



Our Worship of God

Second Sunday of Christmas and
Epiphany of our Lord
January 4, 2026 - 10:30

211 N Woodlawn Avenue, Kirkwood, MO 63122
(314) 965-2349 www.kirkwoodbaptist.org

Rev. Dr. Bart Hildreth and his wife, Beth live in Sullivan, MO and have 5 children, 9 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. He is a graduate of William Jewell College and The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary where he earned both an M.Div. and a Ph.D. in Contemporary Systematic Theology (with minors in New Testament Theology and Psychology of Religion). Dr. Hildreth was also a Visiting Scholar at the University of Oxford, England where he wrote for the leading theologian, Paul Fiddes. Dr. Hildreth has served in ministry for 45 years. For 8 of those years he was appointed as District Superintendent in The Missouri Conference of the UMC. Just prior to his retirement in 2024, he served for 9 years as the Senior Pastor at First St. Charles UMC. When time permits, he loves reading, woodturning, working on their farm, traveling, and coaching other clergy.

+ This symbol invites you to rise in body as you are able, or in spirit.

Chiming of the Hour Julia Matthews

Welcome and Life of the Church Matt Vandagriff

Global Missions Moment Cindy Midgett

Centering Prayer

Voluntary **We Three Kings** Trish Jackson & Julia Matthews
arr. Joel Raney

Lighting of the Candles and Opening of the Bible Elijah and Noelle Fillingham

+ Opening Sentences

Come! Let us seek the upside-down kin-dom of God

where there is no king—except an infant child.

How do we get to this upside-down kin-dom of God?

We follow a star to society's outskirts.

We dare to dream impossible dreams.

We worship a baby born to those deemed "least."

What is it like, the upside-down kin-dom of God?

There the oppressed are precious and oppressed no more.

There outsiders are welcomed in not as guests, but kin.

When we worship together, we practice what it will be like

to live in the upside-down kin-dom of God.

+ Hymn 190 **Songs of Thankfulness and Praise** ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

Prayer of Praise and Adoration Noelle Fillingham



Advent: Come, Lord, come soon, so that wars may cease.
Epiphany/General: We, too, bow down. In one voice we raise,



Come, Lord, come soon; bring joy and peace.
 ev - er to sing un - end - ing praise.

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Solo

I Wonder as I Wander

Pat Lacey, soprano

Traditional Appalachian Carol | arr. Joan Baez

Alton Lacey, guitar

Call to Confession

Brenna Lacey

Prayer of Confession

Ever-loving God,

we long for Christmas to usher in a season of peace and joy. However, we know that is not how the world works. Even just days after Christmas, we find ourselves face to face with fear once again.

So today we pray—**forgive us when we allow fear to stop us in our tracks.****Forgive us when our own fear prevents us from following your call.****Forgive us when fear is louder than love.****Show us how to turn our fear into action.****Show us how to live like the magi who searched for you in a fearful world.****With hope we pray, amen.**

Words of Forgiveness

Family of Faith,

whether you are brave and courageous or fearful and timid,

God's love for you knows no end. So join me in these words of forgiveness:

Whether fear inspires us to action, or stops us dead in our tracks,**God's love for us is boundless.****We are seen.****We are surrounded with grace.****We are sent to serve.****Thanks be to God! Amen.**

+ Hymn 181

As with Gladness Men of Old

DIX

+ Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:27a and Matthew 5:28a

Matt Vandagriff

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

Sermon *Learning* Bart Hildreth

+ Hymn 586 **Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord** CAMACHA

Offertory Prayer Kyle Damron

Offertory **What Child Is This?** Pat Lacey, soprano
Traditional English Melody | arr. Joan Baez Alton Lacey, guitar

+ Offering Response **Of the Father's Love Begotten** DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

**Christ, to thee with God the Father, and O Holy Ghost, to thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be:
honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore!**

Words of Institution and Invitation to the Table Matt Vandagriff

The Ordinance of the Lord's Supper

Please hold the elements so that all may partake together.

KBC welcomes all to participate in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

*We walk to the table to emphasize that we are on a common journey—a journey where we are encouraged
and strengthened by the love we find in Christ and the support we find in our community of faith.*

If you are not able to come to the table, you may receive the elements from a deacon in the aisle.

Communion Music **In Dulci Jubilo** Julia Matthews
arr. Franz Liszt

The Star Carol
Alfred S. Burt

The Bread and the Cup Matt Vandagriff

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen**

+ Passing of the Peace
May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

*We invite you to also pass the peace via text to someone you notice who is away today
or to whomever needs encouragement.*

+ Departing Hymn 539 **I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light** HOUSTON

Benediction

Matt Vandagriff

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart.

Postlude

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright
arr. Jacob B. Weber

Julia Matthews

*Our deacons will be collecting a benevolence offering as you exit the sanctuary.
This offering is received each time we observe communion and is used
to help individuals in crisis in our community.*



Scan to view our
On Mission
guide and learn
all about KBC!

Whether you are worshipping with us online or in-person, welcome! We are happy you are here. If you are interested in becoming a member of Kirkwood Baptist Church, or if you have questions about the church, we encourage you to go to www.kirkwoodbaptist.org where you might find some answers. **Additionally, you can find answers to questions or register for events by emailing twright@kirkwoodbaptist.org or calling 314-965-2349.**

A nursery is available for birth - Pre-K children and hearing devices are available upon request. Please see an usher for help.

Scan to easily
access online
Giving



Staff

Rev. Dr. Matthew Vandagriff	Senior Pastor
Rev. Kyle Damron	Associate Pastor, Music and Worship
Krissi Vandagriff	Minister for Education and Spiritual Formation
Aaron Huffman	Youth Minister
Tracy Slezak	Worship Care

Opening Sentences written by Avery Arden. From *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, and the Arts*, Vol. 59.1, Lectionary Companion.
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Confessional Prayer and Litany Written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A
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Worship Leaders

Guest Preacher	Rev. Dr. Bart Hildreth
Deacon for the Week	Debie Pesek
Candle Lighters/Bible Openers	Elijah and Noelle Fillingham
Readers	Noelle Fillingham, Brenna Lacey
Camera Operator & Videographer	Ian Blaylock
Sound Operator	Allen McReynolds
Special Music	Pat and Alton Lacey
Organ & Piano	Julia Matthews
Piano	Trish Jackson
Sanctuary Choir	