



Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, May 18, 2025

5th Sunday of Easter

Gathering

Welcome and Ministry Announcements

Dr. Yvan Kelly

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

***Opening Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #273

“He Is King of Kings”

***Call to Worship** (from Psalm 148)

Worship Leader

Leader: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

People: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

Leader: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

People: Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

People: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

All: He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

A Time for Children

Dr. Yvan Kelly

(Children will go to Sunday School)

Gathering Prayer

Kylie Barnes

Call to Confession

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Prayer of Confession

Dr. Yvan Kelly

People: Loving God, you call us to your merciful, gracious love, given without expectation or strings attached. While we are eager to experience your mercy and grace in our own lives, we make our mercy and grace conditional for others.

We would rather show mercy to those we judge worthy, forgetting the new commandment to love as you have loved us. We would rather extend grace to those who will show us grace in return, missing the trustworthy and true nature of your forgiveness. Forgive us, redeeming God. And transform our hearts with your amazing grace and unconditional love so that our relationships and your world are transformed.

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

*please stand

Leader: Friends, hear the Good News! The old life has passed away, and a new life has begun.

People: Grace flows like a river of new life.

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

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

Word

First Lesson

Acts 11:1-18

Kylie Barnes

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

John 13:31-35

Dr. Yvan Kelly

When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Message

“As I Have Loved You”

Dr. Yvan Kelly

***Middle Hymn**

“The Lion and the Lamb”

***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.**

Recognition of Graduates

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: Generous God, receive these gifts that we place before your throne. Do more with them than we can imagine, furthering the holy work of your kingdom in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who revealed to us the truth of your loving commands. Amen.

Sending

***Closing Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #418

“Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling”

Charge and Blessing

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Announcements

Recognition of Graduates - Today, we recognize those from our church who graduated this past year. Congratulations to Kylie Barnes, Katelyn Broderson, Ashley Luttrell, and Paige Rhody, all of whom graduated from college.

Session Meeting May 27 - The Session will meet on Tuesday, May 27, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Annual Yard Sale May 31 - Our Annual Yard Sale is Saturday, May 31. Start cleaning out your closets now! We will also need volunteers to help set up, organize, work at the Yard Sale, and break it down. Look for sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

Pentecost Special Offering June 8 - Pentecost celebrates the renewal of the relationship between God and the community of faith. Your Pentecost offering gift helps provide opportunities for young people to grow and share in their faith in Christ. 40% of your offering stays with Kirkwood for ministries with children, youth, and young adults. Please use the special Pentecost envelopes in the pew folders or mark on your offering envelope "Pentecost Offering".

Bunko June 14 - The next Bunko night is scheduled for Saturday, June 14, at 6:00 p.m. No experience is needed, and it is fun for all ages. A \$10.00 donation is asked for each person and includes dessert. All proceeds go to the church's building and grounds fund.

Vacation Bible School June 25 - 27 - VBS News... Let's Get This Party Started! Vacation Bible School will be held on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, June 25, 26, & 27 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The registration fee is \$10.00. Registration forms are available on the table in the narthex and in tomorrow's newsletter. Space is limited, so sign up today!

April 2025 Pledges

Actual Received\$6701.46

Amount Pledged\$6428.00

Difference+\$ 273.46

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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