



Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 15, 2026

4th Sunday in Lent

Gathering

Welcome and Ministry Announcements

Dr. Yvan Kelly

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

***Opening Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #188

“Jesus Loves Me”

***Call to Worship (based on Psalm 146)**

Worship Leader

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

People: I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to God all my life long.

Leader: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord:

People: Who made heaven and earth, and all that is in them.

Leader: Who executes justice for the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

People: The Lord sets the prisoner free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

Leader: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

People: The Lord watches over the strangers and upholds the orphan and the widow,

Leader: But the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

All: The Lord will reign forever. Praise the Lord!

A Time for Children

Dr. Yvan Kelly

(Children will go to Sunday School)

Gathering Prayer

Fran McCormick

Call to Confession

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Prayer of Confession

Dr. Yvan Kelly

People: Almighty and merciful God, we continue to want more, blind to the blessings we already have. We want everything now, blind to the value of patience and hard work. We take so much pride in our own accomplishments that we are blind to people in need. Forgive us! Cleanse us. Help us see the world with your eyes so that we can be people of gratitude, courage, and compassion, because of what we see in Jesus our Lord.

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

*please stand

Assurance of Pardon

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Leader: Friends, hear the good news! We have been made right with God through faith.

People: We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: Friends, believe the good news!

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

Word

Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 23

Fran McCormick

The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want.
He makes me lie down
in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through
the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff -
they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy
shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the
house of the Lord
my whole life long.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Lesson

John 9:1-41

Dr. Yvan Kelly

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I

washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Message

“Seeing What Matters Most”

Dr. Yvan Kelly

***Middle Hymn**

“Still Waters”

***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**

Fran McCormick

People: What words can we use to thank you? Accept the gifts we give today to be for your glory and the good of your people, because of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sending

***Closing Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #370

“This Is My Father’s World”

Charge and Blessing

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Announcements

Candy Collection for the Easter Egg Hunt - We are collecting individually wrapped candy for the Easter Egg Hunt. If you would like to donate candy, please bring it in and place it in the marked box in the office.

Session Meeting March 15 - The Session will meet after worship today.

Church Clean-up March 21 - Saturday, March 21, is church cleanup day to prepare the grounds for Easter. Be at the church by 8:00 a.m. with rakes, shovels, and trash bags. Trimming tools are also helpful for cleaning the memorial garden and other flower beds. We plan to finish up around noon.

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt March 28 - Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 28. Breakfast is from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., pictures with the Easter Bunny are from 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., and the Easter egg hunt is promptly at 10:30 a.m. A registration form can be found on the table in the narthex and in tomorrow's newsletter. Be sure to bring your own basket for the egg hunt.

One Great Hour of Sharing February 18 - April 5 - Join with Presbyterians worldwide in responding to Christ's call to ministries of compassion. Use the special envelopes in the friendship pads to give to this offering. To teach children about giving to this special offering, use the items on the table. Flyers containing more information about One Great Hour of Sharing can be found on the table in the back of the sanctuary. You can also visit pcusa.org/special-offerings/one-great-hour-sharing to learn more.

Maundy Thursday Service April 2 - On Thursday, April 2, at 7:00 p.m., we will have a Maundy Thursday service with communion. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Good Friday April 3 - The church office will be closed on Friday, April 3.

Easter Sunday Services April 5 - On Sunday, April 5, we will have two services and a continental breakfast in between:

Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m. in the Memory Garden

Easter Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary

Broken to Beautiful Support Group Meeting April 9 - The Broken to Beautiful Support Group will meet on Thursday, April 9, at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

February 2026

Actual Received	\$ 8,795.47
Amount Pledged	\$ 7,425.83
Difference	+\$ 1,379.64

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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