



## **Kirkwood Presbyterian Church**

Sunday, November 23, 2025

Christ the King Sunday

### **Gathering**

**Welcome and Ministry Announcements**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ**

**\*Opening Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #367 v. 1, 3, & 4

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

**\*Call to Worship** (based on Luke 1)

Worship Leader

Leader: We gather to worship God, who looks favorably on all of creation.

**People: We sing blessings to God, who stands with us for justice and salvation.**

Leader: We gather to worship God, who worked with many prophets in every time and place.

**People: We sing blessings to God, who makes faithful promises, to us and our ancestors.**

Leader: We gather to worship God, whose tenderness we see shining in the breaking of dawn.

**All: We sing blessings to God, who guides our feet on paths of peace.**

**A Time for Children**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

(Children will go to Sunday School)

**Gathering Prayer**

David Christian

**Call to Confession**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

**Prayer of Confession**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

**People: O God of justice and mercy, you call us to be shepherds who gather and protect those more vulnerable than ourselves. We speak of your justice, but our actions continue to leave others scattered on the edges of society. In the name of our own safety, we shield ourselves from others, push them away with closed doors, hostile looks, and insensitive questions. We have still absorbed the desire for king-like power. We remain tempted by the dream of the Good Life, where goodness for some only comes at the expense of many. Raise us up, O God, from our willful ignorance; bring us back into the fold; help us shepherd in a life that reflects your promises.**

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

\*please stand

Leader: Friends, hear the good news! Jesus' death and resurrection confirm God's faithfulness.

**People: God forgives us and calls us to keep striving.**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news!

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **Word**

### **Old Testament Lesson**

Jeremiah 23:1-6

David Christian

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **New Testament Lesson**

Colossians 1:11-20

Dr. Yvan Kelly

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Message**

**“Held by a Different Kind of King”**

**Dr. Yvan Kelly**

**\*Middle Hymn**

**“Desert Song”**

**\*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: Bless these gifts, God who fills our lives with joy and hope; use them to fulfill your promises and bring your kingdom to all creation. Amen.**

### **Sending**

**\*Closing Hymn**

**Glory to God Hymnal #336**

**“We Gather Together”**

**Charge and Blessing**

**Dr. Yvan Kelly**

## **Announcements**

**Pledge Cards** - If you have not yet turned in your pledge card, please do so. The pledge cards help in planning next year's budget.

**Angel Tree** - Thank you to everyone who took a tag. There is one tag left. Let's make sure all 20 kids have a wonderful Christmas. All gifts are due back by Wednesday, December 10.

Guidelines for purchasing gifts:

- Do not wrap any gifts, but put them in a bag (store bag or trash bag) and attach the Angel Gift tag to the bag
- Do not include gift cards, candy, food, money, or used items.

**Greening of the Church Today!** - Everyone is invited to stay after worship today and help decorate the church for Christmas.

**Breakfast with Santa Candy Donations Needed** - We are accepting individually wrapped candy for the goodie bags. Please bring your candy to the church office.

**Breakfast with Santa December 6** - Join us on Saturday, December 6, for Kirkwood's Annual Breakfast with Santa from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.; pictures with Santa from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Reservation forms are in tomorrow's newsletter and on the narthex table.

**Session Meeting December 7** - The December Session meeting will be held after worship at the home of Yvette Grant, 1461 Tomcat Drive, Jacksonville, 32221.

**Bunko December 13** - The next Bunko night is scheduled for Saturday, December 13, 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/grounds fund.

**Congregational Meeting December 14** - There will be a congregational meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, December 14. The purpose is to elect new Session members and present next year's budget.

**Presbyterian Women's Christmas Party December 21** - On Sunday, December 21, at 11:30 a.m., the women will meet at the home of Lisa Christian, 3486 Worthington Oaks Drive, Orange Park, FL, 32065. Please bring a gift valued at \$20.00 for the White Elephant Gift Exchange. There is a sign-up sheet clipboard in the Narthex.

If you joined in the Secret Sister Fun, bring your Secret Sister her Christmas gift, and we will have our Secret Sister reveal. We will have a Secret Sister sign-up sheet for 2026!

**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: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" – Public Domain; "Desert Song" - Brooke Ligertwood © 2008 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia. Used by Permission. CCLI License #11509317; "We Gather Together" – Public Domain. Liturgy adopted from the Presbyterian Outlook.



Kirkwood Presbyterian Church  
Phone: 904.777.0006 | website: [www.kirkwoodchurch.org](http://www.kirkwoodchurch.org)  
Dr. Yvan Kelly | E-mail: [ykelly@bellsouth.net](mailto:ykelly@bellsouth.net)