make light work.

**OneBlood Blood Drive April 2** - On Sunday, April 2, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., The Big Red bus will be in the parking lot for the blood drive. To donate, please sign up at <https://donorportal.oneblood.org/donate-now>. Choose sponsor name and enter Kirkwood.

**Maundy Thursday Service April 6** - On Thursday, April 6, we will hold a Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Easter Sunday April 9** - Our Easter Sunday Sunrise service will be held at 7:00 a.m. in the Memory Garden. Our 10:00 a.m. service will be held in the sanctuary.

**Youth Retreat at Montgomery Center April 21-23** - Montgomery Center is hosting a spring youth retreat at Montgomery from April 21 to 23 for ages 6th - 12th grade. For more information, visit their website: <https://montgomerycenter.net/spring-youth-retreat/> or pick up a flyer on the table in the narthex.

**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 [here](#).

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