



## Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 22, 2026

5th Sunday in Lent

### Gathering

**Welcome and Ministry Announcements**

Fran McCormick

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ**

**\*Opening Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #192  
“Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining *Shine, Jesus, Shine*”

**\*Call to Worship** (based on Psalm 130)

Worship Leader

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice.

**People: Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.**

Leader: If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**People: But with you there is forgiveness; therefore, you are revered.**

Leader: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word, I put my hope.

**All: For with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full Redemption.**

**A Time for Children**

Kathy Foresi

(Children will go to Sunday School)

**Gathering Prayer**

Don Kent

**Call to Confession**

Fran McCormick

**Prayer of Confession**

Fran McCormick

**People: Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus our Savior.**

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

**Assurance of Pardon**

Fran McCormick

Leader: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

**People: The old life has gone, a new life has begun.**

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Be at peace. Thanks be to God.**

\*please stand

## Word

**Old Testament Lesson**

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Don Kent

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**New Testament Lesson**

John 11:1-45

Fran McCormick

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him,

“Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Message** "Can You Define Resurrection?" Fran McCormick  
**\*Middle Hymn** "Come Jesus Come"  
**\*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: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness, you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered in feeding the world with your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

### **Sending**

**\*Closing Hymn** Glory to God Hymnal #39 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

**Charge and Blessing** Fran McCormick

## 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.

**Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt March 28** - Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt will be held this Saturday, March 28. Breakfast is from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., pictures with the Easter Bunny are from 10:00 a.m. to 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.

**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

**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](http://pcusa.org/special-offerings/one-great-hour-sharing) to learn more.

**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.

**Bunko April 11** - The next Bunko night is scheduled for Saturday, April 11, 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.

**Session Meeting April 12** - The Session will meet after worship on Sunday, April 12.

**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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