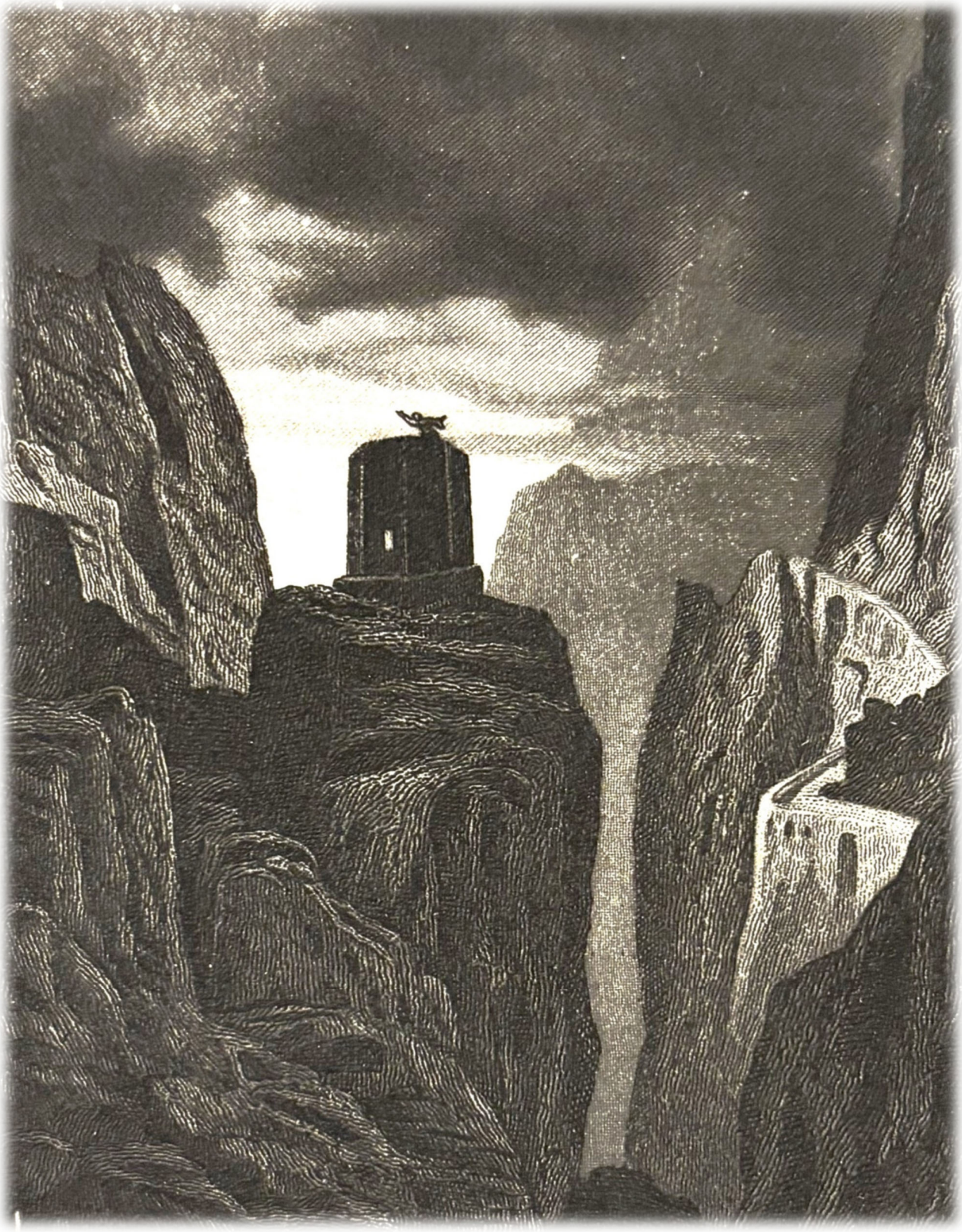
KIRK IN THE HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. SANCTUARY WORSHIP
HONORING KIRK VETERAN'S | NOVEMBER 8, 2026





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 Kirk in the Hills! May this be a place where you find rest for your soul, room to reflect, and grace enough for the journey ahead.

Today, on Veterans Sunday, we continue our stewardship series, *Full Sail Church: A Seafaring Faith*, with the theme "Standing Watch." Our symbol is the watcher: someone entrusted with remaining vigilant while others sleep. In Scripture, watchfulness is both a responsibility and an act of love. Psalm 121 assures us that the One who watches over Israel neither slumbers nor sleeps. Our ultimate security rests not in our own vigilance, but in the steadfast care of God.

Today we give thanks for all who have served in the armed forces, including those who have stood watch in times of conflict, guarded the vulnerable, and accepted extraordinary responsibilities in service to others. We remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice, pray for those who bear the visible and invisible wounds of service, and hold in prayer the families who have shared its burdens. We are especially grateful to welcome Rev. Peter Muschinske, Chaplain and Rear Admiral of the U.S. Navy, whose ministry and service remind us of the profound connection between vocation, sacrifice, and faithfulness.

The writer of Hebrews recounts the courage of those who trusted God through uncertainty and calls us to run the race before us, surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. Their example challenges us to consider what it means to stand watch today. How might we remain attentive to our neighbors, faithful in prayer, and ready to respond when others need us?

Stewardship is one expression of that calling. Our gifts of time, talent, and treasure help sustain a community that keeps watch over the vulnerable, nurtures the next generation, and proclaims the hope of Christ. Together, we honor the faithfulness of those who came before us and prepare a place for those who will come after us.

May God strengthen all who stand watch, and may we find our deepest peace in the One who watches over us all.

Looking Ahead: Next Sunday, November 15, is *Stewardship VI: Generosity & Pledge Commitment Sunday*. We look forward to welcoming everyone's pledges as we prayerfully chart our course for the year ahead.

In Christ's service,



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 **Winchester Chimes Fanfare** *Susan Wheatley*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

STEWARDSHIP V

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

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** **Psalm 121** Elder Bobi Tallinger

I lift my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved;
He who keeps you will not slumber.
He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in,
from this time on and forevermore.

*** PROCESSIONAL HYMN 331** **God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand** NATIONAL HYMN

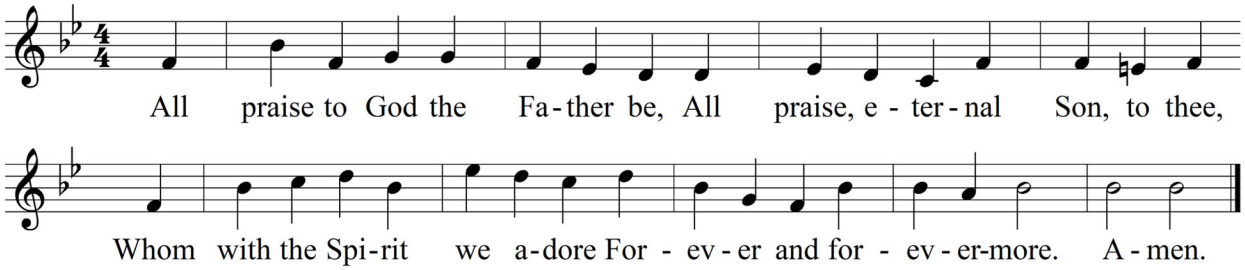
*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

Gracious God, you call us to watch over one another.
Yet we sometimes turn inward, take peace for granted,
and forget the sacrifices of those who have served.
Forgive us. Make us faithful in our own time—
watchful for our neighbors, peacemakers amid conflict,
steadfast in love, and ready to serve.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *(Silence is held.)*

*** ASSURANCE OF PARDON** Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

The Lord watches over our coming and our going,
now and forevermore.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!
Alleluia, Amen!

*** ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE** **Glory Be to the Father** WINCHESTER NEW



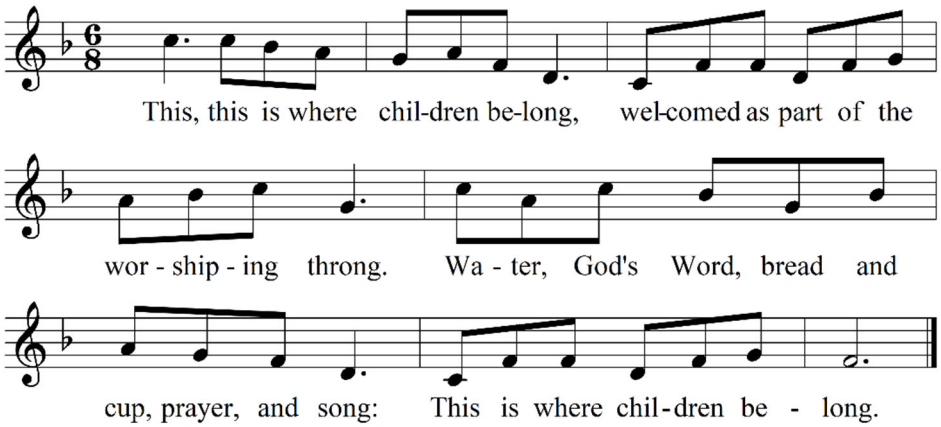
WORD

WORD WITH CHILDREN Katelyn Haan

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 **To the Hills I Lift My Eyes (Psalm 121)** *Song-Suk Im*

To the hills lift my eyes longing to know
Where, O where will my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
God the Creator will keep my life, God is my help.
(Sung in Korean and English)

SCRIPTURE READING **The Letter to The Hebrews 12:1** *(NT, page 226.)* Elder Bobi Tallinger
The Gospel According to Luke 4:1, 14, 16-19, 21 *(NT, page 61.)*
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON **A Seafaring Faith: Standing Watch** Chaplain *(retired)* Peter Muschinske

* **HYMN 97** **Watchman, Tell Us of the Night** ABERYSTWYTH

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 **My Lord, What a Morning** *H. T. Burleigh*

My Lord, what a morning
Oh, my Lord, what a morning
When the stars begin to fall.
Done quit all my worldly ways
Gonna join that heavenly band.
My Lord, what a morning
Oh, my Lord, what a morning
When the stars begin to fall.

* **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***

(Following the Doxology, the congregation will remain standing to sing the last stanza of America the Beautiful in recognition of Veterans' Day, November 11, 2026.)

Our fathers' God, to thee, Author of liberty, to thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright, with freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might, great God, our King.

PRAYER

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

SENDING

* **HYMN 8** **Eternal Father, Strong to Save** MELITA

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE **Fanfare for the Common Man** *Aaron Copland, arr. Deutsch*

INFORMATION ON TODAY'S SERVICES

Feeling called to join Kirk in the Hills? A member of our New Member and Evangelism team is here to guide you. Meet them after Sunday Worship in the narthex or call the church office to request more information at (248) 626-2515.

Musicians: The Kirk Handbell Choir, Dr. Susan Wheatley, director; David Enos, organ; The Kirk Chancel Choir; Dr. Horst Buchholz, director.

About the Music: The **Westminster Chime** was composed in 1793 for St. Mary the Great at the University of Cambridge, likely by Rev. Dr. Joseph Jowett with assistance from Dr. John Randall and William Crotch. Inspired by Handel's Messiah, the melody was adopted in 1859 for the Great Clock at the Palace of Westminster (Big Ben) and became famous worldwide as the Westminster Chimes. It is also the tune traditionally heard in grandfather clocks, sounding at quarter-hours and in full on the hour.

The Choral Reponse is based on Psalm 121 and composed by Korean composer **Song-Suk Im.** We will hear the verse once in Korean, and then in English.

The Offertory anthem, **"My Lord, What a Morning"** by Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949), is one of the finest concert arrangements of an African American spiritual. Born in Erie, Pennsylvania, Burleigh studied at the National Conservatory of Music in New York, where he worked as a singer and instrumentalist while pursuing his education. There he became acquainted with composer Anton Dvoak, introducing him to spirituals and African-America folk melodies that would profoundly influence Dvorak's understanding of American music. Although Burleigh was a gifted baritone and composer, he is best remembered for preserving and elevating spirituals through his elegant solo and choral arrangements, including the beloved Deep River. His setting of My Lord, What a Morning captures both the simplicity and spiritual power of this traditional song. The "morning" of the title is not an ordinary sunrise, but a reference to the Day of the Lord and the fulfillment of God's kingdom. Drawing on biblical images of Christ's return, the spiritual expresses joyful anticipation rather than fear. Having left behind "worldly ways," the singer looks forward to joining the heavenly host and sharing in God's eternal reign. In some early versions, the title appears as "My Lord, What a Mournin" reflecting dialect spelling commonly found in collections of spirituals.

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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: **Nightwatch** – from *Night Scenes in the Bible Illustrated* by Rev. Daniel March | Published by Zeigler & McCurdy, 1870 | Book can be found in the Upper Room collection

The flowers on the altar are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Er. John H. Libcke by his wife Jean and children, Bob, Martha, Jane, and their families.

Poinsettias will be used to adorn the Kirk during the Christmas season. If you would like to donate flowers to this display, send a check made payable to Kirk in the Hills for $28 along with your name and the person or persons you are memorializing or honoring. Send requests to Kirk in the Hills, Attn. Marsha Rogers, 1340 W. Long Lake Rd., Bloomfield Hills, 48302. **Deadline is Nov. 29.** Sign up can also be done online.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

11:00 a.m. | Sanctuary Worship

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE **Winchester Chimes Fanfare** *Susan Wheatley*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

STEWARDSHIP V

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

*** INTROIT** **St. Martin of Tours** ISTE CONFESSOR

He, whose confession God of old accepted,
Whom through the ages all now hold in honor,
Gaining his reward this day came to enter Heaven's high portal.
So now in chorus, giving God the glory,
Raise we our anthem gladly to his honor,
That in fair kinship we may all be sharers Here and hereafter.

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** **Psalm 121** Elder Karen Ludden

I lift my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved;
He who keeps you will not slumber.
He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in,
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Yet we sometimes turn inward, take peace for granted,
and forget the sacrifices of those who have served.
Forgive us. Make us faithful in our own time—
watchful for our neighbors, peacemakers amid conflict,
steadfast in love, and ready to serve.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*** CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Lord, Have Mercy *John Merbecke*

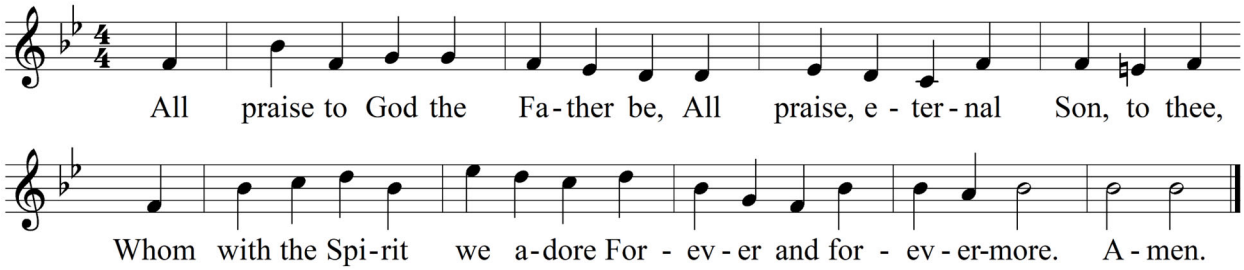


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Alleluia, Amen!

*** ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE**

Glory Be to the Father GLORIA PATRI



WORD

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To the hills lift my eyes longing to know
Where, O where will my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
God the Creator will keep my life, God is my help.
(Sung in Korean and English)

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Oh, my Lord, what a morning
When the stars begin to fall.
Done quit all my worldly ways
Gonna join that heavenly band.
My Lord, what a morning
Oh, my Lord, what a morning
When the stars begin to fall.

*** 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.)*

(Following the Doxology, the congregation will remain standing to sing the last stanza of America the Beautiful in recognition of Veterans' Day, November 11, 2026.)

Our fathers' God, to thee, Author of liberty, to thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright, with freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might, great God, our King.

PRAYER

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SENDING

*** HYMN 8**	**Eternal Father, Strong to Save**	MELITA
CHARGE AND BENEDICTION		
CHORAL BENEDICTION	**Sevenfold Amen**	*John Stainer*
POSTLUDE	**Fanfare for the Common Man**	*Aaron Copland, arr. Deutsch*

WORSHIP NOTES

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Kirk in the Hills

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