



Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday

Gathering

Welcome and Ministry Announcements

Dr. Yvan Kelly

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

***Opening Hymn** Glory to God Hymnal #196 v. 1, 2, & 4

“All Glory, Laud and Honor”

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

Worship Leader

Leader: “Hosanna!” They shouted. “Save us!”

People: “Hosanna!” We’re shouting. “Save us!”

Leader: Savior, ride into our hearts again,

People: wash us with excitement and hope,

Leader: give us a reason to praise

All: and to shout again, “Hosanna! Hosanna!”

A Time for Children

Dr. Yvan Kelly

(Children will go to Sunday School)

Gathering Prayer

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Call to Confession

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Prayer of Confession

Dr. Yvan Kelly

People: Holy Christ, we confess that amidst all the Palm Sunday crowds, we find ourselves in more turmoil than triumph. Our faith is unsteady. Our wisdom is eroding. Our resolve is shaken. Our mercy is hardening. Our hope is weakening. Come again and save us from these sins. Give us strength to follow you, our humble Savior, our all in all.

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

Assurance of Pardon

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Leader: Hear this promise: Jesus has set his face toward the cross.

People: Nothing we can do can deter him.

Leader: He has determined that we are worth saving.

People: By the power of the cross, by the power of wondrous love, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

*please stand

Word

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Dr. Yvan Kelly

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him - so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals - so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate. Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Lesson

Matthew 21:1-11

Fran McCormick

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.'" And he will

send them immediately.” This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

“Tell the daughter of Zion,

Look, your king is coming to you,

humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Message

“What Happened?”

Fran McCormick

Baptism of Sophia Grace Christian

***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.**

***Middle Hymn**

“Touch the Sky”

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: Holy one, we can offer only what we have at hand: cloaks and palm fronds to line your path, and our ordinary sacrifices. Accept these gifts, and transform them, that we may share in your great work of love. Amen.

Sending

***Closing Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #462

“I Love to Tell the Story”

Charge and Blessing

Fran McCormick

Announcements



New Worship Service Sign-in Procedure and Church Logo - Beginning today, you will have a new way to sign in on Sunday mornings. On the front corner of each black pew folder and to the right, there is a QR code. When you scan this QR code with your smartphone, it will take you to the church's website, where you can sign in on Sunday mornings, give online, and more. Eventually, we will discontinue the paper pad and use the QR code only. If you have any questions or are having trouble signing in with your smartphone, please talk to Michael Eicholtz.

We also have a new logo. It replaces the PC(USA) seal. The new logo is more personalized to Kirkwood.

Baptism of Sophia Christian - This morning, David and Alyssa Christian II are presenting their daughter, Sophia Grace Christian, for baptism.

Maundy Thursday Service April 2 - This 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 this Friday, April 3.

Easter Sunday Services April 5 - On Easter 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 April 5 - Join with Presbyterians worldwide in responding to Christ's call to ministries of compassion. To give to this offering, you can use the special envelopes in the friendship pads or the tab on the website. You can also visit 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, mail it, or use our online giving portal, which can be accessed [here](#) or by scanning the QR code at the top of this page.

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