# Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 8, 2026
24th Sunday after Pentecost

## Gathering

**Welcome and Ministry Announcements** Dr. Yvan Kelly

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

***Opening Hymn** "The Goodness of Jesus"

***Call to Worship** (from Psalm 78) Worship Leader

Leader: Give ear, O my people, and listen to the words of my mouth
**People: We will tell the coming generations of the Lord's glorious deeds and the wonders God has done.**
Leader: Let us set our hope in God and not forget the works of the Lord.
**People: As we wait, we will tell the story and keep the commandments.**
**All: We come together to worship the living God. Amen.**

**A Moment for Stewardship** Lynne Barnes

**A Time for Children** Dr. Yvan Kelly

(Children will go to Sunday School)

**Gathering Prayer** Lynne Barnes

**Call to Confession** Dr. Yvan Kelly

**Prayer of Confession** Dr. Yvan Kelly

**People: God of grace, we have sinned against you by not honoring you or loving one another. We fall short in our preparations for your return. We fail to share what you have provided. We have lost our hope. Forgive our sinful ways, change our pride, and make us more like Christ. Inspire us by your Spirit so that we will be prepared to welcome the Lord when he appears. May our lives here and now be a glimpse of what we hope all may one day enjoy.**

Leader: Please continue in silent confession….Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon** Dr. Yvan Kelly

Leader: Friends, hear these words, and listen to this good news:
**People: Jesus died and rose again.**
Leader: He will bring with him both those who have died and those who are alive.
**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.**

*please stand

# Word

**Old Testament Reading** Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 Lynne Barnes

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors - Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor - lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Reader: The word of the Lord.
**People: Thanks be to God.**

**New Testament Reading** 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Dr. Yvan Kelly

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are

left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader: The word of the Lord.
**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Message** "Waiting for the Arrival" Dr. Yvan Kelly

***Middle Hymn** "God Is For Us"

**New Member Received**

***Affirmation of Faith** (from the Confession of 1967)

**Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ, such as a heavenly city, the household of God, a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast and an unending day culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents God's triumph over all that resists the divine will and disrupts God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.**

## 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: We give you thanks, O God, for the many blessings that you have given us. Receive these gifts as symbols of the dedication of our lives and signs of trust in your justice and peace. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

## Sending

***Closing Hymn** "That's My King"

**Charge and Blessing** Dr. Yvan Kelly

# Announcements

**New Member** - This morning, Kirkwood welcomes Ann Hadrava-Gstohl, who is transferring from San Mateo Presbyterian Church. Please welcome her to our congregation.

**Pumpkin Patch Contest** - Next year is the 10th anniversary of the Pumpkin Patch. We want to make some commemorative T-shirts. We are planning to use an orange T-shirt, so take that into consideration when designing your image. See Shawn Brecht for more information.

**Church Luncheon November 8** - Today at noon, the church luncheon is at Eagle Landing. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for families to sign up. Order from the menu. Families each pay for their group.

**Broken to Beautiful Support Group Meeting November 12** - The Broken to Beautiful Support Group will meet this Thursday, November 12, at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

**Bunko November 14** - The next Bunko night will be held this Saturday, November 14, 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.

**Dedication Sunday November 15** - Each of us have gifts of time, talent, and treasure to share with God through the work of Kirkwood Presbyterian Church. This Stewardship season, we invite you to prayerfully reflect in the coming weeks on how best to be a steward of God's grace. Please mark your calendar to join us in making your pledge on Dedication Sunday, November 15, 2026.

**OneBlood Blood Drive November 15** - The Big Red Bus will be in the parking lot holding a blood drive on Sunday, November 15, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sign up in advance at https://www.oneblood.org/donate-now using code 31712.

**Session Meeting November 15** - The Session will meet on November 15 following worship.

**Greening of the Church November 22** - Mark your calendars now! After worship on November 22, we will be greening the church for the Christmas season.

**Breakfast with Santa December 5** - Join us on Saturday, December 5, for Kirkwood's Annual Breakfast with Santa at 9:00 a.m. Reservation forms are in tomorrow's newsletter and on the table in the Narthex.

**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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