First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood

11:00 A.M.
Sunday, May 9, 2021
Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

Organ Prelude

“Chaconne”

Charles Callahan

We Address Ourselves to God

°Call to Worship

Leader: Abundant God, Birth-Mother of Creation,
Womb of Life, Encompassing Love, Intimate Partner,
People: You bear us, You sustain us, You love us,
Leader: You give us life.
People: Your dancing in the beginning,
Leader: Is the genesis of
People: All speaking, all naming, all animating, all loving,
Leader: By which we know light and being and joy.
People: May we live as your body,
Leader: Loving and caring, reflecting your glory,
People: Offering hope, that all might know
Leader: The freedom and joy of your presence.
All: We worship You!

°Hymn

“As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought”

Hymn No. 712

°Call to Confession

°Prayer of Confession

O God of life, you desire that our lives should blossom and be fruitful, and you sent Jesus, that new life might come to that which seemed dead. And so, for all we have done that hinders life, we ask your forgiveness. Where the striving of creation to blossom and leaf is frustrated; where the freedom to bring new things to birth is checked; where creativity is hindered through oppression and injustice – forgive us. Where new beginnings are prevented; where that which is needed for growth is harmed or held back; where beauty is scarred; where poverty and injustice allow no hope of a bright new dawn – forgive us. Remove our sin from us, that we may forever be your new creations in Jesus...

°Silent Confessions

°Assurance of God’s Grace

°Congregational Response

“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.

Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism

Colby James Lutomski
Child of Brian and Abigail Lutomski

The Congregation responds:
Colby, 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

Ecclesiastes 5:10-17

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

Anthem

“Treasures in Heaven”

Joseph Clokey

Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal. But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Ask and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you. For everyone that asketh receiveth, and they that seeketh findeth, and to them that knocketh it shall be opened.

Second Reading

Matthew 6:19-29

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

Sermon

“Accumulated Treasure”

The Rev. Dr. Bill Smutz

We Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life, of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female. We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the word made flesh. Born of woman, servant of the poor, unjustly accused, falsely condemned, brutally murdered. Though thought to be dead, he arose in newness and ascended to lead transformation; becoming everywhere present, and the hope of all who seek. We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the church, spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and of eternal life. Amen!

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 Anthem

“The Pure in Heart”
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Patrick Hawes

Prayer of Dedication

We Depart to Serve the Lord

Hymn

“Great God of Every Blessing”

Hymn No. 694

Benediction

Choral Response

“Peace I Leave With You”
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give unto you.

Matthew Glandorf

Organ Postlude

“Grand Choeur”

Theodore Dubois

* indicates to please stand if you are able

+ Call To Worship & Prayer of Confession adapted from “Spring”, Ruth Burgess, Editor; Affirmation of Faith adapted from Iona Abbey Worship Book

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, Charles Croissant, John Clark
Usher Captains: Larry Erwin, Art McDonnell, Bob Schneider
Live Stream Host: Keith Klamer

Thank you for worshipping with us.

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CELEBRATING THE REV. DR. KAREN BLANCHARD AND JANE MEPPIEL

Dear First Presbyterian Members & Friends,

Hopefully, all of us are aware that two highly valued, long-tenured members of our church staff will be retiring at the end of this May. Jane Meppiel, Financial Coordinator, has served the church in a variety of roles for thirty-one (31) years. Karen Blanchard, Associate Pastor, has served the church for twenty-one (21) years. We have been truly blessed by their long years of service. And though we will miss each of these remarkable women a great deal, we are glad that they can begin a new chapter in life.

At its April meeting, the First Presbyterian Session approved the gathering of a ‘purse’ for both Jane and Karen from the friends and members of the congregation. These financial gifts will serve as our collective thanks for their dedicated service.

Gifts can be given in cash or check (made out to the specific individual) and placed in the card basket at the reception (see dates below) or sent to the church office ahead of time. The reception dates/times are:

Jane – Sunday, May 16 – following the 11 a.m. worship service in the church parking lot.
Karen – Sunday, May 23 – following the 11 a.m. worship service in the church parking lot.

The receptions will be socially distanced, and masks are required.

If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Pitcher jpitcherstl@gmail.com or Lisa Ward lward@kirkwoodpres.org or 314-393-6225.

Blessings,
Lisa K. Ward
Clerk of Session

The 2021 contribution statements, which you should have received on Monday, May 3, were sent primarily by email through our Shelby Financial program. If the church has your email address, this is how you will receive your statements in the future. Please check your Spam or Trash folder if you have not seen this email and move it to your Inbox or mark it as “Not Trash”. If you do not have an email on file, you should expect to continue to receive your statement by mail. This is one of the many ways we are using the functions of our financial and membership database so that we can be both cost efficient and good stewards of the earth. Questions? Please contact Jane Meppiel at jmeppiel@kirkwoodpres.org.
Fourth Wednesday Book Group, 1:30pm on Zoom

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.

SUNDAY MORNINGS

CHRISTIAN CONCERNS, 9:30AM ON ZOOM

Email Ann Miller to be added to the Zoom list at ann.willie@hotmail.com

In May, Dean and Jinny Danzer's son, Dr. Steve Danzer, is going to speak on topics about the universe and the earth and the human beings who live here.

Dr. Steve Danzer is a Professor of Anesthesia at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital and the University of Cincinnati. He is also the Director for the Center for Pediatric Neuroscience and holds the C. Nelson Melampy Endowed Chair in Anesthesia Basic Science Research. He received his undergraduate degree in Biology at the University of Missouri in Columbia, his PhD in Neuroscience at the University of Arizona in Tucson, and conducted postdoctoral research in epilepsy at Duke University. At Cincinnati Children’s, he directs a preclinical research program aimed at understanding and developing better treatments for people with epilepsy.

The topics Steve plans to cover are:

May 9: Geology: The geology of our planet causes volcanoes and tsunamis, but these destructive forces are also necessary for life. In this session we will explore the basic geology of our planet and how it impacts life on Earth.

May 16: Evolution: The theory of evolution tells us about our origins, how we are related to every living thing, and how to understand and treat diseases that afflict humanity.

May 23: Human Sexuality and the brain: what does science tell us?

Another Work Camp Fundraising Opportunity!

Another opportunity to support our Work Camp trip to Colorado Springs this summer - Savers FUNDrive! We are collecting clothing, shoes, textiles and jewelry from now until June 6th. We will then take everything that is donated to our local Savers Thrift Shop and they will donate 50 cents per pound for our trip!

Questions can be directed to Rob Monroe - rmonroe@kirkwoodpres.org.
On Saturday, May 15 starting at 8:00am, the Building & Grounds Committee is having a church grounds clean-up day. Come on out and join the committee in beautifying our grounds for the Spring and Summer seasons. Some helpful items to bring are gloves, trowels, rakes, hoes, hedge clippers, hand pruners, branch loppers and 3-prong extension cords. Thanks in advance for your help.

**THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, May 9 - Mother's Day**
- 9:30am  Christian Concerns - Zoom
- 9:30am  Spiritual Formation - Zoom
- 11:00am  Worship Service - Sanctuary/Live Streamed

**Monday, May 10**
- 8:00am  Preschool
- 11:30am  Staff Meeting - 030

**Tuesday, May 11**
- 7:00pm  Mission Committee - Zoom

**Wednesday, May 12**
- 8:00am  Preschool
- 7:00pm  Bell Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 7:15pm  Board of Deacons - Zoom

**Thursday, May 13**
- 10:00am  Prayer Time - Sanctuary (reservation required)
- 5:30pm  Carlson Wedding Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 7:00pm  Section Leaders Rehearsal - Sanctuary

**Friday, May 14**
- 8:00am  Preschool

**Saturday, May 15**
- 8:00am  Church Clean-Up Day
- 11:00am  Men’s Bible Study - Zoom
- 2:00pm  Carlson Wedding - Sanctuary

**Sunday, May 16**
- 9:30am  Christian Concerns - Zoom
- 11:00am  Worship Service - Sanctuary/Live Streamed
- 7:00pm  Sr. High Fellowship - Fellowship Hall

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](http://www.kirkwoodpres.org) and click on “Give” on the upper right hand side of the screen. Thank you!
As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought

1. As those of old their firstfruits brought of vine-yard, flock, and field
2. A world in need now summons us to labor, love, and give,
3. In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today,

to God, the giver of all good, the source of bounteous yield,
to make our life an offering that all may truly live.
to serve your cause and share your love with all a long life’s way.

so we today our firstfruits bring, the wealth of this good land:
The church of Christ is calling us to make the dream come true:
O God who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ your Son,

of farm and market, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
a world redeemed by Christ-like love, all life in Christ made new.
help us to give ourselves each day until life’s work is done.

This text by a Presbyterian pastor in California expresses the conviction that being a good steward is an essential part of the Christian life, for self-giving is God’s own nature. The tune is named for the village in Surrey where the arranger collected this tune in 1903.

TEXT: Frank von Christiaensen, 1960, alt.
MUSIC: English folk melody, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

BAPTISM

486 Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

1 Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized
2 Child of love, our love’s expression, love’s creation
3 Child of joy, our dearest treasure, God’s you
4 Child of God, your loving Parent, learn to

with the Spirit’s sign, with this water God has
action, loved indeed! Fresh from God, refresh our
are, from God you came. Back to God we humbly
listen for God’s call. Grow to laugh and sing and

sealed you unto love and grace divine.
spirits; into joy and laughter lead.
give you: live as one who bears Christ’s name.
worship; trust and love God more than all.

This hymn addressed to a newly-baptized child begins each stanza with a facet of the child’s identity, culminating in “child of God.” By being directed to one person rather than the whole congregation, this text occupies a special category among the “songs of encouragement.”

TEXT: Ronald S. Cole-Turner, 1980
MUSIC: V. Earle Copes, 1959
Text © 1987 Ronald S. Cole-Turner
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 kindred, and to cross, grave’s shattered door: gifted by you, we turn joined, the church made one. Now direct our daily spread the gospel word. Open wide our hands in to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall labor, lest we strive for self alone. Born with talents, sharing, as we heed Christ’s ageless call, healing, teaching,

2. Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of grace and vision, faith and witness, for the world’s salvation, gifts we give; every gift a consecration, labor for God, we give. This is our offering, our sacrifice, our worship, our song. This is our dedication, our stewardship, our response. This is the message, the gospel, the cross, the risen Lord. This is the mission, the kingdom, the church, the body of Christ.

3. Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your gifts, through talents, through riches, through influence, through service, through prayer, through witness, through example, through words, through deeds. Use all you have, give all you are, live as those who love, serve as those who care, work as those who serve, sacrifice as those who love, live as those who follow, move as those who serve, act as those who love, die as those who live.

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.
DEDICATION AND STEWARDSHIP

694 Great God of Every Blessing

1 Great God of every blessing, of faith-ful, lov-ing care,
you are the fount of goodness, the dai-ly bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:
sin-cere-ly and com-plete-ly I offer you my heart.

2 Your Word is our sal-va-tion, the source of end-less grace,
in death and life ex-tend-ing your cov- e-nant em-brace.
In Christ we are one bod- y; each mem- ber has a part:
sincere-ly and com-plete-ly I offer you my heart.

3 Your Spir-it is our teach-er, the light that guides our search,
trans-form-ing bro-ken peo-ple in-to the ho-ly church.
For feed-ing us with mer-cy, for wis-dom you im-part:

Written for the 500th anniversary of John Calvin’s birth, this text sums up his liturgical theology, ending each stanza with his motto: Cor meum tibi offero, Domine, prompte et sincere. By moving from plural to singular the stanzas show how corporate faith becomes personal piety.