



Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 21, 2025

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering

Welcome and Ministry Announcements

Dr. Yvan Kelly

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

***Opening Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #458 (2x)

“Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet”

***Call to Worship**

Worship Leader

Leader: Turn us, O God,

People: away from the world’s temptations and distractions.

Leader: Return us, O God,

People: to the quiet calm of your presence.

Leader: Restore us, O God,

People: to the path you call us to follow.

Leader: Orient us, O God,

All: to the hope of all that is possible through you.

A Time for Children

Dr. Yvan Kelly

(Children will go to Sunday School)

Gathering Prayer

Frances Collins

Call to Confession

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Prayer of Confession

Dr. Yvan Kelly

People: God, you lift up the lowly and hold out hope to the hopeless. Yet we who receive your grace so freely do not follow your example. We are quick to judge, eager to criticize, and slow to show mercy. We keep for ourselves what was meant to be shared. We diminish those around us. God of us all, hear this confession. We ask for your forgiveness.

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

Assurance of Pardon

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Leader: Friends, hear the Good News! God’s grace is plentiful for all of us.

People: Through forgiveness, we are free to help those in need.

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

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

*please stand

Word

Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Frances Collins

My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick. Hark, the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land: “Is the Lord not in Zion? Is her King not in her?” (“Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?”) “The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.” For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt, I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me. Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored?

O that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of my poor people!

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Lesson

Luke 16:1-13

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Message

“The Surprising Commendation”

Dr. Yvan Kelly

***Middle Hymn**

“Ancient of Days”

***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: Generous God, what we place before you is only a fraction of all you have entrusted to us. Receive these gifts and multiply them for your purpose. Let our offerings become a source of blessing for those in greatest need. May the act of giving foster in us a deeper desire to share. 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

It's Pumpkin Time! - Anyone interested in helping with the Pumpkin Patch, please get in touch with Shawn Brecht at 904.718.3128 or Wayne Barnes at 904.537.6520. There is a lot to do in a few short weeks... set up tents, lay out pallets, make photo opportunities, unload pumpkins on Friday, October 3, at 3:30 p.m., sell pumpkins, and have a fun outreach time.

Pumpkin Patch October 4 - 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 Special Offering October 5 - On Sunday, October 5, World Communion Sunday, 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 offering envelopes provided in the friendship pads or note "Peace Offering" on your check.

Potluck Luncheon October 5 - Following worship on Sunday, October 5, we will have a potluck luncheon. Everyone is invited to attend. If you plan on attending this time for food and fellowship, please bring a dish to share.

Bunko October 11 - The next Bunko night is scheduled for Saturday, October 11, at 6:00 p.m. No experience is required, 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.

Session Meeting October 12 - The Session will meet on Sunday, October 12, following worship.

Assistance Needed with Mowing - Volunteers are needed to help mow the yard. The mowing doesn't have to be done on a Saturday, and you don't have to mow the whole property. If you can help at any time, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex. If you have any questions, please call or text Shawn at 904.718.3128 or Larry Hadrava at 904.476.9398.

August 2025

Actual Received	\$6390.73
Amount Pledged	\$6428.00
Difference	-\$ 37.27

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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