ORDER OF WORSHIP

We Gather to Worship God

Welcome and Announcements

Organ Prelude  “Lento”  Charles V. Stanford

We Address Ourselves to God

Call to Worship  Psalm 19
Leader:  The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.

People:  Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.

Leader:  The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;
the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;

People:  the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;
LET the words of my mouth
and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Leader:  Let us worship God with praise and thanksgiving.

Hymn  “God of Grace and God of Glory”  Hymn No. 307

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession  (The people joining)
Holy God, you lay before us the means for living a faithful life. You give us guidelines with a purpose, but
there are times when we do not like to be told what to do. We are more focused on ourselves than
remembering we are in relationship with you and the community too. Open our hearts to listen for your
wisdom and peace, to remember we are called to respond to the concerns of others as well as ourselves. Lead
us by the gift of your living Spirit. We ask these things in the name of your son, who is our Lord. Amen.

Silent Confessions

Assurance of Pardon

Response to Confession  “Come to Me, O Weary Traveler”  Hymn No. 185

The Passing of the Peace
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

We Hear God’s Word

First Reading
Exodus 20:1-17
Pew Bible, O.T., pg. 66

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

Psalm 19
“Your Law, O Lord, Is Perfect” Hymn #61

Second Reading
I Corinthians 1:18-25 Pew Bible, N.T., pg. 166

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

Sermon
“Why Play By the Rules?” Rev. Dr. Karen Blanchard

We Respond to God’s Word

Statement of Faith

Leader: We are not alone,
we live in God’s world.
People: We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.
Leader: We trust in God.
People: We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God’s presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
Leader: In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
All: We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Leader: Gracious God, we gather to worship you and give our thanks and praise. By your power you created all that is, making a universe out of chaos and leading us in the ways of wisdom and truth. Throughout the ages you have called your people to love and to serve, and to be your light among all the nations. When we failed you, you did not turn away from us, rather you sent prophets to call us back to the ways of truth and love. We give thanks that in the fullness of time, you revealed your love by sending your son to be the light of the world—to heal our brokenness and teach us the ways of justice and peace. As we gather around this table we praise you with gratitude and thanksgiving, joining with the angels and archangels, and the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name.

Leader: God of hope, out of your great love, you sent Jesus among us to set us free from lives bound up by fear and sin. It was he who lived among us and as one of us, shared our joys and sorrows, called us into discipleship and offered us the gift of the good news. We call upon the presence and power of your Holy Spirit as we partake of this bread and drink of this cup. We celebrate the new life offered to us through his love and by his presence in the world. Accept, O God, these our sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving. May they nourish us to live our lives in ways that proclaim the One who offered his life in love and in hope for all.


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.

Sharing the Bread and Cup
Pastoral Prayer

Offertory Sentences

Offertory Bell Anthem  “What Wondrous Love is This”  arr. Jason Krug

Prayer of Dedication

We Depart to Serve the Lord

Hymn  “All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”  Hymn No. 509

Benediction

Organ Postlude  “Be With Us, Lord, In Thy Word”  Dietrich Buxtehude

Worship Leaders:  The Rev. Dr. Karen Blanchard, Associate Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Bill Smutz, Interim Pastor

Music Ministry:  Bell Choir; Tom Lowery, Hymn Leader;
Bill Stein, Director of Music Ministries; Travis Evans, Music Associate

Live Stream Host:  Ron Evens

Thank you for worshiping with us today.

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.

Don’t forget to set your clocks ONE hour ahead on Saturday March, 13 before bedtime.

If you would like to support the ministry and mission of First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood, you can simply mail a gift or try online giving on our website at www.kirkwoodpres.org and click on “Give” on the upper right hand side of the screen. Thank you!
* Lenten Recital Series live streamed every Friday at noon. Join us for a half hour of meditative, reflective music. This Friday, March 12, features Reflections for Lent, Bill Stein, piano. These recitals will not be archived due to copyright restrictions.

* In March on Sunday mornings, join us at 9:30 for a series on images of Jesus as we journey through Lent, looking at the events of Jesus' life and ministry. Through the Centuries: Art Featuring the Life of Jesus (See article below under Sunday Morning Adult Ed).

* Lenten Bible Study: There is a book called Gospel Parallels that compares and contrasts various passages in the gospels. It shows us how, for example, the four versions of feeding the thousands are both alike and different from one writer to another. If we look at the baptism of Jesus in each of the gospels, we become aware of the different perspectives and nuances that are contained within each version. With that in mind we will look at a variety of passages in the gospels as a means for understanding the particular viewpoints of the gospel writers and the insights into the life of Jesus. We will meet on Wednesdays at 10am by Zoom through March 24. If you are interested, please contact Karen at kblanchard@kirkwoodpres.org to receive the study information and Zoom invite.

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SUNDAY MORNING ADULT EDUCATION ON ZOOM Christian Concerns Class, 9:30 a.m.
   Email Ann Miller to be added to the Zoom list at ann.willie@hotmail.com

Through the Centuries: Art Featuring the Life of Jesus
Betsy Solomon, director of the Shepherd Center and trained art historian, will lead a series on the paintings of Jesus over the centuries. The life of Jesus has been an enduring inspiration for artists of the European tradition. Artists have created extraordinary masterpieces, each reflecting their moment in time and leaving behind a legacy of narrative scenes. Lecture topics for this 4-part series will include:
3/7 – Images of Jesus in Early Christian & Medieval Art
3/14 – Jesus as Subject in Renaissance Painting
3/21 – The Work of El Greco
3/28 – Images of the Crucifixion, Resurrection and Second Coming

We hope you will plan to join us.
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BOOK GROUP
Fourth Wednesday Book Group: March 24 - HARRY TRUMAN’S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE, by Matthew Algeo. The Story of Harry and Bess Truman taking a cross country trip following the end of his presidency.
God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power; crown thine ancient church's story; bring its sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our thy control; shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in we deplore. Let the gift of thy salvation be our

2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, as bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,

3 Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour. for the living of these days, for the living of these days. lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal. serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.
Come to Me, O Weary Traveler

1 “Come to me, O wea-ry trav-eler; come to me with your dis-tress;
2 “Do not fear, my yoke is eas-y; do not fear, my bur-den’s light;
3 “Take my yoke and leave your trou-bles; take my yoke and come with me.
4 “Rest in me, O wea-ry trav-eler; rest in me and do not fear.

come to me, you heav- y bur-dened; come to me and find your rest.”
do not fear the path be-before you; do not run from me in fright.”
Take my yoke, I am be-side you; take and learn hu-mil-i-ty.”
Rest in me, my heart is gen-tle; rest and cast a-way your care.”

Your Law, O Lord, Is Perfect
(Psalm 19)

1 Your law, O Lord, is per-fect, the sim-ple mak-ing wise;
2 More to be sought than rich-es, your words are my soul’s wealth;
3 My strength and my re-deem-er, law-giv-er and true light,

how pure are your com-mand-ments, en-light-en-ing my eyes!
their taste is sweet like hon-ey, im-part-ing life and health.
my words and med-i-ta-tions make wor-thy in your sight.
All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

1 All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
2 All who hunger, never strangers, seek, er, be a well-come guest.
3 All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.

Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
Come from restless-ness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.

You that yearn for days of full-ness, all around us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.

Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

The United Church of Canada minister who wrote this text was introduced to shape note tunes at the 1990 Hymn Society conference in Charleston, South Carolina. Afterwards she vacationed with friends nearby and worked out this text while humming this tune as she walked up and down the beach.