Welcome and Announcements

Organ Prelude

“We Address Ourselves to God”

Organ Prelude

“Theodore Dubois”

Call to Worship from Psalm 78

Leader: Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
People: I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter dark sayings of old,
Leader: I will utter sayings of old, things that we have heard and known.
People: We will not hide these stories from our children.
Leader: So that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn will rise up and tell them to their children.
ALL: So that they will set their hope in God and keep God’s commandments.

Hymn

“Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers!”

Response to Confession

“We Are Forgiven”

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.

First Reading

“Joshua 24:14-25”

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

“Sleepers, Wake, A Voice is Calling”  
Felix Mendelssohn

Sleepers, wake, a voice is calling. It is the watchman on the walls, thou city of Jerusalem.
For lo, the Bridegroom comes! Arise, and take your lamps. Hallelujah!
Awake! His kingdom is at hand. Go forth to meet your Lord.

Second Reading

Matthew 25:1-13  
Pew Bible, N.T., pg. 28

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

Sermon

“Eyes Wide Open”  
The Rev. Dr. Craig Howard

We Respond to God’s Word

Hymn

“Be Still, My Soul”  
Hymn No. 819

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 Anthem

“Keep Your Lamps!”  
arr. Andre Thomas

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.
Children, don’t get weary ‘til your work is done.
Christian, journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.

Prayer of Dedication

We Depart to Serve the Lord

Hymn

“Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness”  
Hymn No. 514

Benediction

Organ Postlude

“Fanfare”  
Jacques Lemmens

Worship Leaders:
The Rev. Dr. Craig Howard, Giddings Lovejoy Presbytery Leader  
The Rev. Dr. Karen Blanchard, Associate Pastor

Music Ministry:
Chancel Quartet; Travis Evans, Music Associate

Live Stream Host:
Gary Hepp
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

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

* Christopher Saxton joins us in November to speak 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 used for the October classes led by Ruben Rosario.

* Spirituality group will be meeting on Zoom on the Second Sunday of each month at 9:45am. If you'd like to join in, contact Tom Edelstein at tedelstein@att.net

* 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, 11/8
9:30am Zoom Adult Ed Class: Christopher Saxton
9:45am Zoom Spiritual Formation Class
11:00am Live-Streamed Worship Service
1:00pm Confirmation Class
7:00pm Sr. High Fellowship - Fellowship Hall

Monday, 11/9
8:00am Preschool
11:30am Staff Meeting

Tuesday, 11/10
No events

Wednesday, 11/11
8:00am Preschool
12:00pm Live Streamed Mid-Week Worship Service
7:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
7:15pm Zoom Board of Deacons

Thursday, 11/12
10:00am Prayer Time in the Sanctuary

Friday, 11/13
8:00am Preschool

Saturday, 11/14
11:00am Zoom Men’s Bible Study

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
Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

1 Rejoice! Rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;
2 See that your lamps are burning; replenish them with oil;
3 Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;

the evening is advancing and darker night is near.
look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil.
 arise, thou Sun so longed for, above this shadowed sphere!

The Bridegroom is arising and soon he will draw nigh.
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand;
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see

Up, watch with expectation; at midnight comes the cry.
 arise, O heirs of glory; the Bridegroom is at hand!
the day of earth's redemption, and ever be with thee!

The Latin original of this text based on the parable of the wise and foolish maidens (Matthew 25:1-13) consisted of ten stanzas, but this briefer version is more appropriate for its message of urgency. It is set to a spirited minor Welsh tune named for a Pembrokeshire village.
1 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.
2 Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake
3 Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on

Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain,
to guide the future surely as the past.
When we shall be forever with the Lord;

Leave to thy God to order and provide,
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,

who through all changes faithful will remain.
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.

This meditative text seems to be rooted in Psalm 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God," while also reaching forward to 1 Thessalonians 4:17b, "we will be with the Lord forever." Much of the appeal of this hymn comes from its tune, named for the tone poem on which it is based.

TEXT: Katharina von Schlegel, 1752; trans. Jane Laurie Borthwick, 1855, alt.
MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. The Hymnal, 1933, alt.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past

through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.
Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness 314

Christ, Be Our Light

1. Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
2. Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
3. Long-ing for food, man-y are hun-gry. Long-ing for
4. Long-ing for shel-ter, man-y are home-less. Long-ing for
5. Man-y the gifts, man-y the peo-ple, man-y the

truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,

hope, man-y de-spair. Your word a-lone

wa-ter, man-y still thirst. Make us your bread,

warmth, man-y are cold. Make us your build-ing,

hearts that yearn to be-long. Let us be ser-vants

your ho-ly peo-ple, light for the world to see.

has power to save us. Make us your liv-ing voice.

bro-ken for oth-ers, shared un-til all are fed.

shel-ter-ing oth-ers, walls made of liv-ing stone.

to one an-oth-er, mak-ing your king-dom come.

Refrain

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the

dark-ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your

church gath-ered to-day.

By blending biblical images and current vignettes in the present tense, this hymn connects Christ's promise that he is the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) and his charge to his followers to be the light of the world (Matthew 5:14). This is part of the church's servant calling.