

Presbyterian Church in Orland Park
Sunday, November 16, 2025
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

For those with children, be assured that noises and wiggling are signs of a church that is alive and growing; your entire family is welcome in worship.

After the Children's Message, JAM (Jesus and Me) is available for children and youth.

Nursery care is provided all morning.

Fellowship immediately follows the service.

The congregation speaks words that are in bold during the service, except for the

Call to Worship, **where the youth part is bold.**

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Centering Thought: “We are called to be the shapers of the world that ought to be, after the pattern of the world God intends.” — Walter Brueggemann

Please enter quietly so that you and others may reflectively prepare to worship God.
 This also helps with our online presence. Thank you.

Gather

Prelude

Dan Marcotte

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Joy Smith

We are grateful to be worshiping with you today and want to know you are here.

Please take a moment to sign the red book on your aisle.

Those of you online, please send us a greeting!

Minutes for Kemmerer

Kyle McAllister-Grum

“As a Presbyterian Child Care Agency, our mission at Kemmerer Village is to provide a wide range of quality services to children and families who face stress and turmoil in their lives.”

Call to Worship

PCOP Youth

Come, friends—come just as you are.

Bring your questions, your hopes, your doubts, and your dreams.

This is a place where nobody has to pretend.

We come to listen for God's voice and learn the ways of Jesus.

In Joshua's day the people were asked, “Who will you choose to follow?”

We make that choice again today— not by being perfect, but by choosing love.

We come to follow—to learn, to listen, and to practice love.

The world says, “Think of yourself first,” but Jesus says care for one another.

The world says, “You don’t belong,” but Jesus says there’s always room at the table.

We come with open hearts, open minds, and open hands. This is the way that leads to peace.

This is the way that leads to life. This is the way of Jesus.

All: Let us worship God— with gratitude, with joy, and with courage to follow.

***Hymn**

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

[#700](#)

Invitation to Confession

Linda Kavios

The truth is following the way of Jesus isn’t easy. We want to love boldly, but we hesitate. We want to forgive, but pride and despair gets in the way. We want to walk in peace, but we are afraid. Still, God invites us—again and again— to begin anew, to turn toward love, and to trust that grace is already waiting for us. Let us pray first with our silent prayers.

Silent Prayers

Prayer of Confession

Linda Kavios

Loving God, we admit we confess that we don’t always follow the way of Jesus.

We talk about kindness, but we hurry past people who need us.

We admire courage, but stay silent when it matters most.

We want peace, but we let anger or fear overwhelm us.

Forgive us for the ways we turn away from love.

Open our hearts to your Spirit— so that we might live more like Jesus:

walking with compassion,

speaking truth with gentleness,

and serving with joy.

In your mercy, make us whole again. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Pastor Joy Smith

This water is a sign of our baptism— a reminder that we belong to God, that we are forgiven, loved, and renewed every day. Listen for the sounds of forgiveness.

***Response**

“Standing on the Promises” (vs. 2)

#838

2 Standing on the promises that cannot fail!

**When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail,
standing on the promises of God.**

**Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God, my Savior;
standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.**

Listen

Children's Message

Richard Burnett

After the Lord's Prayer children and youth are invited to join JAM Sunday school!

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.

Special Music

"Praise Ye The Father"
Charles Coundod (1818-1893)

SWCCB Carolyn Sparks &
Cheryl Ciammetti

Prayer of Illumination

Linda Kavios

Holy God, open our hearts and minds to your Word. Let us hear your voice in these scriptures, see your truth in unexpected places, and be transformed by your Spirit. Grant us wisdom to understand, courage to follow, and grace to live your way. Amen.

The Old Testament

Joshua 24:1-2, 14-18

Linda Kavios

The Gospel Reading

John 6:56-69

Pastor Joy Smith

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Choices"

Pastor Joy Smith

Hymn

"God is Calling Through a Whisper"

[**#410**](#)

Joys and Concerns

You may share your joys and concerns or write them on the blue card. So we can pray for you.

Prayers of the People

Thanks

Invitation to the Offering

Linda Kavios

Friends, in Joshua's day, the people were invited to choose the kind of world they would create—one rooted in faithfulness, generosity, and love. We face that same invitation now. Every act of giving is a choice to trust God's vision over fear, to join in the work of justice and compassion. What we offer—our resources, our commitments, our hope—helps shape the world God dreams for us. Let us give, choosing again the way of love and life.

Gifts of Tithes & Offerings

Your stewardship allows PCOP to do the ministry God has called us to do. Thank you for your gifts. You may place your offering in the box in the vestibule marked “Tithe and Offerings,” drop them into the church box in the sanctuary, mail your offerings, or scan the QR code on the right, which will take you to PCOP’s online giving Website page - <http://pcorlandpark.org/giving/>.

***Doxology Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; #606**
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication** Pastor Joy Smith
Gracious God, you invite us to choose your way— the way of love,
generosity, and hope. Bless these gifts and all who give them.
May we use them to build the world you dream of:
where justice takes root, compassion flows freely, and all your
children have enough. Strengthen our resolve to serve you with
open hearts and to live each day as people of your promise.
Amen.

Scatter in Peace

***Closing Hymn “O For A World” (vs. 1,2,3) [#372](#)**

***Sending** Pastor Joy Smith
The world we long for is not just a dream—it is God’s call to us, here and now.
As we leave this place, the Spirit sends us to make that vision real:
Let us go and speak for those whose voices are ignored.
Let us go and feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, heal the
brokenhearted.
Let us challenge injustice wherever we find it.
Let us carry hope like a lantern, let love guide our steps,
and let us live every moment as a reflection of God’s daring grace.
The Spirit goes with us—so let us go, and be the change God dreams of in the
world.

***Benediction** Pastor Joy Smith

***Response “Listen, God is Calling” #456**

***Postlude “Allegro- Scherzando”** Carolyn Sparks &
Cheryl Ciammetti
SWCCBand

Worship Team

PCOP Children
 Doug Mark, Technology
 Chris Brugess, A/V Technician
 Carolyn Crabbe and Team, Fellowship
 Linda Kavios, Liturgist
 Susan Klyasheff, Usher
 Greeter
 Dan Marcotte, Director of Music
 Bella Rivera, Childcare Provider
 Pastor Joy Smith

Special Welcome Back to SWCCB Carolyn Sparks on the Euphonium
 And Cheryl Ciammetti on the Tenor Horn!

Announcements:

Every Friday, Lunch Van packing and delivery (Interested? Call Nancy Carlson)

Sunday, November 23rd- Following Worship is Hanging of the Greens! Tall and short people and strong and not so strong people are needed. Come help our community prepare for the birth of the Christ Child

Sunday, November 30th Kemmerer Village gifts are due!

**Saturday, December 6th @8a - 12p - "Breakfast with Santa"
 at the Jones Center.**

Bring your family to help serve!

Sunday, December 7th – Join in for Advent Fun!

There will be crafts, Advent tabletops (with real greens!) cookies and light lunch.
 Bring your family and friends.

Sunday, December 14th – Christmas Palooza!

Produced and written by Dan Marcotte, especially for youth!
 SWCCB will join in for the fun!

Wednesday, December 24th Christmas Eve! Our Service will be at 4:00pm.