



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

August 9, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.
The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



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.

First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood
100 E. Adams Ave. Kirkwood, MO 63122 · (314) 965-0326
www.kirkwoodpres.org

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

Andantino

Frank Bridge

WE ADDRESS OURSELVES TO GOD

*Call to Worship

Leader: When life feels secure and when life falls apart, God welcomes our whole and honest selves.

People: We come with our gratitude, our questions, and our grief.

Leader: The psalmist cries, "How long?" and still reaches toward God.

People: We will not hide our pain or silence one another's lament.

Leader: Ruth chooses the road of steadfast love, promising that Naomi will not walk alone.

People: Teach us to remain beside those who need companionship.

Leader: Even in an empty field, a new harvest may already be growing.

People: With courage and hope, let us worship God.

*Hymn

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Hymn #667

*Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Compassionate God, we confess that we often prefer easy answers to honest sorrow. We rush to explain another person's pain, offer cheerful words before we have listened, or step away when faithful companionship becomes costly. We overlook those whose lives have been disrupted by grief, hunger, migration, rejection, or uncertainty. Forgive us when we defend our comfort rather than embodying Your steadfast love. Give us courage to speak our own lament without shame, humility to receive the care of others, and faithfulness to remain beside those who should not have to walk alone. By Your grace, make us a community that listens deeply, loves practically, and trusts that devastation will not have the final word.

*Silent Confessions

***Assurance of God's Grace**

***Response to Confession**

We Are Forgiven
We are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Hymn #447

***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

Psalm 13; Pew Bible, O.T., pg. 494

Leader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Arnold Sherman

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit, a holy spirit in me.
Cast me not from Thy presence but renew a right spirit within me. Restore unto
me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy loving spirit.*

Scripture Reading

Ruth 1:1-22; Pew Bible, O.T., pg. 241

Leader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

When Life Falls Apart
Rev'd Gary Noonan

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***Hymn**

How Long, O God, Will My Prayers Be in Vain?

Hymn #779

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

Gracious Spirit Dwell With Me

K. Lee Scott

*Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be. Help me now Thy grace to see,
I would be like Thee. And, with words that help and heal, Thy life would mine reveal.*

And, with actions bold and meek, for Christ, my Savior, speak.

*Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be. Help me now Thy truth to see,
I would be like Thee. And, with wisdom kind and clear, Thy life in mine appear.*

And, with actions lovingly, speak Christ's sincerity.

*Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be. Show Thy mercy tenderly, make me
more like Thee. Separate from sin, I would and cherish all things good.*

And whatever I can be give Him who gave me Thee.

*Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be. Help me now Thy power to see,
I would be like Thee. Against all weapons hell can wield, be Thou my strength
and shield. Let Thy word by weapon be, Lord, Thine the victory.*

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like Thee!

Prayer of Dedication

WE DEPART TO SERVE THE LORD

*Closing Hymn

For All the Faithful Women

Hymn #324

stanza 1: all stanza 2: high voices stanza 3: low voices stanza 4: all

*Benediction

Choral Response

Threefold Amen

traditional Danish

Organ Voluntary

Allegro Marziale

Frank Bridge

Worship Leaders:

Rev'd Gary Noonan, *Senior Pastor*; JB Lasater, *Liturgist*

Music Ministry:

Bill Stein, *Director of Music Ministries*; Summer Choir

Livestream Host: Richard Jeter **Usher Captain:** Robert Schneider

Ushers: Pam Cooper, Jim Cooper, Cy Woodrome, Julie Woodrome, Wayne Ullery

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Cover image: Ruth Declares her Loyalty to Naomi; Pieter Lastman ca. 1583 – 1633
