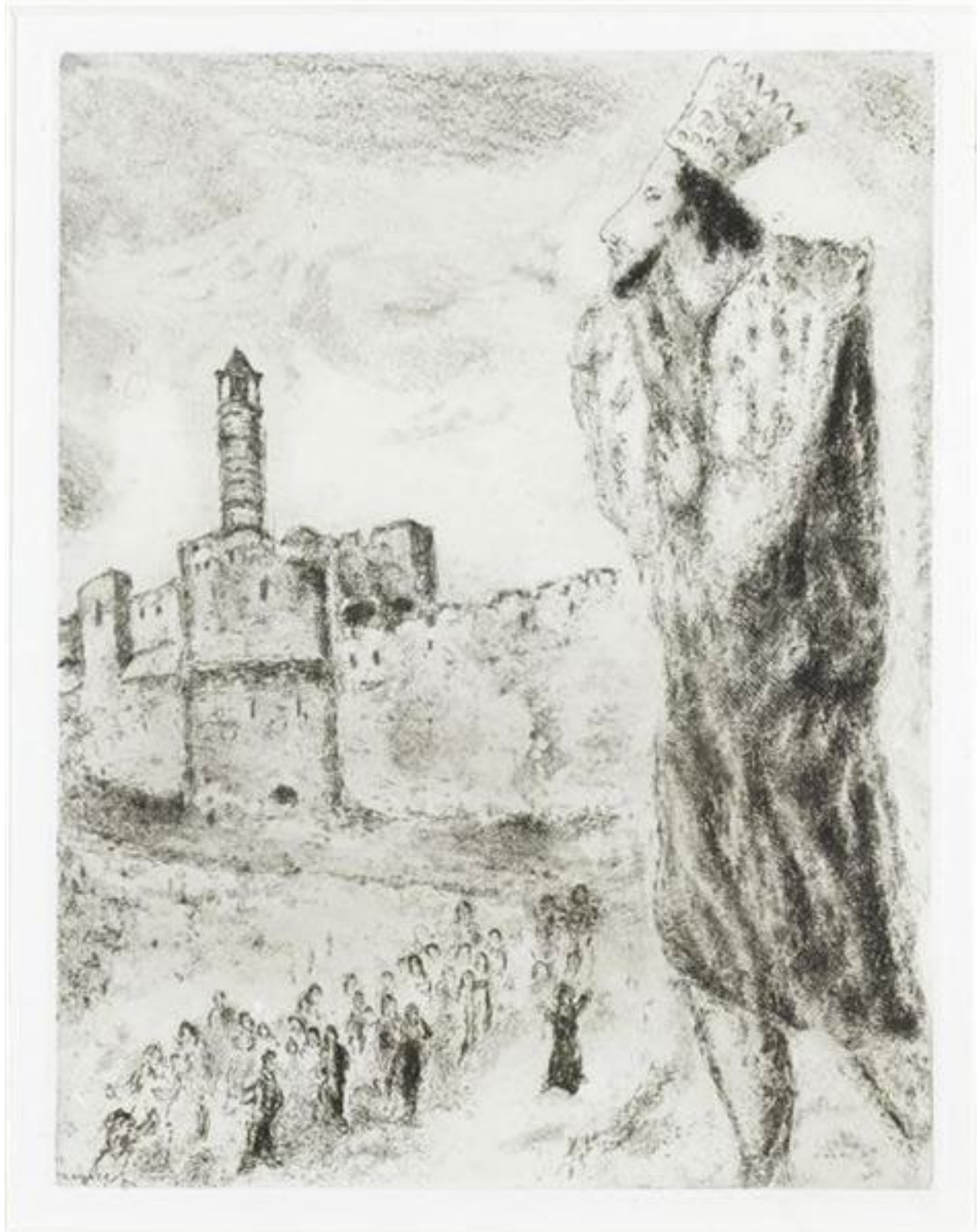


KIRK IN THE HILLS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)  
9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. SANCTUARY WORSHIP  
17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | SEPTEMBER 20, 2026





## 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.*

Welcome to the Kirk! We are grateful that God's Spirit has gathered us together. May you find room to rest, pray, listen, and be renewed by the grace of Jesus Christ.

A special highlight of our worship today is the **State of the Kirk**. It is an opportunity for our ministries to share glimpses of what we believe God has done and is doing among us. We will hear how faithful gifts of time, talent, prayer, and generosity are bearing fruit as lives are shaped, burdens are shared, neighbors are served, and disciples are formed.

As you listen, consider where God may be calling you to take part. Perhaps there is a ministry to explore, a gift to offer, or a relationship waiting to be formed. If the Kirk has become a spiritual home for you, please prayerfully consider joining as a member—a commitment to walk with others in worship, service, generosity, and hope. We would be glad to help you learn more.

Our sermon continues with the **Life of David**. Last Sunday we met David as **Shepherd and Anointed**; today we turn to David as **Poet and Prophet**. His words gave voice to praise and lament, courage and confession. Yet the poet who spoke truth before God also needed a prophet willing to speak God's truth to him. In David, we see both the beauty of a heart poured out and the humility to receive correction.

The Church shares that calling: to tell the story of God's faithfulness and listen for God's continuing call. The State of the Kirk invites us to celebrate without complacency, give thanks without claiming the glory, and look ahead with trust.

Come with gratitude and expectation, ready to sing, hear, respond, and perhaps discover your place in this unfolding story. Welcome to Kirk in the Hills. Let us prepare our hearts for worship and give thanks for all God has done and is doing among us.

Looking Ahead:

Homecoming | Sunday, September 27, 2026

Kyes Weekend | Friday – Sunday, October 2-4 (See today's @ the Kirk for ways to register!)

**Let us worship God!**

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 Worship

## THE GATHERING

### PRELUDE

*Andante from Sonata No. 1*

*Joseph Rheinberger*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

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

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is our shepherd;  
We shall not want.

Elder Katelyn Haan

**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 687

**O God, Our Help in Ages Past**

ST. ANNE

### \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Good Shepherd, Rev. Rami Almaqdasi  
**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.)**

### \* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the Good News!

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

**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

## WORD

### WORD WITH CHILDREN

Sarah Ford

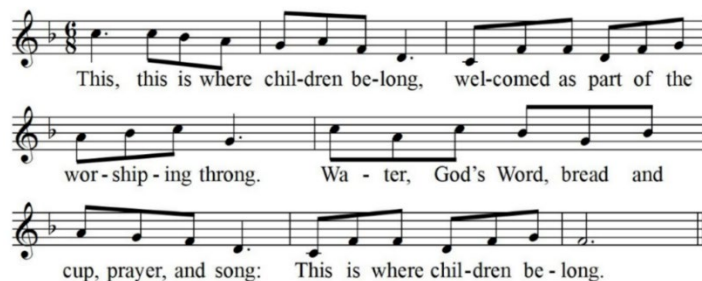
*Following the Word with Children, children and youth ages 3 through grade 8 will be dismissed for Sunday School.*

### INVITATION HYMN

**Where Children Belong**

*James Ritchie*

*Please join in singing.*



### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH WITH CHILDREN

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

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

**God Be in my Head (Sarum 1545)**

*John Rutter*

*God be in my head and in my understanding.  
God be in mine eyes and in my looking.  
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.  
God be in my heart and in my thinking.  
God be at mine end and in my departing.*

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**2 Samuel 23:1-7** (OT, page 299.)

Elder Katelyn Haan

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

**The Life of David: The Poet and Prophet**

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

\* HYMN 802

**The King of Love My Shepherd Is**

ST. COLUMBA

**THANKSGIVING**

**CALL TO OFFERING AND DEDICATION**

Rev. Matthew Means

*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**

**Bless The Lord O My Soul**

*Mikhail Ippolitov-Ivanov*

*Bless Thou the Lord, O my soul.  
Bless the Lord, and forget not all His benefits.  
Bless Thou the Lord, O my soul,  
And all that is within me bless His Holy Name.  
He is full of compassion and mercy,  
Long suffering and great in goodness.  
He will not always be chiding,  
Nor keepeth He His wrath for ever.  
Bless Thou the Lord, O my soul.  
O blessed art Thou, O Lord.*

\* DOXOLOGY (*Hymn 606*)

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him\* all creatures here below;  
Praise him\* above, ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
\* or God**

**PRAYER**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*debts' and debtors'...*)

Rev. Matthew Means

**SENDING**

\* HYMN 41

**O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!**

LYONS

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

**Festive Processional**

*Dr. Horst Buchholz*

## 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:** David Enos, Horst Buchholz, organ; The Kirk Chancel Choir

**About the Music:** We continue our three-week journey through musical settings of **Psalm 23**, the beloved psalm of the Good Shepherd and perhaps the best-known of all 150 psalms. Throughout these weeks we hear choral settings and sing hymns inspired by this most pastoral and comforting text.

Today's **Introit** comes from the **Scottish Psalter of 1650**, the great metrical psalter of the Reformed tradition. Unique among psalters of its era, it was not the work of a single editor but a carefully assembled collection approved by the entire Scottish Church—an enduring testament to communal authorship and theological clarity.

**Joseph Rheinberger (1839–1901)**, born in Liechtenstein and active for most of his life in Munich, was both a distinguished organist and a prolific composer. His twenty organ sonatas are regarded as one of the finest and most substantial contributions to the genre. As Professor of Composition at the Munich Conservatory, he influenced a generation of musicians, including several Americans such as **Horatio Parker** and **George Chadwick**.

**John Rutter**, English composer and conductor, is known worldwide for his contributions to choral music. His recordings with the **Cambridge Singers**, the professional chamber choir he founded in 1983, have reached an international audience and shaped modern choral sound. *God Be in My Head* sets a brief prayer from the **Sarum Primer of 1545**; in its simplicity and tenderness, it stands among Rutter's most exquisite miniatures.

Our **Offertory anthem**, *Bless the Lord, O My Soul*, is by **Mikhail Ippolitov-Ivanov (1859–1935)**, a Russian composer who taught for many years at the Moscow Conservatory and later served as its Director. After the Russian Revolution he worked as a conductor at the Bolshoi Theater. Like many Russian composers best known for their orchestral works, he also wrote choral music for the Orthodox liturgy in a distinctive "**church style**," marked by rich harmonies and solemn, resonant textures.

The **Festive Processional** by **Horst Buchholz** was composed in 2021 to mark the arrival of Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski in St. Louis. Written in the tradition of English trumpet tunes, it combines ceremonial brilliance with rhythmic vitality, creating a joyful musical procession.

**Copyright acknowledgements:** The following is used with permission, OneLicense.net License No. 717156-A. All rights reserved. "Where Children Belong," by James Ritchie, © 1999 Abingdon Press (admin. By The Copyright Co., Nashville, TN).

**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.



**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: King David** | Marc Chagall, etching | from **Wikiart**.

**The flowers on the altar** are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of their beloved Cate, by the Hay family. This year's design was chosen to match the bridesmaid bouquet Cate would have carried in her brother CJ's wedding.

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

11:00 a.m. | Sanctuary Worship

## THE GATHERING

### PRELUDE

*Andante* from Sonata No. 1

Joseph Rheinberger

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

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

### \* INTROIT

**The Lord My Shepherd** (*Psalm 23*)

Scottish Psalter

*The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;  
He makes me down to lie in pastures green;  
He leadeth me the quiet waters by.  
My soul he doth restore again,  
And me to walk doth make within the paths of righteousness,  
E'en for his own name's sake..*

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is our shepherd;  
We shall not want.

Trustee Bruce Miller

**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.

### \* HYMN 641

**When in Our Music God Is Glorified**

ENGELBERG

### \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Good Shepherd, Rev. Rami Almaqdasi  
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.

### \* 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

Friends, believe the Good News!  
**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

**WORD**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**2 Samuel 23:1-7** (OT, page 299.)

Elder Bruce Miller

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

**God Be in my Head (Sarum 1545)**

John Rutter

*God be in my head and in my understanding.*

*God be in mine eyes and in my looking.*

*God be in my mouth and in my speaking.*

*God be in my heart and in my thinking.*

*God be at mine end and in my departing.*

**SERMON**

**The Life of David: The Poet and Prophet**

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

**\* HYMN 802**

**The King of Love My Shepherd Is**

ST. COLUMBA

**THANKSGIVING**

**CALL TO OFFERING AND DEDICATION**

Rev. Matthew Means

*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**

**Bless The Lord O My Soul**

Mikhail Ippolitov-Ivanov

*Bless Thou the Lord, O my soul.*

*Bless the Lord, and forget not all His benefits.*

*Bless Thou the Lord, O my soul,*

*And all that is within me bless His Holy Name.*

*He is full of compassion and mercy,*

*Long suffering and great in goodness.*

*He will not always be chiding,*

*Nor keepeth He His wrath for ever.*

*Bless Thou the Lord, O my soul.*

*O blessed art Thou, O Lord.*

**\* DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)**

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise him\* all creatures here below;**

**Praise him\* above, ye heavenly host,**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**\* or God**

**PRAYER**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER** (debts' and debtors'...)

Rev. Matthew Means

**SENDING**

**\* HYMN 41**

**O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!**

LYONS

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

**Threefold Amen**

**Festive Processional**

*Traditional*

*Dr. Horst Buchholz*



1340 West Long Lake Road  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302  
(248) 626-2515  
[kirkinthehills.org](http://kirkinthehills.org)  
[facebook.com/kirkinthehills](https://facebook.com/kirkinthehills)

