



Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 15, 2024

3rd Sunday of Advent and Christmas Cantata

Gathering

Welcome and Ministry Announcements

Dr. Yvan Kelly

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

***Opening Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #121

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

***Call to Worship**

Worship Leader

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord!

People: Lift every valley, lift every voice.

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord!

All: And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

“Joy”

The Collins Luttrell Family

On this day we bear witness to the light of Christ with all the faithful of every time and place: With Isaiah and Jeremiah, prophets of Israel, we await the promised salvation of the Lord, and look for the coming of the one who will bring justice and righteousness to the earth.

With John the Baptist, calling from the wilderness, we cry: “Prepare the way of the Lord! Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

With Mary, the mother of Jesus, we magnify the Lord, rejoicing in God our Savior, for the Mighty One has done great things for us, and holy is God’s name.

We light this candle in hope. *[Light the first purple candle.]*

We light this candle for peace. *[Light the second purple candle.]*

We light this candle in joy! *[Light the pink candle.]*

People: The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory.

Alleluia!

Gathering Prayer

Kathalee Caissie

*please stand

Word

A Time for Children

Dr. Yvan Kelly

(Children will go to Sunday School)

New Testament Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Christmas Cantata

“Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Prayers and Offering

Prayers of the People/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.

Giving Thanks to God with Our Gifts and Offerings

Offertory Song

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication**

People: O God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use us, to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, our coming Lord. Amen.

Sending

***Closing Hymn**

Glory to God Hymnal #113

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Charge and Blessing

Dr. Yvan Kelly

Announcements

Congregational Meeting December 15 - There will be a congregational meeting after worship today. The purpose is to elect new Session members and present next year's budget.

Christmas Joy Offering December 22 - The Christmas Joy Offering supports church workers and their families in their time of need and develops future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. To contribute to this special offering, please use the Christmas Joy offering envelopes in the friendship pads.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service December 24 - This year's Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be held on Christmas Eve at 7:00 p.m.

Church Office Closures - The church office will be closed on December 24, 25, and January 1.

Financial Giving - You may place your offering in the offering plate, drop off a check at the office, put it in the mail, or use our online giving portal that can be accessed [here](#) or by scanning the QR code to the right.



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Kirkwood Presbyterian Church
Phone/Fax: 904.777.0006 | website: www.kirkwoodchurch.org
Dr. Yvan Kelly | E-mail: ykelly@bellsouth.net