



## 16th Sunday after Pentecost September 29th, 2019

### Prelude

### Welcome

**\*Gathering Hymn: #20** *All Things Bright and Beautiful*  
Royal Oak

### Prayer of the Day

**\*Hymn: #17** *Sing Praise to God, You Heavens!*  
Wie Lieblich ist Der Maien

### Prayer for Illumination

**The Word:** Luke 15:1-7

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### Teaching Moment:

**“ANIMALS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD”**

Rev. Dr. Paul J. Kirbas

**\*Hymn of Response: #37** *Let All Things Now Living*  
Ash Grove

### Congregational Prayer

Leader: Holy Creator, God of the universe, you made all creatures great and small and called us to care for them. Today we pray for them and their needs on earth here and now.

**Left Side (East):** We pray for the creatures of the farms, for the work they do and the gifts they give to sustain us and each other. We pray for their strength as they are used to work, their cunning as they are taught to protect, and their trust in us to be mindful of their well-being. Help us to be grateful and to care for their place in your creation.

**Right Side (West):** We pray for the creatures of the air and the fish of the sea, for the ways they live in harmony in an intricate and fine-tuned balance of perfection. You know what each creature needs and the ways they flourish, and you have charged us with caring for their way of life—the purity of the water, the cleanliness of the air. Help us to not let the comforts of our life impede upon their safety and well-being.

**Women:** We pray for the animals who are endangered and hunted, those who are losing their way of life and do not have the ability to ensure their own survival. Help us to be guardians of their habitats, food sources, and purpose in creation.

**Men:** We pray for the animals who nurture and care for other creatures, for those expecting offspring, and for those who lose their families to human and animal predators. We pray for

the fighting spirit of protection and for loyalty, for fierceness and for diligence. Be with these creatures of care as they so empathetically guard one another.

**All:** God, the task you gave us to care for the animals of the earth is a big one and we take it seriously. Help us to love the earth and all that is within it, valuing each creature as it is made by you and purposeful to the balance of life. Thank you for reminding us in these small ways how responsible we are for the kingdom you created. Through the power and glory of your name, through the life and example of Jesus your son, and through the ever-present nudging of the Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

**The Lord's Prayer** (*Traditional*) Hymnal p. 35

### \*Sharing of the Peace of Christ

Leader: Jesus constantly reminded us that our real citizenship is in the kingdom of heaven, where peace reigns supreme. May the peace of that Kingdom be with you all,

**People: And also with you.**

### Invitation to Give as We Have Been Blessed

### Offertory

**\*Doxology: #606**  
*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Old Hundredth

### \*Prayer of Dedication

### \*Charge & Benediction

**\*Closing Hymn: #748** *Go with Us, Lord*

Tallis' Canon

### \*Postlude

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\* This sign is an invitation, to all who are able, to stand as they offer God thanks and praise.

### Leading in Worship

**Pastor/Head of Staff:** Rev. Dr. Paul J. Kirbas

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Abbey Walker

**Director of Worship and Music:** Josh Phelps

**Worship and Music Interns**

**Piano:** Steve Thompson

**Bass:** Nelson González

## AT A GLANCE

### North Campus

14501 N Rockwell Ave, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73142  
(405) 509-9368  
facebook.com/wpcnorth

### Sunday Schedule

- 5 PM - Worship

### Central Campus

4400 North Shartel Avenue  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73118  
(405) 524-2224  
facebook.com/wpcokc

### Central Campus Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8 AM - 5 PM

Online [www.wpcokc.org](http://www.wpcokc.org)

### Sunday Schedule

- 8:30 AM - Chapel Worship
- 9:30 AM - Christian Education
- 10:30 AM - Sanctuary Worship

### Service Broadcast

Sundays -

- 5 AM on KOKH  
(check local listings)
- 11 AM on KOCO  
(check local listings)
- online via our LiveStream at:  
<http://www.wpcokc.com/live-streaming>

*I would like to speak with a pastor or ministry leader...*

**Rev. Dr. Paul Kirbas**, ext. 275

*Pastor / Head of Staff*

[pkirbas@wpcokc.org](mailto:pkirbas@wpcokc.org)

**Rev. Michelle Junkin**, ext. 222

*Senior Associate Pastor*

[mjunkin@wpcokc.org](mailto:mjunkin@wpcokc.org)

**Rev. Abbey Walker**, ext. 233

*Associate Pastor*

[awalker@wpcokc.org](mailto:awalker@wpcokc.org)

**Rev. Jennifer Kirbas**, ext. 224

*Parish Associate, Volunteer*

[jkirbas@wpcokc.org](mailto:jkirbas@wpcokc.org)

**Glenn Dunn**, ext. 229

*Commissioned Lay Pastor*

[glenneddunn3@yahoo.com](mailto:glenneddunn3@yahoo.com)

**Josh Phelps**

*Director of Worship & Music*

[jphelps@wpcokc.org](mailto:jphelps@wpcokc.org)

**Michelle Smith**, ext. 244

*Children's Ministry Director*

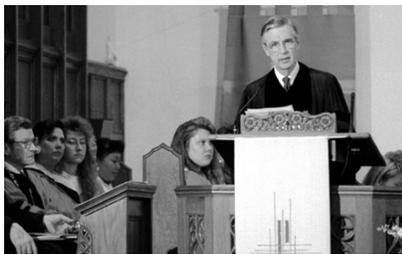
[msmith@wpcokc.org](mailto:msmith@wpcokc.org)

**Jay Seymour**, ext. 232

*Youth Director*

[wpcyouth@wpcokc.org](mailto:wpcyouth@wpcokc.org)

## A NOTE FROM REV. DR. PAUL J. KIRBAS



Hi, Neighbor!

Today we continue our new worship series entitled "To Be a Neighbor." With a major motion picture coming out this fall in which Tom Hanks will be playing the role of Mister Rogers, and as we celebrate the 50 year mark of his first showing of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, this is a good time to renew our understanding of who Fred Rogers was and what his message was all about.

Today, we turn from some of his more umbrella values, such as love, humility, peace, and self-control, to some of his more particular issues of justice that he addressed in his show and his ministry. These are social justice issues such as hunger, creation care, and animal welfare. Our connected activities with these subjects include our food bags that will be blessed in our service today; the prayers for peace that you offered that will be

included in our pastoral prayer today; and the animal blessing at our North Campus that will be happening next Sunday at 5 PM.

In addition, there are two new classes that I am offering in the spirit of the values of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood. Our Sunday morning Pastor's Class is seeking new ways to build bridges between people who see religion and politics in very different ways. And for our October Wednesday evening Bridge series, I will be leading a class on the theme of Empathy, as we consider evidence that a decrease in public empathy is directly related to the increase of violence in our society.

For those of us who are digging deeper into the spirit of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, we are discovering much more than a simple children's TV show. We are uncovering desperately needed medicine for our ill society. So now, let's continue our "To Be a Neighbor" series. Welcome back to the Neighborhood!

In God's Grace,

**Rev. Dr. Paul J. Kirbas**

*Pastor/Head of Staff*

## CONGREGATIONAL OFFERINGS

### Sudden Infant Loss October 2 & 16 / 6 PM North Campus

SIL is a support group for mothers who have experienced infant loss. There will be lite refreshments provided. To reserve childcare, please email Lynne Bowers at [melodielynnbowers@gmail.com](mailto:melodielynnbowers@gmail.com).

### Wednesday Opportunities The Bridge

**Wednesday Evening Offerings at Central Campus**

**Dates:** Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23

**Dinner Time:** 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM

**Class Times:** 6:15 PM - 7 PM

**Dinner Cost:** Adults: \$7 / Kids: \$5 / Family  
Max: \$25

- Wednesday, Oct 2 - Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Salad, Dessert
- Wednesday, Oct 9 - Chicken Tetrazzini, Garlic Bread, Salad, Dessert

**RSVP for dinner:** sign up in the Garden Court or online at [wpcokc.com](http://wpcokc.com). The deadline to RSVP for the Oct 2 dinner is noon on Monday, September 30.

### BARRE North Campus

Don't forget that we have weekly Barre

classes (think ballet workout meets Pilates) on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 5:45-6:45 p.m.

### Football, Chili, & Fun

**October 26th:** Are you an OU or OSU fan? Well, both teams have an away game on October 26th and so we'd like to get together and watch the games (in a friendly manner) on the big screens and have a chili cookoff! What better way to really get into the spirit of Fall than football, chili, and fun? This event is open to anyone and we ask that you RSVP to Rev. Abbey Walker, [awalker@wpcokc.org](mailto:awalker@wpcokc.org); 405-524-2204, ext 233 so we know who is bringing chili and how many accoutrements we'll need to go with the food. Time: TBD based on game times.

### Drive-In Movie Night

**November 8th:** Come and watch a fun, "drive-in" movie with us! We will be projecting a movie onto the south side of the North Campus building and setting up a popcorn and hot dog station. The movie will be family friendly—so grab some friends, neighbors, nieces/nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, kids, blankets, lawn chairs, bug spray, and your favorite movie candy to share and come join us! Movie time: TBD based on when it gets dark.