



## **Kirkwood Presbyterian Church**

Sunday, April 26, 2026

4th Sunday of Easter

### **Gathering**

**Welcome and Ministry Announcements**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ**

**\*Opening Hymn**

“Rest on Us”

**\*Call to Worship**

Worship Leader

Leader: Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!

**People: Behold! The Savior of the world is risen!**

Leader: Fling wide the portals of your hearts: Let us feel the presence of God’s grace and love!

**People: O Holy Spirit, lead us on in worship;**

**All: Call us each by name, that we may give God glory!**

**A Time for Children**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

(Children will go to Sunday School)

**Gathering Prayer**

Kathy Foresi

**Call to Confession**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

**Prayer of Confession**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

**People: Gracious God, from before the foundation of the world, you called us by name and pledged to us your steadfast love. But like ornery sheep, we stray from the fold. You offer to lead us, but we prefer to lead ourselves. Jesus laid down his life, yet we refuse to lay down our phones, our plans, our pride. Forgive us, O God. Call us back to the open gate of Christ’s redeeming love. Let us be your community and find restoration for our souls, reconciliation with our enemies, and the glory of abiding with you forevermore.**

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

\*please stand

## Assurance of Pardon

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Leader: The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were sinners, Christ came to us; Christ died for us; and Christ rose from the dead,

**People: so that the gates of heaven may be thrown open wide and all of creation renewed.**

Leader: So believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## Word

### Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 23:1-6

Kathy Foresi

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 10:1-10

Dr. Yvan Kelly

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Message**

“The Shepherd and the Gate”

Dr. Yvan Kelly

**\*Middle Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #442

“Just as I am, without One Plea”

**\*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: Shepherding God, you lead us, guard us, prepare us, and preserve us. We have responded by giving back to you what has come from you. Bless these gifts, and multiply them in the life of your church, so that the gates of salvation may be flung wide, and all your community may know the love and the peace that is ours in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

### **Sending**

**\*Closing Hymn**

“Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

**Charge and Blessing**

Dr. Yvan Kelly

## Announcements

**Bunko May 9** - The next Bunko night is scheduled for Saturday, May 9, 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. Prizes are awarded at the end of the evening.

**First Coast Women's Services Baby Bottle Campaign May 10 - June 21** - Support the life-saving work of First Coast Women's Services by taking an empty bottle home and bringing it back full of coins, cash, and checks! Bottles will be available on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10. When you fill the baby bottles with coins, cash, and checks, FCWS is able to meet the increasing needs of families facing unplanned pregnancies in our community with these funds. If writing a check, please make the check payable to **First Coast Women's Services**.

**Broken to Beautiful Support Group Meeting May 14** - The Broken to Beautiful Support Group will meet on Thursday, May 14, at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

**OneBlood Blood Drive May 17** - On Sunday, May 17, the Big Red Bus will be in the parking lot holding a blood drive from 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. To register in advance, please visit <https://www.oneblood.org/donate-now> and use sponsor code 31712. Each donor will receive a \$20 e-gift card, a sunshade, and a wellness check.

**Session Meeting May 17** - The Session will meet on Sunday, May 17, after worship.

**Potluck Luncheon May 17** - After worship on Sunday, May 17, there will be a potluck luncheon. Please bring a dish to share if you plan on attending.

**No Adult Sunday School May 24** - There will be no adult Sunday school on Sunday, May 24.

**Sign in and Financial Giving** - To sign in, scan the QR code. You may also donate by scanning the QR code, placing your offering in the offering plate, dropping off a check at the office, mailing it, or using our online giving portal, which can be accessed [here](#).



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