



Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 26, 2025

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Gathering

Welcome and Ministry Announcements

Dr. Yvan Kelly

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

***Opening Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #1

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!”

***Call to Worship** (Based on Psalm 36)

Worship Leader

Leader: Jesus comes to proclaim good news to us all!

People: Jesus releases those who are captive, gives sight to the blind, helps the oppressed, and declares the year of the Lord’s favor!

Leader: May we go and do likewise, offering hope to a hurting world.

All: And may it all begin with our worship of God.

Gathering Prayer

Wayne Barnes

Call to Confession

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Prayer of Confession

Dr. Yvan Kelly

People: Gracious God, we are far from the people you have called us to be. We are mired in self-centeredness, seeing things only in terms of how they relate to us and our happiness. Turn our hearts to the world around us. Make us more concerned with others, with their welfare and happiness, leaving our own concerns to you, O God. Forgive us for our many mistakes and make us anew we pray.

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

Assurance of Pardon

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Leader: Friends, hear the Good News! The Holy Spirit was poured out for all of us.

People: The weakest of us is still indispensable to the body of Christ, the church.

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

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Wayne Barnes

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

Luke 4:14-21

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Message

“The Spirit of Liberation”

Dr. Yvan Kelly

***Middle Hymn**

“Open the Eyes of My Heart”

***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: Gracious God, whose love is so extravagant, we dedicate these gifts to you. May they go to share your love and care with the world. Amen.

Sending

***Closing Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #306 v. 1, 3, & 5

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

Charge and Blessing

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Announcements

Winter Stated Meeting of the Presbytery February 1 - The Winter Stated Meeting of the Presbytery will be held on Saturday, February 1, at 9:30 a.m. at Montgomery Center, 88 SE 75th St, Starke, FL 32091.

Thrivent Card Drive Ends February 2 - Thrivent is helping spread the love this Valentine's Day by participating in a Valentine's Day card collection drive for our military men and women stationed out of Mayport Naval Station. Each card can be:

- ❖ Store-bought or handmade
- ❖ It is best to keep it general in the note- "Thank you for your service"
- ❖ Cards will be going to men/women
- ❖ An envelope may be included but not necessary and not sealed
- ❖ If you want to include a return address you may, if you choose

Cards must be turned in to the Kirkwood church office no later than **Sunday, February 2**, so that we can get them to the Thrivent office in time for them to distribute them.

Bunko February 8 - The next Bunko night will be held on Saturday, February 8, 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.

Office Closed February 17 - The church office will be closed on Monday, February 17, in observance of Presidents' Day.

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.



Song credits: "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!" – Public Domain, Descant David McKinley Williams ©1948, ren. H.W. Gray Co., Inc. Used by Permission. CCLI License #11509317; "Open the Eyes of My Heart" – Paul Baloche © 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. Used by permission. CCLI License #11509317; "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" – Public Domain.



Kirkwood Presbyterian Church
Phone/Fax: 904.777.0006 | website: www.kirkwoodchurch.org
Dr. Yvan Kelly | E-mail: ykelly@bellsouth.net