

KIRK IN THE HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. SANCTUARY WORSHIP
21TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | OCTOBER 18, 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.*

(As seen above the red front exterior door of our Sanctuary.)

Welcome to Worship at Kirk in the Hills!

Welcome to regular Kirk congregants, friends, and community visitors. We continue our stewardship sermon series, *Full Sail Church: A Seafaring Faith!*

Stewardship is about far more than pledges and bank accounts; it is about the condition of our souls and what our hearts truly value. Offering our time, talent, and treasure is an act of worship, trust, and discipleship as we follow where Christ leads. Your generous commitment helps sustain the Kirk's ministries, nurture our children and youth, strengthen our music and Christian education, and extend Christ's love throughout our local community and around the world.

Whatever your household circumstances, we invite you to make a pledge that reflects your faith and comes wholeheartedly, at whatever amount you discern. Thank you for prayerfully considering how your household will help the Kirk into 2027.

I will be away at a Pastor's retreat in Montana beginning today, where I will be learning, planning, and praying for each of you at the Kirk—I hope you'll pray for me, too, and my family. I'm thankful to welcome to the pulpit, Rev. Marilyn Borst, our Interim Director for Mission and Kirk Women. She will preach on mission as central to our calling as the Church and part of how we steward our resources.

Together, let us open the sails of our hearts to the Spirit and follow Christ toward God's horizon!

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

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



Note from Rev. Marilyn Borst!

Today's message zeros in on a most amazing incident in the life of Peter, arguably the most impetuous and boldest of Christ's disciples. As he and his fellow-followers find themselves afloat on a stormy Sea of Galilee, they spot an apparition coming towards them—striding on top of the waves! Recognizing their fear, the Lord (aka, the "ghost") calls out "Take courage. It is I!" When Christ issues the invitation, "COME" Peter doesn't miss a beat, and throwing his leg over the edge of the boat, he stands up and moves toward his Lord. And that's when his confidence flounders, and he begins to sink.

As Christ calls his Church (including *this* one!!!) to follow him out into his Kingdom-building-mission—across the city or across the world—challenges may arise and our own insecurities run the risk of sinking our efforts—unless we stay focused on the One who calls us. Join me on Sunday as we venture back out in our boat and hoist our sails to the Spirit's steady wind!

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9:00 a.m. | Sanctuary Worship

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Lobe den Herren

Joh. G. Walther

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Matthew Means

STEWARDSHIP II

Elder Katelyn Haan

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

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Elder Henry Hoot

Remember the waters of baptism.

We remember that we belong to Christ.

Called by name, marked by grace, and sent into the world.

We are God's beloved, and we go where Christ sends us.

Let us worship the God who claims us and calls us.

Let us worship the God whose grace is deeper than the sea.

* **PROCESSIONAL HYMN 35**

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

* **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

Gracious God, you have called us your beloved,
yet at times we forget whose we are.

**We seek our worth in achievement, our security in possessions,
and our identity in the approval of others.**

Forgive us, O Lord.

Return us to the waters of grace.

Remind us that we belong to you

and that your gifts are given for the life of the world.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Silence is held.)

* **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

Remember your baptism and be thankful:
God's grace is deeper than our sin.

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

ST. CECILIA CHOIR

God Be in My Head

Carol McClure

God be in my head and in my understanding;

God be in my eyes and in my looking;

God be in my head; God be in my eyes;

God be in all of me.

God be in my mouth and in my speaking;

God be in my heart and in my thinking;

God be in my mouth; God be in my heart;

God be at my end.

Amen.

WORD WITH CHILDREN

Sarah Ford

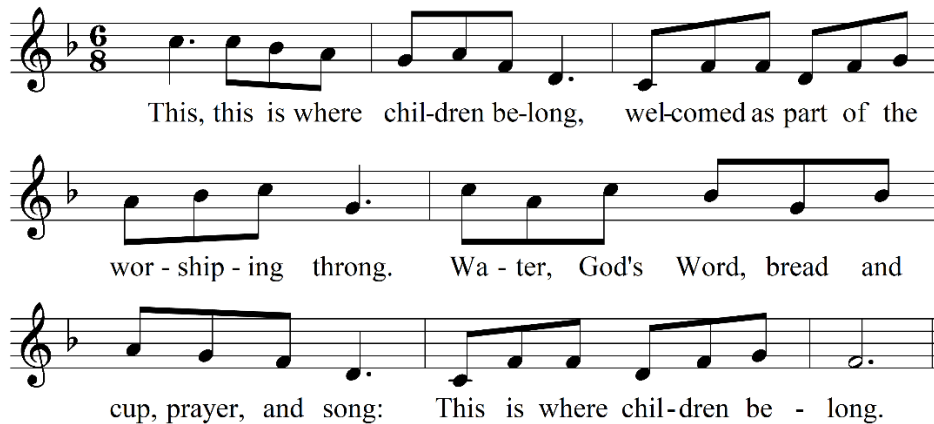
Following the Word with Children, children and youth ages 3 through grade 8 will be dismissed for Sunday School.

INVITATION HYMN

Where Children Belong

James Ritchie

Please join in singing.



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH WITH CHILDREN

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

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Across the Ocean

EVENTIDE

*Across the ocean wide our ship is drawn,
The faithful sail receives the breath of dawn;
The steadfast mast stands firm through wind and wave,
And guides us onward, strong to seek and save.
When storms have passed and shadows fade away,
We steer for harbor at the close of day,
There safe at last beside the shining shore,
We trust the Lord, our harbor, evermore.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 14:22-33 (NT, page 16.)

Rev. Marilyn Borst

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

A Seafaring Faith: Walk on Water

Rev. Marilyn Borst

*** HYMN 49**

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

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

Come Down, O Love Divine

William Harris

*Come down, O Love divine, Seek thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with thine own ardor glowing;
O Comforter draw near; Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.*

*O let it freely burn, Till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let thy glorious light Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illumining.*

*Let holy charity Mine outward vesture be,
And lowliness become mine inner clothing:
True lowliness of heart, Which takes the humbler part,
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.*

*And so the yearning strong, With which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling;
For none can guess its grace, Till he become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling. Amen.*

*** 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

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

Outreach & Mission

Christopher Adams

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

Rev. Matthew Means

SENDING

*** HYMN 36**

For the Fruit of All Creation

AR HYD Y NOS

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Gavotte in F

Samuel Wesley

WORSHIP NOTES

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: Adam Lenhart, carillon; David Enos, organ; The St. Cecilia & Cantamus Choirs, Bobby DeLisle, Director; The Kirk Chancel Choir; Dr. Horst Buchholz, director.

About the Music: British composer **Richard Shepherd** (1949-2021) is considered one of the great composers of his time. He studied under Sir David Willcocks and wrote volumes of church music, as well as operas, operettas, and musicals. This **Introit** is dedicated to the faculty and students at the University of the South in Sewanee.

Carol McClure is a very prolific composer, conductor, educator, and church musician. Her experience with children's choirs resulted in many fine works. She was music director at First Presbyterian Church in Nashville..

John Rutter's "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" is one of his most popular anthems and has been arranged by the composer for many different choirs. It takes the famous blessing formula and unites it with a typical "Rutter" tune, that is simple, yet beautiful, and memorable.

Come Down, O Love Divine is a celebrated Christian hymn featuring words written by the 14th-century Italian mystic **Bianco da Siena**, translated into English in 1867. While the text is most famously paired with the tune DOWN AMPNEY by Vaughan Williams, the prominent English organist and composer **Sir William Harris** also composed a beautifully expressive, lesser-known hymn tune specifically for these words. Harris' sacred choral compositions, including his arrangements and settings for classic texts like this one, remain staple repertoire within the English choral repertoire.

The **Gavotte in F** is a charming, Classical-era piece composed by the English organist and composer **Samuel Wesley**. It remains one of Wesley's most enduringly popular keyboard works.

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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.



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: Stained glass window, located in the Baptistry (the right, or lectern side transept).

The flowers on the altar are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of her beloved husband, George Meschke, by Diane Meschke.

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11:00 a.m. | Sanctuary Worship

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Lobe den Herren

Johann Walther

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Matthew Means

STEWARDSHIP II

Deacon Abhilash Jalli

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

* INTROIT

Baptized in Water

Richard Shepherd

*Baptized in Water, sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
Heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,
Faithfully now God's praise we sing.*

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Carol Beggs

Remember the waters of baptism.

We remember that we belong to Christ.

Called by name, marked by grace, and sent into the world.

We are God's beloved, and we go where Christ sends us.

Let us worship the God who claims us and calls us.

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**We seek our worth in achievement, our security in possessions,
and our identity in the approval of others.**

Forgive us, O Lord.

Return us to the waters of grace.

Remind us that we belong to you

and that your gifts are given for the life of the world.

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 good news: the Spirit gives life,
and God's grace makes all things new.

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

CANTAMUS CHOIR

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

John Rutter

*The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,
To shine upon you and be gracious,
And be gracious unto you.*

*The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,
To shine upon you and be gracious,
And be gracious unto you.*

*The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you,
The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you,
And give you peace, and give you peace, and give you peace,
Amen.*

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Rev. Matthew Means, Rev. Rami Almaqdasi,
& Elder Linda Juracek-Lipa

PRESENTATION

*Gabriel Alexander Jehan Durrani, Sophie Rose Groth,
Charlotte Rose MacDonald, Lucca Leer Wyman*

BAPTISMAL HYMN 482

Baptized in Water (verse 3; seated)

BUNESSAN

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ our King;
Born of the Spirit, we are God's children;
Joyfully now God's praises we sing.**

* PROFESSION OF FAITH:

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
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the resurrection of the body;
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AR HYD Y NOS

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Threefold Amen

Danish

POSTLUDE

Gavotte in F

Samuel Wesley



1340 West Long Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302
(248) 626-2515
kirkinthehills.org
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