

KIRK IN THE HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. SANCTUARY WORSHIP
16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | SEPTEMBER 13, 2026





A Note from Pastor Edwin!

*Friend there is a welcome in this church for thee;
Come in and rest and think and kneel and pray;
What men have builded for God's glory see;
Give thanks and so in peace be on thy way.*

If you entered through the main Sanctuary doors, you may have noticed these very words—or, like me, missed them many times. Painted in gold leaf above the doors, they offer a gracious message of greeting. Today is **Welcome Back to Church Sunday**, observed by churches across the country, and in the spirit of that message, I want to welcome you to the Kirk—whether you are visiting with us, returning after a time away, or have worshiped here for many years.

This Sunday marks the beginning of our **ministry program year**, when the life of our congregation becomes more fully alive again through choir and acolytes, Sunday School, youth groups, Bible studies, music, fellowship, outreach, and so much more. As summer travel winds down, children and grandchildren return to school, calendars begin to fill, and the first hints of autumn appear, I hope you will find here a church community that offers spiritual support in every season through Christ. If you are looking for a church home, prayerfully consider the Kirk.

This morning we begin a new sermon series, **Life of David**, building on our summer series, *Summer in the Psalms: Songs from the Heart of David*. Throughout the summer, we listened to David sing his way through the great movements of life—joy and sorrow, trust and fear, praise and lament, triumph and failure. Now we turn from David's songs to David's story.

Over the next three weeks—too short a journey, I know—we will encounter David in three dimensions: **The Shepherd and Anointed One; The Poet and Prophet; and The Warrior and King**. David knew ambition and insecurity, courage and fear, love and betrayal, success and failure. He knew what it meant to lead, and he knew what it meant to lose his way. In a time when our world is beset by crises of meaning, leadership, integrity, unity, purpose, and peace, David's life offers us a window into our own world, our families, and our souls.

Most of all, I pray that David's story will not remain merely a story about someone who lived long ago. I pray that, through his story, we might hear God speaking into our own stories—calling us, challenging us, forgiving us, and reminding us that we are seen, known, and loved.

Welcome to Kirk in the Hills. Let us now prepare our hearts for worship.

Let us worship God!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edwin", written in a cursive style.

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez
Sr. Pastor | Head of Staff | Kirk in the Hills

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9:00 a.m. Sanctuary

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Adagio from Sonata in G minor, BWV 1020

Johann Sabastian Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

* CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is our shepherd;
We Shall not want.

Elder Ann Hartzell

**God leads us beside still waters
And restores our souls.**

God sees what the world cannot see
And calls whom the world overlooks.

**We come to the God who knows us,
calls us, and leads us.**

Let us worship the Lord, our Shepherd and our King.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 641

When in Our Music God Is Glorified

ENGELBERG

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Good Shepherd,
we confess that we have wandered.
We have trusted our own way rather than your voice;
We have judged by appearances rather than looked upon the heart.
Seek us when we stray.
Restore us when we are weary.
Lead us again in paths of righteousness.
Create in us hearts that belong wholly to you. (Silence is held.)

Rev. Matthew Means

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the Good News!
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!
Alleluia, Amen!

Rev. Matthew Means

* ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE 581 **Glory Be to the Father**

GLORIA PATRI

WORD

WORD WITH CHILDREN

Sarah Ford

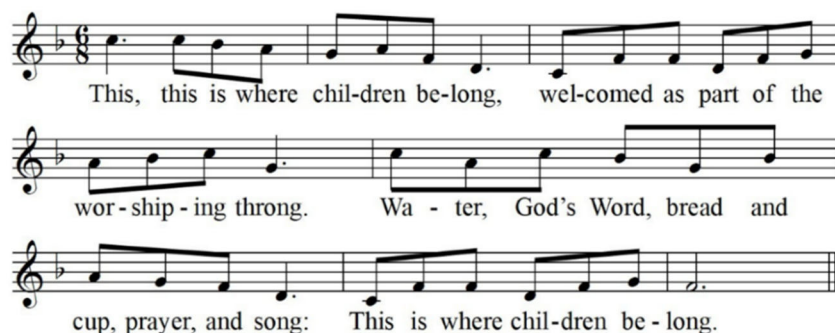
Following the Word with Children, children and youth ages 3 through grade 8 will be dismissed for Sunday School.

INVITATION HYMN

Where Children Belong

James Ritchie

Please join in singing.



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH WITH CHILDREN

The Apostles' Creed (*Hymnal, page 35.*)

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 16:1-13 (*OT, page 259.*)

Elder Ann Hartzell

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Life of David: The Shepherd and Anointed

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

* HYMN 803

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

RESIGNATION

THANKSGIVING

CALL TO OFFERING AND DEDICATION

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

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.

OFFERTORY

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Johann Sebastian Bach

*Jesu, joy of man's desiring,
Holy wisdom, Love most bright,
Drawn by thee, our souls aspiring
Soar to uncreated light.
Word of God our flesh that fashioned
With the fire of life impassioned,
Striving still to truth unknown,
Soaring, dying round thy throne.*

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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND SANCTUS (*Please sing with the choir.*)

Holy, Holy: 552

LAND OF REST

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (*Please sing with the choir.*)

Acclamation: 553

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 *(Please sing with the choir.)*

Amen: 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

555 O Lamb of God

LAND OF REST

(Please sing with the choir.)

CHORAL MUSIC

Lead Me, Lord (Psalm 4)

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy righteousness,

Make Thy way plain before my face.

For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord, Only

That makest me dwell in safety.

COMMUNION MUSIC

517 Here, O Our Lord

MORECAMBE

(Please sing with the choir.)

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. Thank you for giving us new life and new hope and for preparing us to live as your people. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness of heart. Amen.

SENDING

*** HYMN 620**

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

LAUDA ANIMA

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

A Trumpet Minuet

Alfred Hollins

INFORMATION ON TODAY'S SERVICES

Feeling called to join Kirk in the Hills? Mercy Adams—Kirk Member, Stephen Minister, Usher, and staff support to New Member and Evangelism and Outreach & Mission Committees is here to guide you. Meet Mercy after Sunday Worship in the narthex or call her directly at 248-973-8013.

Musicians: Dr. Merideth Hite Estevez, oboe; David Enos, organ; The Kirk Chancel Choir, Dr. Horst Buchholz, director.

About the Music: This Sunday begins a three-week journey through different musical settings of **Psalm 23**, the beloved psalm of the Good Shepherd and perhaps the best-known of all 150 psalms. Across these weeks we will hear choral settings and sing hymns inspired by this most pastoral and comforting text.

Today's **Introit** comes from the **Genevan Psalter (1551)**, the great Reformation collection of metrical psalms prepared under the supervision of **John Calvin**. Its composers included **Louis Bourgeois**, whose work remains familiar to us every week—he is the author of the melody for the Doxology we sing at each Sunday service.

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750), regarded as one of the greatest composers in Western music, contributed immeasurably to the organ, keyboard, choral, and orchestral repertoire. The **Adagio** heard today is the second movement of his *Sonata in G minor*, BWV 1020, a work of lyrical beauty and expressive depth. Our **Offertory anthem**, *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* from Cantata 147, is perhaps Bach's most cherished choral piece. Its text reflects Christ our Shepherd and Lord, drawing the longing soul toward the transforming light of God, where truth, love, and self-offering find their fulfillment before His throne.

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–1876), grandson of Charles Wesley and son of Samuel Wesley, was named "Sebastian" in honor of his father's lifelong admiration for Bach. A distinguished British organist and composer, he served at the cathedrals of Winchester and Gloucester and later taught at the Royal Academy of Music. His anthem **Lead Me, Lord** is a classic example of the English verse anthem, in which solo passages alternate with full choral sections to create a prayerful and expressive musical dialogue.

Alfred Hollins (1865-1942) was a British organist and composer who was blind from birth. Nevertheless, he had a remarkable performance career and gave recitals in England, Scotland, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand. His **Trumpet Minuet** is one of his most charming and beloved pieces.

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Stephen Ministers are available for personal, confidential prayer 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.



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.

Cover Art: Anointing of David | Artist name not listed | from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the *Vanderbilt University Divinity Library*, Nashville, TN.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Adagio from Sonata in G minor, BWV 1020

Johann Sebastian Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

* INTROIT

The Lord My Shepherd (*Psalm 23*)

Genevan Psalter

*The Lord my Shepherd in His love defends me.
I shall not want; in pastures green He tends me,
Makes me lie down, His care and mercy showing;
Leads me where peaceful streams are gently flowing.
He for His name's sake surely will restore me;
In paths of righteousness He goes before me.*

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Lynda Wilds

The Lord is our shepherd;
We Shall not want.

**God leads us beside still waters
And restores our souls.**

God sees what the world cannot see
And calls whom the world overlooks.

**We come to the God who knows us,
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Restore us when we are weary.
Lead us again in paths of righteousness.
Create in us hearts that belong wholly to you.**

* 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. Matthew Means

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In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!
Alleluia, Amen!

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Drawn by thee, our souls aspiring
Soar to uncreated light.
Word of God our flesh that fashioned
With the fire of life impassioned,
Striving still to truth unknown,
Soaring, dying round thy throne.*

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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.

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SENDING

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Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

LAUDA ANIMA

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Sixfold Amen

Walter J. Clemson

POSTLUDE

A Trumpet Minuet

Alfred Hollins



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