

KIRK IN THE HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
9:00 A.M. GARDEN | 11:00 A.M. SANCTUARY WORSHIP
10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | AUGUST 2, 2026



Delight
yourself
in
The
Lord
and
He will give
you
the desires
of your
heart



A Note from Pastor Edwin!

Welcome to worship at the Kirk in the Hills. Whether you are a long-time member, a returning friend, or a first-time visitor, we are grateful that you are here. Summer offers a unique opportunity to slow down, reconnect, and enjoy many of the gifts God has given us—time with family and friends, travel and recreation, evenings on the lake, walks through beautiful gardens, and moments of rest and renewal.

This year, as our nation commemorates the 250th anniversary of American Independence, we give thanks for the blessings of freedom while recommitting ourselves to working toward *a more perfect union, with liberty and justice for all*. As Christians, we remember that our highest allegiance is to God, whose kingdom calls us to seek the common good and love our neighbors.

Throughout the summer, our worship series, **Summer in the Psalms: Songs from the Heart of David**, invites us to pray, sing, reflect, and grow through the Bible's ancient songbook. The Psalms speak honestly about joy and sorrow, gratitude and struggle, worship and wonder, helping us discover God's presence in every season of life.

As you worship today, take in the beauty around you, the sunlight hitting the stained-glass windows just so, the gardens in bloom, the music that lifts our hearts, the prayers we offer, and the community gathered beside you. May this be a time to connect more deeply with God, with your own soul, and with the people God has placed in your life.

May you experience the Holy God today through worship and fellowship.

Join us next Sunday for **Psalm 40** and **Summer in the Psalms: Waiting on God**.

Let us worship God!

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

Sr. Pastor | Head of Staff | Kirk in the Hills



A Note from Pastor Matthew Means -Associate Pastor

Psalm 37 begins with a simple, yet challenging, exhortation: "Do not fret!"

During seasons when worry, frustration, and fear come far more naturally than peace, this may be easier said than done. Thankfully, the psalmist does not leave us there but gently guides us toward a different way of living – one rooted not in fear, but in faithful trust.

Consider the beautiful, faith-filled invitations woven throughout this psalm: trust in the Lord when the future is uncertain, delight in the Lord as the source of our deepest joy, and commit our way to the Lord, confident God is already at work before us. We are invited to be still before the Lord, to learn the grace of patient waiting, and to lay down anger and let go of wrath, allowing God's peace to shape our hearts in their place.

These are not burdensome commands, but life-giving practices of faith intended to draw us closer to the heart of God. As we prepare for worship, may God awaken a desire within our hearts, minds, bodies, and spirits to walk a path of righteousness that is not simply about avoiding what is wrong, but embracing the abundant life God longs to give.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9:00 a.m. Garden Worship

PRELUDE

Cantilena

Frederik Matthison-Hansen

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

* CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 90*)

Teach us to number our days,
that we may gain wise hearts.

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

**The Lord is our dwelling place
throughout all generations.**

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.
Praise the Lord!

* HYMN 410

God is Calling through the Whisper (*See page 10.*)

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

Eternal God,
Our days pass quickly
and we confess how often we fail to seek you.
We cling to what fades and neglect the treasure of your kingdom.
Forgive us for our pride, impatience, and unbelief.
By your Holy Spirit,
Teach us wisdom, deepen our trust,
And make us steadfast in faith and love;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Lord, Have Mercy

John Merbecke



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us; Christ, have mer - cy up - on us; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

Hear the promise of the gospel:
"If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
to forgive us our sins
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!
Alleluia, Amen!

* ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE 581

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

WORD

WORD WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Matthew Means

Children remain with their parent following the Word with Children during the month of August.

INVITATION HYMN

Jesus Loves Me

JESUS LOVES ME

Please join in singing.

1 Je - sus loves me! This I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so.
2 Je - sus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long a - go,

Lit - tle ones to him be-long. They are weak, but he is strong.
tak - ing chil - dren on his knee, say - ing, "Let them come to me."

Refrain

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!

Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

WORD

INSTRUMENTAL INTERLUDE In der Heimat Op. 43 No. 3

Edvard Grieg

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 37:1-8, 22-29

Elder Bobi Tallinger

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Summer in the Psalms: Do Not Fret

Rev. Matthew Means

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING IN THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

At the direction of the communion servers, please step towards the nearest communion station to receive the sacrament. We receive the bread with "Amen" after the server says, "This is the body of Christ." We receive the cup with "Thanks be to God" after the server says, "This is the cup of the new covenant"

COMMUNION MUSIC

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

In your body broken and in your blood shed for all of us, Lord, we have tasted and seen that you are good. In this meal, we have experienced again your deep love for your world. May the sweet taste of this meal strengthen us for living for you and remind us that we are called to live according to your will and to love as you love. Help us to yearn for your coming again, we pay in Jesus' name. Amen.

SENDING

* HYMN 661

Why Should I Feel Discouraged?
(See pages 11 & 12.)

SPARROW

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION *(seated)*

POSTLUDE

*Garden worshippers are encouraged to drop off donations in the baskets located at the Celtic Cross near ramp or at the door to the cloister as you exit to the front patio as you depart. Please see notes on page 6.
Join us for coffee and fellowship on the patio immediately following service!*

INFORMATION ON TODAY'S SERVICES

Musicians: Melody Wootton, violin; Jesse Ward, cantor; Marilyn Biery, organist

About the Music: **Edvard Hagerup Grieg**, pianist and composer, (1843-1907) was born in Bergen, Norway. His use of Norwegian folk music in his compositions brought the music of Norway to the rest of the world. He is considered to be a significant Romantic-era composer, and his music is part of the standard repertoire of classical music.

Frederik Matthison-Hansen (1868-1933) was a Danish organist and composer. He came from a musical family, as his father, grandfather, and uncle were all organists and composers. His father and uncle were his first teachers. He worked as an organist and singing teacher—most of his music was written for the church.

Amanda Röntgen-Maier (1853-1894) was a Swedish violinist and composer. She was the first woman to graduate with a degree in music direction from the Royal College of Music (1872), where she also studied violin, organ, piano, cello, composition, and harmony. She continued her composition and violin studies in Leipzig, where she met and married the composer Julius Engelbert Röntgen, son of her violin teacher in Leipzig. The marriage ended her performing career, but she continued to compose. She contracted tuberculosis in 1887 and died at the age of 41.

Jean Sibelius (1865-1957) was a Finnish composer and violinist, widely regarded as his country's greatest composer. His seven symphonies are regularly performed in his home country as well as internationally. Some of his works were inspired by nature, some by Nordic mythology. He wrote incidental music for plays, an opera, numerous pieces for voice and piano, choral music, chamber music, and piano music.

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Stephen Ministers are available for personal, confidential prayer in the Garden after the 9:00 a.m. outdoor worship and in Melrose Chapel immediately following each service Sunday. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer please contact Nancy Lau at 248-835-6691. If you are interested in being connected with a Stephen Minister, please call Robin Brinks at 248-310-2034.

Feeling called to join the Kirk Church Family? Mercy Adams - Kirk Member, Stephen Minister, Usher, New Member and Outreach & Mission Committees is here to guide your faith journey! Scan the QR code to register for the next **New Member Orientation and Fellowship gathering Saturday, August 8 at 10AM**, or call Mercy at 248-631-4565 for more information.



Camera and Phone Usage Guidelines: Out of respect for your fellow worshipers and those leading worship, we kindly ask you to silence cellphones and other communication devices and to refrain from taking photos or video during worship. Recordings of past worship services and other sanctuary events are available at kirkinthehills.org/worship/past-messages.

Deacon Flower Ministry: If you or someone you know needs a little cheering up, our Deacon flower ministry has bud vases each Sunday in the narthex. Please take a flower to remind someone of God's love or to remind yourself of the same. *Please do not take these glass bud vases out to the Columbarium—the wind blows them over and the glass breaks.*

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

PRELUDE

Tranquillamente from Six Pieces for Violin and Piano

Amanda Röntgen-Maier

Cantilena

Frederik Matthison-Hansen

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

* *Please rise in body or spirit at the ringing of the bell.*

* CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 90*)

Teach us to number our days,
that we may gain wise hearts.

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

**The Lord is our dwelling place
throughout all generations.**

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 410

God is Calling Through the Whisper

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

Eternal God,

Our days pass quickly

and we confess how often we fail to seek you.

We cling to what fades and neglect the treasure of your kingdom.

Forgive us for our pride, impatience, and unbelief.

By your Holy Spirit,

Teach us wisdom, deepen our trust,

And make us steadfast in faith and love;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Lord, Have Mercy

John Merbecke



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us; Christ, have mer-cy up-on us; Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

Hear the promise of the gospel:

"If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just

to forgive us our sins

and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

Alleluia, Amen!

* ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE 581

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI 7

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 37:1-8, 22-29 (*OT, page 510*)
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Elder Camille Breen

SERMON

Summer in the Psalms: Do Not Fret

Rev. Matthew Means

* HYMN 661

Why Should I Feel Discouraged?

SPARROW

(Please be seated after the hymn.)

THANKSGIVING

CALL TO OFFERING AND DEDICATION

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

Our giving is an offering to God. All offerings are part of our worship of God and are used to support the Kirk's ministry. Text "KITH" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.

INSTRUMENTAL OFFERTORY

In der Heimat Op. 43 No. 3

Edvard Grieg

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez & Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS|HYMN 552

Holy, Holy, Holy

LAND OF REST

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION|HYMN 553

Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen

LAND OF REST

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.**

AMEN|HYMN 554

LAND OF REST

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING IN THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*This morning the congregation is served in procession. Please remain seated until you are prompted by an usher to be served. For those unable to process forward, stay seated and a server will bring the sacrament to you.
Gluten-free bread is available in the center of the bread trays. Empty glasses are placed in the baskets provided near the communion servers.*

*We receive the bread with “**Amen**” after the server says, “This is the body of Christ.”*

*We receive the cup with “**Thanks be to God**” after the server says, “This is the cup of the new covenant”*

COMMUNION MUSIC

Impromptu No. 6 in E Major, Op. 5

Jean Sibelius

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

In your body broken and in your blood shed for all of us, Lord, we have tasted and seen that you are good. In this meal, we have experienced again your deep love for your world. May the sweet taste of this meal strengthen us for living for you and remind us that we are called to live according to your will and to love as you love. Help us to yearn for your coming again, we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

SENDING

*** RECESSIONAL HYMN 826**

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

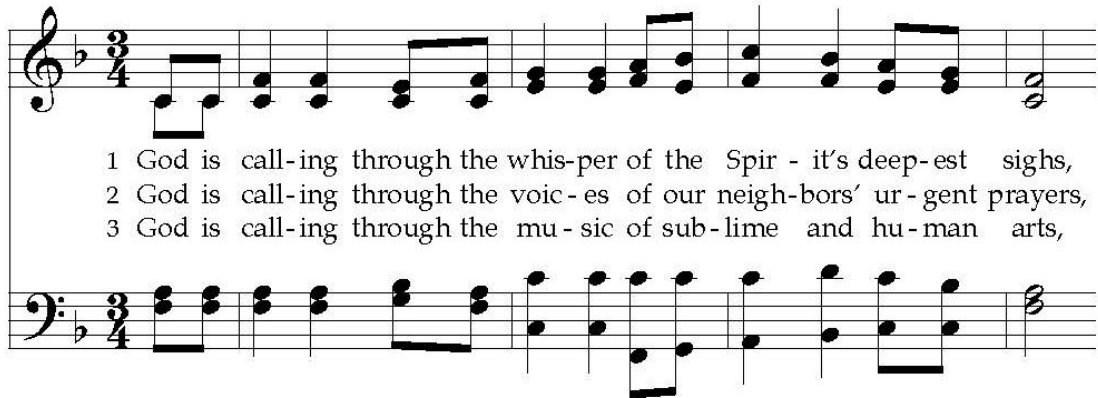
CHARGE AND BENEDICTION *(seated)*

POSTLUDE

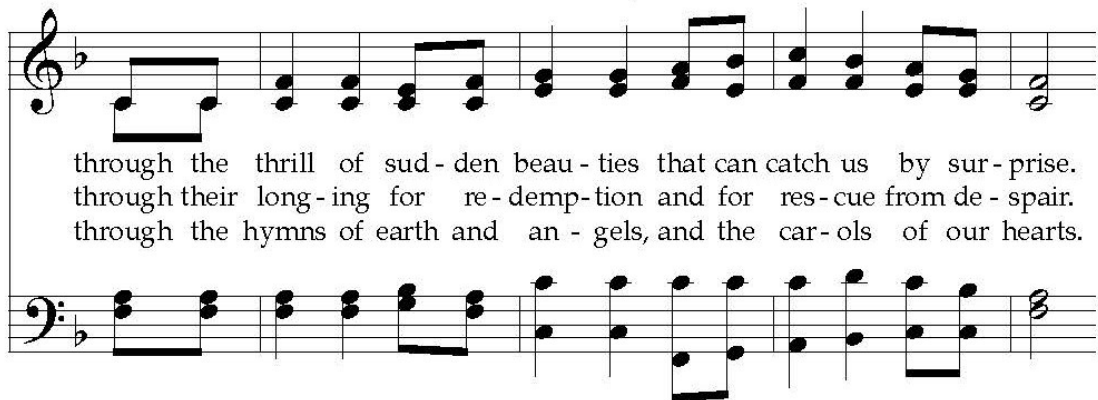
Fugue in C (Jig)

Dietrich Buxtehude

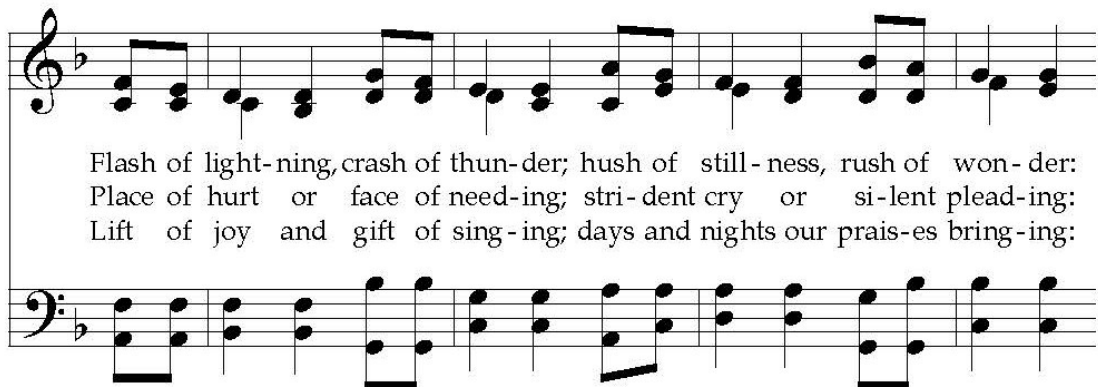
410 God Is Calling through the Whisper



1 God is call-ing through the whis-per of the Spir - it's deep-est sighs,
 2 God is call-ing through the voic-es of our neigh-bors' ur-gent prayers,
 3 God is call-ing through the mu-sic of sub-lime and hu-man arts,



through the thrill of sud-den beau-ties that can catch us by sur-prise.
 through their long-ing for re-demp-tion and for res-cue from de-spair.
 through the hymns of earth and an-gels, and the car-ols of our hearts.



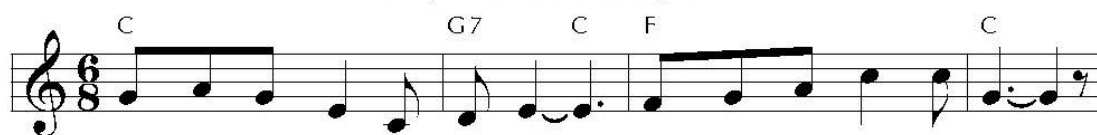
Flash of light-ning, crash of thun-der; hush of still-ness, rush of won-der:
 Place of hurt or face of need-ing; stri-dent cry or si-lent plead-ing:
 Lift of joy and gift of sing-ing; days and nights our prais-es bring-ing:



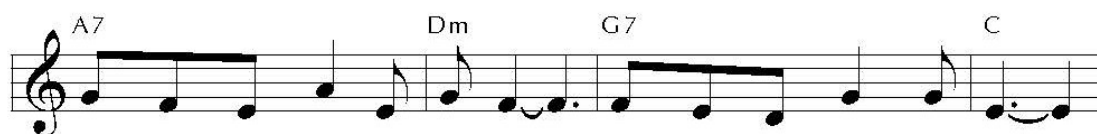
God is call - ing—can you hear? God is call - ing—can you hear?
 God is call - ing—can you hear? God is call - ing—can you hear?
 God is call - ing—and we hear! God is call - ing—and we hear!

661 Why Should I Feel Discouraged?

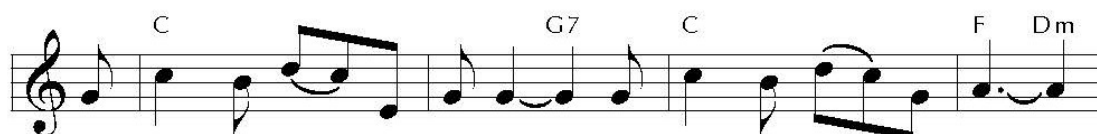
His Eye Is on the Sparrow



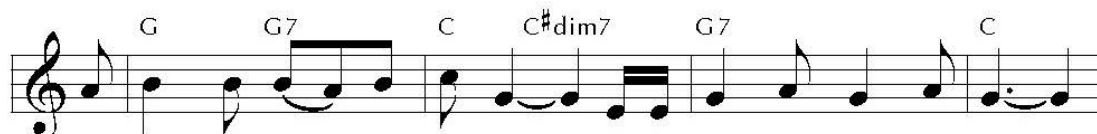
1 Why should I feel dis-cour-aged? Why should the shad-ows come?
 2 "Let not your heart be trou-bled," his ten-der word I hear,
 3 When-ev-er I am tempt-ed, when-ev-er clouds a-rise,



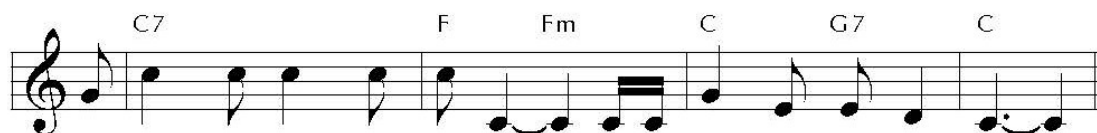
Why should my heart be lone-ly and long for heaven and home,
 and rest-ing on his good-ness, I lose my doubts and fears;
 when song gives place to sigh-ing, when hope with-in me dies,



when Je-sus is my por-tion? My con-stant friend is he:
 though by the path he lead-eth but one step I may see:
 I draw the clos-er to him; from care he sets me free:



his eye is on the spar-row, and I know he watch-es me;



his eye is on the spar-row, and I know he watch-es me.



I sing be-cause I'm hap-py, (I'm hap-py) I sing be-cause I'm free, (I'm free)

C7 F Fm C G7 C
 for his eye is on the spar-row, and I know he watch-es me.



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