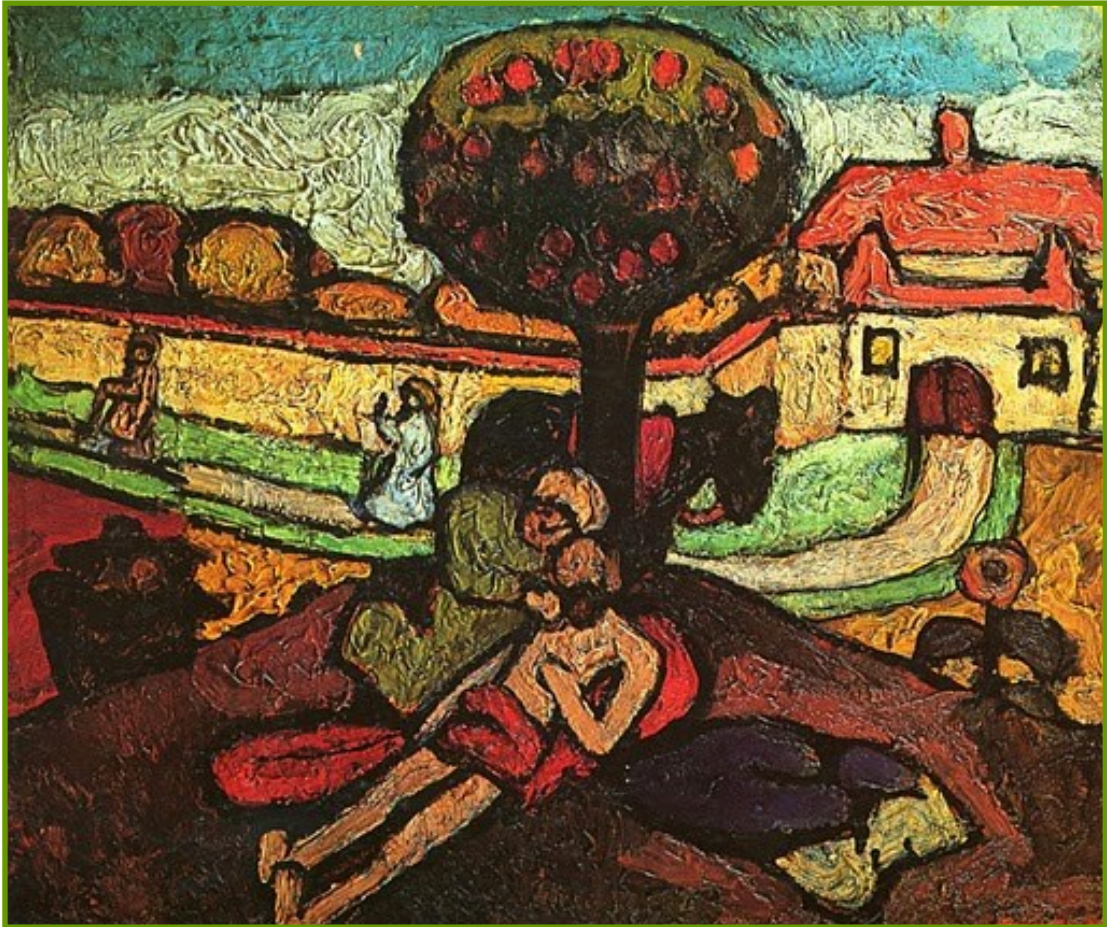


KIRK IN THE HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JUNE 25, 2023



Summer of Parables

A Note from Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald



The Provocative Power of the Parables

Remember that old hymn?

I love to the the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and his glory, O Jesus and his love,
I love to tell the story because I know tis true,
It satisfies my longing as nothing else can do.

In our time, we have begun to rediscover the power of stories. Stories help us orient ourselves in the midst of complex life. The Bible has stories about Jesus and stories told by Jesus. This summer, we are journeying through the surprising and sometimes outrageous stories that Jesus told, stories known as the parables.

Parables start with ordinary life, but then take a turn that flips the world around. Jesus surprises us and challenges us to look at ordinary life from a new perspectives. As John Crossan says, parables are “tiny pins dangerously close to big balloons.” What we take for granted is flipped around and all of a sudden, we see life from a new perspective. Parables disclose different possibilities for what it means to be truly alive in Christ.

From these new ways of seeing, we are given more than a new possibility in our individual lives. Parables have a practical and critical force which prompts us to seek a renewal of life and society.

The parable today is usually referred to as, “the good Samaritan.” It is curious, because nowhere in the story does it refer to the Samaritan as being, “good.” So how should we describe the Samaritan? Moreover, what exactly is a Samaritan, and why does it matter?

Listen again to this marvelous, challenging parable, given for our hearing, and for our seeing, by Jesus.

CARILLON CONCERTS TODAY AT 10:00 A.M. AND 12:00 P.M.!
See an usher for a concert brochure.



THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
9:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship

GATHERING

PRELUDE

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Kelsey Sorge

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
creator of heaven and earth.
God has made this day.

Thanks be to God!
Let us rejoice and celebrate God's presence together!

* HYMN

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!

Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is Mine!	Perfect submission, perfect delight
Oh what a foretaste of glory divine!	Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,	Angels descending, bring from above
Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.	Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
<i>(refrain)</i>	<i>(refrain)</i>

Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with his goodness, lost in his love.
(refrain)

(Refrain)

This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior, all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior, all the day long.

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
In thought, word, and deed,
By what we have done,
And by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you
With our whole heart, mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves.
In your mercy, forgive us, transform us,
And direct who we may yet become,
In the light of Jesus Christ.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

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

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that we are all forgiven, and be at peace.
Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!
In Jesus Christ we are a new creation!

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald

CELEBRATING NICOLE JOSEPH

Please join us for a special coffee hour in Heritage Hall immediately following the 9:00 a.m. garden service to celebrate the music ministry of Nicole.

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

Church Officer Nominating Committee

to come

WORD WITH THE CHILDREN | VBS CELEBRATION

Sarah Ford

Children are encouraged to remain in the garden to worship with their families.

WORD

DUET

Hymn of Promise

Sleeth/arr. Larson

In the bulb there is a flower;
In the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise;
Butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
There's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness
Bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
What it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning;
In our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing;
In our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection'
At the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10:25-37 (*NT, page 71*)

Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

**The Provocative Power of the Parables:
"Jesus Hears A Who"**

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND MID-HIGH MISSION PROJECT BLESSING

**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.**

SENDING

*** HYMN**

Lift High the Cross

Crucifer

(Refrain)

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Life high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.
Till all the world adore his sacred name.**

**Come, Christian, follow
where our Savior trod,
The Lamb victorious,
Christ the Son of God.**

**O Lord, once lifted
on the glorious tree,
Your death has brought us
Life eternally.**

**All new born servants
Of the Crucified
Bear on their brow
The seal of Christ who died.**

**So shall our song
of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified
For victory.**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Garden worshippers are encouraged to drop off donations in the baskets located at the Celtic Cross
near the exit as you depart. Please see notes on page 11.*

*Join us for coffee and fellowship in Heritage Hall immediately following service
and celebrate Nicole Joseph's music ministry !*



Nicole Joseph has informed the Kirk that she plans to pursue her professional music career more broadly. She will be leaving her position as Associate Music Director at the Kirk effective July 31, 2023; then some downtime with family and reflection on next steps professionally.

As an accomplished professional recitalist and soloist, Nicole performs frequently with orchestras and chamber music festivals across the country. Since her arrival at the Kirk in 2006 as a staff singer, our church has been blessed to have Nicole's amazing soprano voice as part of the chancel choir. Nicole has also been an important member of the Kirk's music ministry staff with specific responsibility as Youth Choir Director. She also graciously stepped into important interim leadership roles as the Kirk's music ministry has transitioned over the past couple of years.

The Kirk is Nicole's church home. We look forward to seeing her in worship and participating in the life of the church.

Join us TODAY, at a celebration of Nicole's service to the Kirk in Heritage Hall after the 9:00 a.m. worship service. Please join others from the congregation in thanking Nicole for her many contributions and years of service to the Kirk.

Dr. Marilyn Biery, Bridge Director of Music Ministry, will be making arrangements for the fall season of the youth choir ministry. As these plans develop over the summer months, Dr. Biery will keep youth members of the choirs and their parents fully informed. Dr. Biery will also be working to fully staff the chancel choir before the fall season begins.

Please join me in wishing Nicole every success as she pursues the next chapter in what is already a very successful professional music career. We ask God's blessing on Nicole and her family.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship

OPENING VOLUNTARY

O God, Thou Faithful God

Johannes Brahms

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Kelsey Sorge

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
creator of heaven and earth.
God has made this day.

Thanks be to God!

Let us rejoice and celebrate God's presence together!

* INTROIT

Somebody's Knocking at Your Door

Somebody's Knocking

Somebody's knocking at your door;
O Sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knocking at your door
Knocks like Jesus...Answer Jesus...
Somebody's knocking at your door.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 839

Bless Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

Assurance

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
In thought, word, and deed,
By what we have done,
And by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you
With our whole heart, mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves.
In your mercy, forgive us, transform us,
And direct who we may yet become,
In the light of Jesus Christ.**

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

John Merbeck



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

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that we are all forgiven, and be at peace.
Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!
In Jesus Christ we are a new creation!

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 581)

**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.**

Greatorex

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald

CELEBRATING NICOLE JOSEPH

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

Church Officer Nominating Committee

to come

ANTHEM

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

Sally Ann Morris

*The church of Christ cannot be bound by True love will not sit idly by when justice is denied.
Walls of wood or stone. When justice is denied.
Where charity and love are found, True mercy hears the homeless cry
There can the church be known. And welcomes them inside.
True faith will open up the door If what we have we freely share
And step into the street. To meet our neighbor's need
True service will seek out the poor Then we extend the Spirit's care
And ask to wash their feet. Through every selfless deed.*

*The church of Christ cannot be bound
By walls of wood or stone.
Where charity and love are found,
There can the church be known.*

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald

Rev. Kelsey Sorge and Elder, Nancy Lau

*Devin and Lauryn Hutchinson present Isla Kyle
Andrew Nabor and Ann Kezlarin present Mary Melissa
Robert and Allison Nalette present Hudson Michael*

BAPTISMAL HYMN 482

Baptized in Water
(verse 3)

Bunessan

THANKSGIVING

* HYMN 14

For the Beauty of the Earth (verses 1 & 2)

Dix

CALL TO OFFERING AND DEDICATION

Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald

Our giving is an offering to God. All offerings, whether made in the worship service or outside of it, 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.

DUET

Hymn of Promise

Sleeth/arr. Larson

In the bulb there is a flower;	There's a song in every silence,
In the seed, an apple tree;	seeking word and melody;
In cocoons, a hidden promise;	There's a dawn in every darkness
Butterflies will soon be free!	Bringing hope to you and me.
In the cold and snow of winter	From the past will come the future;
There's a spring that waits to be,	What it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season,	Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.	Something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning;
 In our time, infinity;
 In our doubt there is believing;
 In our life, eternity.
 In our death, a resurrection'
 At the last, a victory,
 Unrevealed until its season,
 Something God alone can see.
 By this we worship, and are freed.

* DOXOLOGY (*Hymn 606*)

Old Hundredth

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10:25-37 (*NT, page 71*)

Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

**The Provocative Power of the Parables:
"Jesus Hears A Who"**

* HYMN 318

In Christ There Is No East or West

St. Peter

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

SENDING

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 826

Lift High The Cross

Crucifer

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (*seated*)

CHORAL AMEN

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

The Emperor's Fanfare

Antonio Soler

Worship/Music Notes

waiting for notes from MB

The music department is looking for singers and instrumentalists to offer their gifts of music during worship. If you would like to join the choir, please contact Marilyn Biery at mbiery@kirkinthehills.org. If you play an instrument (adult or youth) and would like to play this spring or summer, please contact Merideth Estevez at mestevez@kirkinthehills.org.

Youth of all ages are welcome to come up to the organ console after service to look at the organ console. Youth who are taking piano lessons are encouraged to bring a piece so they can try it on the organ. No experience necessary—all are welcome.

Stephen Ministers are available for personal, confidential prayer in Melrose Chapel (*to the left, when facing forward in the sanctuary*) immediately following service each Sunday. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer please contact Nancy Lau at 248-835-6691.

Tour Kirk in the Hills each Sunday! Those interested in a brief tour are asked to meet in the Baptistry, to the right of the Chancel, after the 11:00 a.m. service. See an usher for direction or further details.



About today's cover art

The Good Samaritan | Paula Modersohn-Becker (1876-1907) | Art in the Christian Tradition, Vanderbilt University — Paula Modersohn-Becker was a German Expressionist painter of the late 19th and early 20th century. Her work is noted for its intensity and its blunt, unapologetic humanity. She is considered one of the most important representatives of early expressionism, producing more than 700 paintings and over 1000 drawings during her active painting life.

Copyright Information

to come from MB or NJ, if needed.





Worship Times

8:00 a.m. - Cedarholm Chapel

9:00 a.m. - Outdoor Worship

11:00 a.m. - Sanctuary

We envision a world where every heart experiences God's transforming love.



Membership

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Serve

Julie Walker

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Rev. Edwin Estevez

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