First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood

11:00 A.M.
Sunday, April 25, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Easter

100 E. Adams Ave. Kirkwood, MO 63122 (314) 965-0326  www.kirkwoodpres.org
Welcome and Announcements

Organ Prelude  
“Andante”  
Alexandre Guilmant

We Address Ourselves to God  
based on Flames of the Spirit

*Call to Worship

Leader:  Loving God, in great love you sent Jesus,
People:  To break down every dividing wall.
Leader:  We ask you to grant us strength and courage today,
People:  To dismantle all the barriers,
Leader:  Which disrupt and divide human community.
People:  Change our hearts, and the hearts of all,
Leader:  Who raise walls between others.
People:  Open our eyes, and the eyes of all,
Leader:  Who view separation as the way of peace and prosperity.
People:  Open our hearts, and the hearts of all,
Leader:  To the suffering of those who are walled off.
People:  And, following in the footsteps of Jesus,
Leader:  Open our hands, and the hands of all,
People:  That here in worship we can begin the work,
Leader:  Of peacefully removing walls,
All:  And breaking down every barrier to peace and justice.

*Hymn  
“That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright”  
Hymn No. 254

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

O God our Creator, you created the heavens and the earth, but we act as if we own them. You gave abundant water and food for all, but we hoard it for ourselves. You breathed life into every human being, but too easily we close our eyes to the goodness you plant deep within all. O God of mercy, free us from our sinful ways. Where walls have been built up, teach us to build bridges of understanding. When hearts are hardened, open them to the sufferings of the neighbor. When we are oppressed, preserve our dignity and give us peace. When we are the oppressor, change our hearts and reform our ways. For we follow and try to imitate Jesus...

*Silent Confessions

*Assurance of God’s Grace
"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

Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism

Adelyn Grace Fugate
Daughter of Zoe Grace Martin and Joseph Fugate
Witnesses: Allison Politsch and Jonathan Martin

The Congregation responds:
Adelyn, we joyfully welcome you into the family of faith. Trusting in the gracious love of God offered in Jesus Christ, we promise to nurture, encourage, and support your journey of faith from this day forward. Remembering our own baptisms, we give thanks to God for the gift of being called together, united by the Holy Spirit, in order to be the body of Christ, now and forever.

Hymn

"Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"

Hymn No. 486

We Hear God's Word

First Reading

Proverbs 1:1-7
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

"If Ye Love Me"
Thomas Tallis
If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father,
and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever,
even the Spirit of truth.

Second Reading

Matthew 5:43-48
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Responding (To Critics) With Fences"
The Rev. Dr. Bill Smutz

We Respond to God's Word

Hymn

"O God of Every Nation"
Hymn No. 756
Stanzas 1 and 4

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

“Covenant Prayer”

Creator, we belong to you, and you dwell within our hearts.
Though the road be rough, we will follow you with the strength your grace imparts.
Though we be brought high, though we be brought low, though we journey far from home,
let us always seek to grow in love, no matter where we roam.
Now let us reach out with loving hands to accept, affirm, embrace
every child of God throughout the world and shower them with grace.
And let us reach out with grateful hearts and praise our God above
through our acts of light and justice as we warm the world with love.

Prayer of Dedication

We Depart to Serve the Lord

Hymn

“Come Sing, O Church, In Joy!”

Benediction

Organ Postlude

“Carillon”

*indicates to please stand if you are able

Call To Worship & Prayer of Confession adapted from the World Council of Churches

Worship Leaders: The Rev. Dr. Bill Smutz, Interim Senior Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Karen Blanchard, Associate Pastor
Music Ministry: Chancel Octet; Bill Stein, Director of Music Ministries; Travis Evans, Music Associate
Ushers: Jim Cooper, Pam Cooper, Larry Erwin, Julie Jackson,
Art McDonnell, Bob Schneider, John Stewart
Live Stream Host: Ron Evens

Thank you for worshipping with us.
Continuing our focus on the issue of slavery in our nation, the Tuesday morning book group will begin a discussion of the book “Destiny of the Republic” by Candace Millard. To be added to the Zoom list please contact Karen Blanchard at kblanchard@kirkwoodpres.org.

**Fourth Wednesday Book Group, 1:30pm on Zoom**

April 28th: NOMADLAND, by Jessica Bruder. A book about the ways in which people deal with poverty in our country with courage and wisdom as they move from one part of the country to another looking for work.

May 19th: WHERE THE FOREST MEETS THE STARS, by Glendy Vanderah, a book about the mysterious arrival of a young girl and the secrets she helps to unravel that helps two adults reclaim their lives along with hers.

If you would like to be on the invite list, please let Karen know at kblanchard@kirkwoodpres.org.

**THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, April 25**
11:00am Worship Service - Sanctuary/Live Streamed
7:00pm Sr. High Fellowship

**Monday, April 26**
8:00am Preschool
11:50am Staff Meeting - 050
5:50pm Grief Support - Fellowship Hall
7:00pm Con Spirito Committee - Zoom

**Tuesday, April 27**
10:00am Book Group - Zoom
7:00pm Building & Grounds Committee - Zoom

**Wednesday, April 28**
8:00am Preschool
12:00pm Chamber Music Society Rehearsal - Sanctuary
1:50pm Book Group - Zoom

**Thursday, April 29**
10:00am Prayer Time - Sanctuary (reservation required)
1:00pm Chamber Music Society Rehearsal - Sanctuary
7:00pm Section Leaders Rehearsal - Sanctuary

**Friday, April 30**
Senior High Fellowship Retreat
8:00am Preschool

**Saturday, May 1**
Senior High Fellowship Retreat
10:00am Prayer Time - Sanctuary (reservation required)
11:00am Men's Bible Study - Zoom

**Sunday, May 2**
9:50am Baptism - Chapel
11:00am Worship Service - Sanctuary/Live Streamed
1:00pm Chancel Choir Gathering - Courtyard
7:00pm Work Camp Parent Meeting - Chapel

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!
254 That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

1 That Easter day with joy was bright; the sun shone out with fairer light when, to their longing
glorious wounds abide, the tokens true which deemed for ever shield; O Lord of all, with

2 He bade them see his hands, his side, where yet the eyes restored, the apostles saw their risen Lord.
made it plain their Lord indeed was risen again.
us abide in this our joyful Easter tide.

3 From every weapon death can wield, your own re-

These Easter tide stanzas are derived from a longer Latin text that was one of the earliest hymns written especially for a season of the church year. They are set here to a tune with Christmas associations, a means of linking the two great festivals of the Christian year.

MUSIC: Trier ms., 13th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1659

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR
1M
(alternate harmonization, 67)
Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

1 Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized
   with the Spirit’s sign, with this water God has
   sealed you unto love and grace divine.

2 Child of love, our love’s expression, love’s creation, loved indeed!
   from God you came. Back to God we humbly
   spirits; into joy and laughter lead.

3 Child of joy, our dearest treasure, God’s you
   listen for God’s call. Grow to laugh and sing and
   give you: live as one who bears Christ’s name.

4 Child of God, your loving Parent, learn to
   are from God you came. Back to God we humbly
   worship; trust and love God more than all.
O God of Every Nation

1 O God of every nation, of every race and land,
re-deem the whole creation with your almighty hand.
Where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled,
in love and mercy guide us and heal our strife-torn world.

2 From search for wealth and power and scorn of truth and right,
from trust in bombs that shower destruction through the night,
from fear of rattling saber, from dread of war's increase;
de-liver every nation, eternal God, we pray.

3 Lord, strengthen those who labor that all may find release,
when hated and division give way to love and peace,
when hope and courage falter, your still small voice be heard;
and Christ shall rule victorious o'er all the world's domain.

4 Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease,
where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled,
till dawns the morning glorious when truth and justice reign
with faith that none can alter, your servants under-gird.

MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; Llwybrau Molant, 1872; harm. The English Hymnal, 1906
LLANGLOFFAN
7.6.7.6.D

305 Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

1 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
2 Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,
3 Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide,
4 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!
Empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!
As we in mission magnify the Crucified!
For Christ the Lord has triumphed o’er the ages long!

In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

This text was the winner in a hymn competition sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Bicentennial Committee for the 1988-1989 observance, which had the theme “Celebrate the Journey.” The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) is appropriately celebratory.

TEXT: Brian Dill, 1988
MUSIC: John Darwall, 1770
Text © 1989 Brian Dill
DARWALL’S 148TH
6.6.6.6.8.8