First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood

11:00 A.M.
Sunday, November 15, 2020

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome and Announcements

Organ Prelude

“Benedictus”

Alec Rowley

We Address Ourselves to God

Call to Worship

Leader: How shall we enter the house of the Lord?
People: With songs of great praise and rejoicing!
Leader: How shall we prepare ourselves to receive God’s blessings?
People: With hearts, minds, and spirits that are open.
Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord and bow down.
People: Let us offer our praise to God who has redeemed us. Amen!

Hymn

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

Hymn No. 620

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (The people joining)

Great God, our loving Master, you have given us so many good gifts! And the most precious of these is the gift of yourself in Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not always used your gifts in the best way, in your service and in the service of our neighbors. We have not shared freely the Good News of your saving love in Jesus. We have been reluctant to speak of your love to others and to show them your love in our own love. We have been lazy and timid servants, burying the Gospel instead of living in conscious and joyful response to it every day. Forgive us, please, for all our sins. And by your Holy Spirit, help us to receive your forgiveness with joy and with a renewal of our discipleship. We pray trusting in Jesus. Amen.

Silent Confessions

Assurance of Pardon

Response to Confession

“We Are Forgiven”

We are forgiven, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God, 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.

Time for Children
We Hear God's Word

First Reading  
I Thessalonians 5:1-11  
Pew Bible, N.T., pg. 205

Leader: The Word of the Lord.  
People: Thanks be to God.

Bell Anthem  
“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”  
Jason Krug

Second Reading  
Matthew 25:14-30  
Pew Bible, N.T., pg. 28

Leader: The Word of the Lord.  
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon  
“Investing in the Gospel; or, On Not Playing it Safe”  
The Rev. Dr. Alan Meyers

We Respond to God’s Word

Hymn  
“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”  
Hymn No. 716

Pastoral Prayer

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.

Offertory Sentences

Offertory Bell Anthem  
“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”  
Jason Krug

Prayer of Dedication

We Depart to Serve the Lord

Hymn  
“Rejoice, the Lord Is King!”  
Hymn No. 363

Benediction

Organ Postlude  
“Processional”  
William Mathias

Thank you for worshiping with us.

If you would like to be on our email list to receive information on the life of the congregation,  
please email Paula at paulab@kirkwoodpres.org
**PLEASE NOTE:** The days to drop off food for KirkCare and food and school supplies for the Kirkwood School District are now Tuesday and Thursday (no longer Monday and Wednesday) from 9am-12pm.

**ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**

* Christopher Saxton, November 15 & 22 at 9:50am: Christopher Saxton speaks on the life of president Ulysses S. Grant. The Zoom gathering begins at 9:30am. Please email ann.willie@hotmail.com if you have not already been added to the Zoom list.

* The Men's Saturday Morning Bible Study Group meets at 11am on Saturday mornings. Contact Tim Morrison at timothy.lee.morrison@gmail.com to be added to the Zoom invitation list.

**THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, 11/15**

9:50am  Zoom Adult Ed: Christopher Saxton  
11:00am  Live-Streamed Worship Service  
1:00pm  Confirmation Class  
7:00pm  Sr. High Fellowship - Fellowship Hall

**Monday, 11/16**

8:00am  Preschool  
11:30am  Staff Meeting  
5:00pm  Finance & Operations - Zoom  
7:00pm  Interim Search Committee - Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday, 11/17**

7:50pm  Session Meeting - Zoom

**Wednesday, 11/18**

8:00am  Preschool  
10:30am  Spence Wolling Memorial - Live streamed  
12:00pm  Mid-Week Worship Service - Live Streamed  
1:30pm  Book Group - Zoom  
7:00pm  Bell Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

**Thursday, 11/19**

10:00am  Prayer Time in the Sanctuary  
7:00pm  Chancel Octet Rehearsal - Sanctuary

**Friday, 11/20**

8:00am  Preschool

**Saturday, 11/21**

10:00am  Prayer Time - Sanctuary  
11:00am  Zoom Men’s Bible Study

**Sunday, 11/22**

9:30am  Zoom Adult Ed: Christopher Saxton  
11:00am  Live-Streamed Worship Service  
1:00pm  Confirmation Class  
7:00pm  Sr. High Fellowship - Fellowship Hall
Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven
(Psalm 103)

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his
2. Praise him for his grace and favor; to his
3. Father-like, he tends and spares us; well our
4. Angels, help us to adore him; you be-

feet your tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, for
people in distress; praise him still the same as
feeble frame he knows; in his hands he gently
hold him face to face. Sun and moon, bow down be-

given, evermore his praises sing: Alleluia!
ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless: Alleluia!
bears us, rescues us from all our foes. Alleluia!
fore him, dwellers all in time and space: Alleluia!

Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.
Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness.
Alleluia! Wide ly yet his mercy flows.
Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

This free paraphrase of Psalm 103 gains much energy and conviction by including the double “Alleluia!” before the final line of text. That repeated four-note figure descending from the tune’s highest note gives voice to the praise that the rest of the hymn evokes.
God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716

1 God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, nature’s wonder, Jesus’ wisdom, costly Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and freedom, races grace conferred: ours to use for home and kin-dred, and to

end-less store, na-ture’s won-der, Je-sus’ wis-dom, cost-ly Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free-dom, rac-es grace con-fer-red: ours to use for home and kin-dred, and to

2 Skills and time are ours for press-ing toward the goals of cross, grave’s shat-tered door: gift-ed by you, we turn joined, the church made one. Now di-rec-t our dai-ly spread the gos-pel word. O-pen wide our hands in

cross, grave’s shat-tered door: gift-ed by you, we turn joined, the church made one. Now di-rec-t our dai-ly spread the gos-pel word. O-pen wide our hands in

3 Treasure, too, you have en-trust-ed, gain through powers your to you, of-fer-ing up our-selves in praise; thank-ful song shall la-bor, lest we strive for self a-lone. Born with tal-ents, shar-ing, as we heed Christ’s age-less call, heal-ing, teach-ing,

to you, of-fer-ing up our-selves in praise; thank-ful song shall la-bor, lest we strive for self a-lone. Born with tal-ents, shar-ing, as we heed Christ’s age-less call, heal-ing, teach-ing,

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

MUSIC: The Sacred Harp, 1844; harm. James H. Wood, 1958
Rejoice, the Lord Is King!

Descant

1. Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!
2. Our Saviour, Jesus, reigns, the God of truth and love;
3. His kingdom cannot fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven;
4. Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

and gather all the saints to their eternal home.

Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore.
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above.
the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given.
and gather all the saints to their eternal home.

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Each stanza of this enshrinement text prepares for the final line of the refrain, based on Philippians 4:4.
"Lord" is here a title of Christ rather than a reference to the undivided Trinity. The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) captures the mood well.