



## Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 28, 2025

1st Sunday of Christmas

### Gathering

**Welcome and Ministry Announcements**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ**

**\*Opening Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #133 v. 1, 3, & 4

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

**\*Call to Worship**

Worship Leader

Leader: Wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.”

**People: On this first Sunday of Christmas, we, too, have come to worship Jesus the Messiah: the son of David, the son of Abraham.**

Leader: When the wise men saw the child with Mary, his mother, they knelt down, paid him homage, and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

**People: On this first Sunday of Christmas, we offer ourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to you, O God.**

Leader: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.

**All: Glory to God in the highest heaven!**

**A Time for Children**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

(Children will go to Sunday School)

**Gathering Prayer**

Lois Morse

**Call to Confession**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

**Prayer of Confession**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

**People: God of Christmas, we would never have thought to find our Savior in an innocent baby. We confess we would have expected a warrior with a great army. We would not have thought to find your kingdom to be one of service, obedience, and humility. We confess we would have expected a kingdom that reflected our own values and self-interests. Lord, forgive us when we quickly leave Christmas behind and neglect to live lives worthy of our calling as followers of our Lord, the Prince of Peace. Help us turn to you and live according to the values of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.**

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

Leader: The angel said to Joseph, “She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

**People: Indeed, he did and still does.**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

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

**Word**

**Old Testament Lesson**

Isaiah 63:7-9

Lois Morse

I will recount the gracious deeds  
of the Lord,  
the praiseworthy acts of  
the Lord,  
because of all that the Lord  
has done for us,  
and the great favor to  
the house of Israel  
that he has shown them according  
to his mercy,  
according to the abundance of  
his steadfast love.

For he said, “Surely they are my people,  
children who will not deal falsely”;  
and he became their savior  
in all their distress.  
It was no messenger or angel  
but his presence that saved them;  
in his love and in his pity  
he redeemed them;  
he lifted them up and  
carried them all the days of old.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**New Testament Lesson**

Matthew 2:13-23

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

“A voice was heard in Ramah,  
wailing and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called

Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazorean.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.      **People: Thanks be to God.**

**Message**      “A New Testament Exodus”      Dr. Yvan Kelly

**\*Middle Hymn**      “Desert Song”

**\*Affirmation of Faith**      Apostles’ Creed

<b>I BELIEVE</b> <b>in God the Father, Almighty,</b> <b>Maker of heaven and earth;</b> <b>and in Jesus Christ,</b> <b>his only Son our Lord;</b> <b>who was conceived by</b> <b>the Holy Ghost,</b> <b>born of the Virgin Mary,</b> <b>suffered under Pontius Pilate,</b> <b>was crucified, dead, and buried;</b> <b>he descended into hell;</b> <b>the third day he rose again</b>	<b>from the dead;</b> <b>he ascended into heaven,</b> <b>and sitteth on the right hand of God</b> <b>the Father Almighty;</b> <b>from thence he shall come to judge</b> <b>the quick and the dead.</b> <b>I believe in the Holy Ghost;</b> <b>the holy catholic Church;</b> <b>the communion of saints;</b> <b>the forgiveness of sins;</b> <b>the resurrection of the body;</b> <b>and the life everlasting. Amen.</b>
--	--

### **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 and loving God, in this season of giving and receiving gifts, we thank you for your indescribable gift of your only Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. With gratitude and joy, we bring our tithes and offerings today. With your blessing, may they be multiplied and used to share the good news and love of Jesus Christ. Thank you, God, for your many blessings and your claim on our lives. In Jesus’s name we pray. Amen.**

### **Sending**

**\*Closing Hymn**      Glory to God Hymnal #134 v. 1, 3, & 4      “Joy to the World”

**Charge and Blessing**      Dr. Yvan Kelly

## **Announcements**

**Session Members Installation and Ordination January 4** - The following were elected to the Class of 2028 Session: Mike Brodersen, Kathy Foresi, and Lois Morse. Michael Eicholtz is fulfilling a term vacated in the class of 2026. Installation and ordination of these members will take place on Sunday, January 4, 2026, during worship.

**Holiday Office Hours** - The church office will be closed this Thursday, January 1.

**Bunko January 10** - The next Bunko night is scheduled for Saturday, January 10, at 6:00 p.m. No experience is required, and it's fun for all ages. A \$10.00 donation is asked from each person and includes dessert.

**OneBlood Blood Drive January 11** - On Sunday, January 11, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., the Big Red Bus will be in the parking lot holding a blood drive. All donors will receive a \$20 eGift card, a long-sleeved T-shirt, and a wellness check-up. Sign up in advance at [oneblood.org/donate-now](https://oneblood.org/donate-now) and use sponsor code 31712.

**Session Retreat January 17** - The Session will meet on Saturday, January 17, at 10:00 a.m. at 10151 Deerwood Park Blvd, Bldg. 300, Ste. 235 for the Session Retreat.

**Church Office Closed January 19** - The church office will be closed on Monday, January 19, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. 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: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" – Public Domain; "Desert Song" - Brooke Ligertwood © 2008 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia. Used by Permission. CCLI License #11509317; "Joy to the World"- 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)