



Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 29, 2024

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering

Welcome and Ministry Announcements

Dr. Yvan Kelly

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

***Opening Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #465

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

***Call to Worship** (based on Psalm 124)

Worship Leader

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

People: In speaking, in silence, in movement, in stillness, God is with us.

Leader: God alone saves us. God alone helps us. God alone sets us on the path of peace.

All: Let us worship our Helper!

Gathering Prayer

Mike Brodersen

Call to Confession

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Prayer of Confession

Dr. Yvan Kelly

People: God, do you go silent when we perpetuate cycles of retaliation and violence? Or is it our silence that tolerates suffering and loss of life? Forgive us for our failure to seek help for the victims of violence in our midst and around the world. Open our ears and hearts to listen for your voice: the voice of a better way of healing and hope for all people. Show us this faithful path and give us the courage to walk in it, even if for the very first time. We pray in the name of the Prince of Peace, Jesus our Lord.

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

Assurance of Pardon

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Leader: Friends, hear the good news! The Lord will give his people justice and have compassion on his servants.

People: The Lord will give his people peace and joy.

Leader: Friends, believe the good news!

All: 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)

*please stand

So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me - that is my petition - and the lives of my people - that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

James 5:13-20

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Message

"The Good Life"

Dr. Yvan Kelly

***Middle Hymn**

“How Can I Keep from Singing”

***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: Accept all that is offered in this place this day, O God. Accept our material commitments to build a more peaceable family on Earth. Accept our personal commitments to work to break cycles of hatred and retaliation, in our everyday lives. Use these gifts, and use us messy people, for the rebuilding of a world of hope and healing in your name, Amen.

Sending

***Closing Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #450

“Be Thou My Vision”

Charge and Blessing

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Announcements

Last Sunday of the Month Potluck Luncheon September 29 - Our last Sunday of the month potluck will be held today after worship. This is our last potluck until January.

Thornwell Orphanage - Today is the last day to donate to Thornwell Orphanage. You may use the Thornwell envelopes in the friendship pads or a regular offering envelope.

It's Pumpkin Time! - We have a confirmed delivery date of October 4 at 4:00 p.m. Come one, come all! Please bring a wheel barrow or wagon, if you have one. Please contact Shawn Brecht at 904.718.3128 or Wayne Barnes at 904.537.6520 if you can help. We have lots to do this week....set up tents, lay out pallets, make photo opportunities, unload & sell pumpkins, and have a great outreach fun time.

Pumpkin Patch October 5 - 31 - Volunteers are needed for our annual pumpkin patch. Hours for the pumpkin patch are Monday- Friday 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., and Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. A volunteer sign-up sheet is available in the narthex. If you have any questions, please see Shawn Brecht.

Peace and Global Witness Offering October 6 - On Sunday, October 6, we will accept offerings for the Peace and Global Witness offering. This offering supports peacemaking work. 25% of our offering stays at Kirkwood to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our community. Please use the special envelopes on the table in the back of the church or note on your offering envelope that your offering is for Peace and Global Witness Offering.

Exchange Club Shoe Donation October 6 and 13 - On October 6 and 13, please bring any gently used shoes (or even new shoes) you may have and wish to donate. The shoes will go to needy families in Jacksonville. The shoe drive is under the leadership of the Exchange Club. They ask that if the pair of shoes have laces, the two shoes be tied together. Help those in need right in our own community!

Bunko October 12 - The next Bunko night will be held on Saturday, October 12, at 6:00 p.m. No experience is needed and it is fun for all ages. The entrance fee is \$10.00 per person and includes dessert. All proceeds go to the church's building and grounds fund.

Disaster Supply Kit Checklist - FloridaDisaster.org is a website with disaster preparedness tips, as well as a disaster supply kit checklist. You can find the checklist as well as other information at <https://www.floridadisaster.org/>. The checklist is available 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](#) or by scanning the QR code to the right.



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