



## Kirkwood Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 12, 2025

Baptism of the Lord

### Gathering

Welcome and Ministry Announcements

Worship Leader

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ**

**\*Opening Hymn**            Glory to God Hymnal #401 v. 1, 2, & 4

“Here in This Place  
*Gather Us In*”

**\*Call to Worship**

Worship Leader

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Praise God’s glorious name.

**People: We will bow down before the Holy One when Christ appears.**

**Gathering Prayer**

Jeannie Brecht

**Call to Confession**

Dr. Jess McCrosky

**Prayer of Confession**

Dr. Jess McCrosky

**People: Holy God, we are humbled by the voice of your power and majesty. Your Son awes us, as he did John the Baptist, so that we know we are unworthy to fasten his sandals. We are often too proud to do menial work that helps our neighbors. Forgive the arrogance that overlooks a neighbor in need. Remind us that our neighbors can be anywhere in the world; through Jesus Christ, your Son, who is our model.**

Leader: Please continue in silent confession....Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon**

Dr. Jess McCrosky

Leader: Friends, hear the good news! We share the promise of God with his people, through Jesus Christ.

**People: Though we are unworthy, we are granted God’s favor through Jesus, and are baptized into the church of his beloved Son.**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news!

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### Word

**A Time for Children**

Jeannie Brecht

(Children will go to Sunday School)

\*please stand

**Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 43:1-7

Jeannie Brecht

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth - everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.****Old Testament Reading**

Psalm 29

Jeannie Brecht

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord

the glory of his name;

worship the Lord in holy splendor.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters;

the God of glory thunders, the Lord,  
over mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is powerful;

the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;

the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,

and Sirion like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord flashes

forth flames of fire.

The voice of the Lord

shakes the wilderness;

the Lord shakes the wilderness

of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord causes the oaks

to whirl, and strips the forest bare;

and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;

the Lord sits enthroned

as king forever.

May the Lord give strength

to his people!

May the Lord bless his people

with peace!

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.****New Testament Reading**

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Dr. Jess McCrosky

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form

like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Reader: The word of the Lord.      **People: Thanks be to God.**

**Message**      "With Gratitude and Hope"      Dr. Jess McCrosky

**\*Middle Hymn**      GTG Hymnal #475  
"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

**\*Affirmation of Faith**      Apostles' Creed

<b>I BELIEVE</b> <b>in God the Father, Almighty,</b> <b>Maker of heaven and earth;</b> <b>and in Jesus Christ,</b> <b>his only Son our Lord;</b> <b>who was conceived by</b> <b>the Holy Ghost,</b> <b>born of the Virgin Mary,</b> <b>suffered under Pontius Pilate,</b> <b>was crucified, dead, and buried;</b> <b>he descended into hell;</b> <b>the third day he rose again</b>	<b>from the dead;</b> <b>he ascended into heaven,</b> <b>and sitteth on the right hand of God</b> <b>the Father Almighty;</b> <b>from thence he shall come to judge</b> <b>the quick and the dead.</b> <b>I believe in the Holy Ghost;</b> <b>the holy catholic Church;</b> <b>the communion of saints;</b> <b>the forgiveness of sins;</b> <b>the resurrection of the body;</b> <b>and the life everlasting. Amen.</b>
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### **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, we worship you with the presentation of our offerings. Give strength to your people, that we may serve you always. Bless us with peace, that we may be peacemakers in a world of conflict; through Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.**

### **Sending**

**\*Closing Hymn**      Glory to God Hymnal #66 "Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

**Charge and Blessing**      Dr. Jess McCrosky

## Announcements

**Guest Preacher Dr. Jess McCrosky** - This morning we welcome Dr. Jess McCrosky as our guest preacher. Dr. McCrosky has been a guest preacher at Kirkwood before. Welcome back Dr. McCrosky!

**Blood Drive January 12** - The Big Red Bus will be in the church parking lot today, January 12, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Those donating will receive a \$20 eGift card, a long sleeve t-shirt, and a wellness checkup. To sign up in advance, please visit the OneBlood website at [oneblood.org/donate-now](http://oneblood.org/donate-now) and use code 31712.

**Installation of Session Members January 19** - Next Sunday, January 19, the following newly elected Session members will be installed to the Class of 2027: Lisa Christian, Frances Collins, and Yvette Grant.

**Church Office Closed January 20** - The church office will be closed on Monday, January 20, in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

**2025 Nominating Committee Members** - The following members have been elected to the 2025 Nominating Committee: Wayne Barnes, Kathalee Caissie, David Christian, Michael Eicholtz, and Lois Morse, with Larry Hadrava as an alternate.

**41<sup>st</sup> Annual Gathering of Presbyterian Women January 25** - On Saturday, January 25, the Presbyterian Women will gather at the Montgomery Conference Center for the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Gathering of Presbyterian Women. The fee is \$35. An information sheet/registration form is available on the table in the narthex and in tomorrow's newsletter.

**Session Retreat January 25** - On Saturday, January 25, starting at 10:00 a.m. the Session will meet for the annual Session retreat at the home of Yvette Grant, 1461 Tomcat Drive, Jacksonville, 32221.

**Bunko February 8** - The next Bunko night will be held on Saturday, February 8, at 6:00 p.m. No experience is needed and it is fun for all ages. The entrance fee is \$10.00 per person and includes dessert. All proceeds go to the church's building and grounds fund.

**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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