



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF  
**KIRKWOOD**

WELCOME TO WORSHIP  
May 18, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.  
The Fifth Sunday of Easter

**Mission:** We are called to be a welcoming and supportive community whose inspiring worship of God encourages everyone to deepen their faith and to respond to the needs of the world with the compassion of Christ.



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

\_\_\_\_\_ **\*Please rise in body or in spirit.** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Chiming of the Hour**

We encourage you to quiet your minds and hearts for worship at this time.

## **Welcome and Announcements**

Sign the Friendship Register at the end of your pew and pass it to your neighbor.

## **Organ Voluntary**

"Benedictus"

Alex Rowley

## **WE ADDRESS OURSELVES TO GOD**

### **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Come, people of God, gather in the presence of Christ,  
who calls us not by status or success, but by name and love.

**People: We come to worship the One who has shown us what love  
looks like. We come, longing to love as Jesus loved.**

Leader: This is a new commandment: not written in stone or scroll,  
but etched on our hearts.

**People: Let us love one another as Christ has loved us, with bold  
compassion, healing grace, and courageous mercy.**

### **\* Processional Hymn**

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

Hymn #14

### **\*Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

**Holy and Loving God, You have shown us what love looks like in  
the life of Jesus, welcoming the outcast, washing tired feet,  
forgiving even from the cross. But we confess, we are slow to love  
like that. We draw lines instead of crossing them. We protect our  
comfort instead of risking for our neighbor. We say love with our  
lips but often fail with our hands and hearts. Forgive us, O God.  
Loosen the grip of fear, pride, or apathy. Unbind our hearts so that  
we may love not just in word but in action, extravagantly,  
inclusively, and without condition.**

### **\*Silent Confessions**

### **\*Assurance of God's Grace**

### **\*Response to Confession**

"We Are Forgiven"

Hymn #447

*We are forgiven. Thanks be to God!*

## **\*The Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us share that peace with one another.

## **A Conversation with Young Disciples**

All children are invited to come forward for the children's message.

## **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

### **Scripture Reading**

Acts 11:1-18; Pew Bible, N.T., pg. 130

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **Anthem**

"Lift Thine Eyes"

Felix Mendelssohn

*Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help.  
Thy help cometh from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.  
He hath said, "Thy foot shall not be moved. Thy Keeper will never slumber."  
Lift thine eyes, O lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help.*

### **Scripture Reading**

John 13:31-35; Pew Bible, N.T., pg. 108

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **Sermon**

*A Love That Redefines*  
Rev'd. Gary Noonan

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

### **\*Hymn**

"We Are One in the Spirit"

Hymn #300

### **Pastoral Prayer**

#### **The Lord's Prayer (Unison)**

**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.**

## Offertory Sentences

### Offertory Anthem

"Matins"

Howard Bright

*Holy, holy, only Thou art holy, Lord God, eternal King.  
Dawn comes faintly, morning blushes faintly, far in the eastern sky.  
Earth is waking, all God's creatures waking, soon night will disappear.  
Morning brightens, now the new day brightens, gilding the sweet seaside.  
Holy, holy, only Thou art holy, Lord God, eternal King.*

### Prayer of Dedication

## WE DEPART TO SERVE THE LORD

### \*Closing Hymn

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

Hymn #318

### \*Benediction

### Choral Response

"May God Support You All Your Days"

David Gambrell

*May God support you all your days,  
in times of gladness and in need.  
May God remember you with grace  
and bless your every word and deed.  
Our hope is in the Holy One.  
The swift and string will surely fall.  
But you will stand with God alone,  
who hears and answers when you call.*

### Organ Voluntary

"Prologue"

William Walton

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#### Worship Leaders:

Rev'd. Gary Noonan, *Senior Pastor*  
Rev. Linda Maconochie, *Interim Associate Pastor*

#### Music Ministry:

Bill Stein, *Director of Music Ministries*;  
Sopranos and Altos of the Chancel Choir

**Cross Bearer:** Gregor Noonan    **Acolyte:** Adrienne Butler

**Ushers:** Missy Wulff, John Becker, Charlene McFarland, Terry McFarland

**Usher Captain:** Art McDonnell    **Livestream Host:** Frank Darr