



Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, May 17, 2026

7th Sunday after Easter

Gathering

Welcome and Ministry Announcements Dr. Yvan Kelly

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

***Opening Hymn** “Chain Breaker”

***Call to Worship (from Psalm 68)** Worship Leader

Leader: O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness, the earth quaked,

People: the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

Leader: Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad; you restored your heritage when it languished; your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

All: Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

A Time for Children Dr. Yvan Kelly
(Children will go to Sunday School)

Gathering Prayer Don Kent

Call to Confession Dr. Yvan Kelly

Prayer of Confession Dr. Yvan Kelly

People: Eternal God, you have loved us from generation to generation. You have shown your faithfulness more often than we can recall. The Bible tells us of your mercy. You even pray for us. Yet we live holding on to past hurts; in doing so, we are not open to becoming your new creation. We prefer the safety of what we know to the commitment of discipleship. Forgive us, we pray, and make us again as you would have us be. We make all of our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ.

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

Assurance of Pardon (from 2 Corinthians) Dr. Yvan Kelly

Leader: We know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence.

People: Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

*please stand

Leader: Believe the promise of the gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

Word

First Reading

Acts 1:6-14

Don Kent

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

John 17:1-11

Yvan Kelly

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Message

“Held Together in Prayer”

Yvan Kelly

***Middle Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #331

“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”

***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: With abundance upon abundance, Almighty God, you have seen to our needs. As we return this portion of our wealth, we offer these prayers, and we remember our commitment to know you, to love you, and to serve you. Bless these gifts, multiply and use them, and may we be blessed ourselves as we see your work in our midst, Amen.

Sending

***Closing Hymn**

“Above All”

Charge and Blessing

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Announcements

OneBlood Blood Drive May 17 - This morning, 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. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Session Meeting May 17 - The Session will meet after worship today.

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

Pentecost Sunday May 24 - Please wear red next Sunday, May 24, in observance of Pentecost.

Movie Night June 6 - Join us on Saturday, June 6, for movie night - more details to come.

Broken to Beautiful Support Group Meeting June 11 - The Broken to Beautiful Support Group will meet on Thursday, June 1,1 at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Bunko June 13 - The next Bunko night is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 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.

First Coast Women's Services Baby Bottle Campaign Ends 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 are available today on the table in the narthex. They are due back on Father's Day, June 21. 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**.

Sign-in and Financial Giving - To sign in, scan the QR code to the right or the one on the front of the pew folder. 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, available [here](#).



Song credits: "Chain Breaker" – Jonathan Smith, Mia Fieldes, and Zach Williams © 2015 Anthems of Hope; Be Essential Songs; Cashagamble Jet Music; Hipgnosis Songs Essential; So Essential Tunes; Upside Down Under; Wisteria Drive; "God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand" – Public Domain; "Above All" - Lenny LeBlanc and Paul Baloche © 1999 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Leadworship Songs; LenSongs Publishing. Opening and Closing hymns used by permission. CCLI License #11509317. Liturgy adopted from the Presbyterian Outlook.



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