

KIRK IN THE HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
9:00 & 11:00 A.M. SANCTUARY WORSHIP
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY | FEBRUARY 1, 2026





A Note from Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

Welcome to worship at Kirk in the Hills. Wherever you find yourself today — deeply rooted in faith, quietly questioning, or returning after time away — you are welcome here. This morning, our mountaintop journey brings us to Isaiah's powerful vision of God in the Temple.

In Isaiah 6, the prophet encounters the holiness of God, an encounter that overwhelms and transforms him. The temple becomes a meeting place between heaven and earth. Isaiah is confronted with both his limitations and God's mercy. A word of grace precedes a word of calling, and the encounter culminates in a response that has echoed through generations: "Here am I; send me."

This is what mountaintop moments do. They clarify identity and purpose. Worship itself is a kind of ascent — a weekly practice of stepping into God's presence to be reshaped, reoriented, and renewed. We gather not because we are worthy, but because God is gracious, and *condescends* in the actual sense of that word (descends with us) in Christ Jesus.

For those discerning next steps, wrestling with vocation, or longing for renewed direction, Isaiah's story offers assurance. God's call rests not on perfection, but on grace that cleanses and sends.

As you worship today, allow yourself to linger. Let the music, the Word, and the prayers do their quiet work within you. Trust that God still calls ordinary people into meaningful lives of service and faith. Let us worship the Living God.

Looking Ahead:

February 8 – Elijah meets God in silence on Mount Horeb (1 Kings 19)

February 15 – The Transfiguration of Jesus (Matthew 17)

In Christ,

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

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

PRELUDE

Elevation; Prayer

George Walker

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

Strategy Update

Rockson Arnold, 9:00 a.m.; Molly David, 11:00 a.m.

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

*** INTROIT**

God, Reveal Your Presence

Joachim Neander

God, reveal your presence: gladly we adore you, and with awe appear before you.

Holy is your temple: all within keep silence, humbly bow with deepest reverence.

You alone now we own as our God and Savior: praise your name forever!

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Jasmine Smart

Lift up your eyes to the hills—from where does our help come?

Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

From the mountains of old, God has spoken, called, revealed,
and restored.

Let us ascend in worship, that we may be sent in faith.

Come, let us worship the Lord our God.

*** PROCESSIONAL HYMN 1**

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

NICÆA

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Rev. Jasmine Smart

Holy and gracious God,

You have called us to meet you,

but we often remain in the valleys of self-interest, fear, distraction, and control.

We are tempted to have mountaintop experiences without obedience,

Comfort without calling,

Glory without transformation.

Forgive us, O God,

When we might resist your voice when it sends us beyond ourselves.

When we're tempted to build monuments to past encounters,

Instead of trusting you for what lies ahead.

Renew and restore us by your grace,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

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. Jasmine Smart

Hear the good news:
The God who meets us on the mountain
Is the same God who walks with us in the valley.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

In Jesus Christ, we become a new creation!

Praise be to God!

* ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE

MARION



WORD

WORD WITH CHILDREN (9:00 a.m. only)

Sarah Ford

Following the Word with the Children, children and youth ages 4 through grade 8 will be dismissed for Sunday School.

INVITATION HYMN

Where Children Belong

James Ritchie



THANKSGIVING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide Us, O God

James Biery

*Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light,
in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Jesus
Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 6:1-8 (OT, page 633)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Elder Nancy Lau, 9:00 a.m.

Elder Bob Heuer, 11:00 a.m.

SERMON

Mountaintops: Isaiah on the Temple Mount

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

* HYMN 68

Heaven Opened to Isaiah

URI UWER' UWER' UWERA

Stanza 1: Choir, Stanzas 2-3: All | Please be seated after the hymn.

THANKSGIVING

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Jasmine Smart

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

Sanctus

Charles Gounod

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth:

Pleni sunt Caeli et terra gloria tua.

Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez, Rev. Jasmine Smart

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

Holy, Holy, Holy

James Biery

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san-na in the
high - est. Blest is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est, ho - san-na in the high - est!



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

James Biery



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

Come to the Table

COME TO THE TABLE

All join in singing the refrain:



Choir:

Lord, we have come at your own invitation,
chosen by you, to be counted your friends;
yours is the strength that sustains dedication;
ours, a commitment we know never ends. *Refrain: Come to the table...*

Here, at your table, confirm our intention;
give it your seal of forgiveness and grace;
teach us to serve without pride or pretension,
Lord, in your kingdom, whatever our place. *Refrain: Come to the table...*

When, at your table, each time of returning,
vows are renewed and our courage restored,
may we increasingly glory in learning
all that it means to accept you as Lord. *Refrain: Come to the table...*

SOLO

Let Us Break Bread Together

Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan

The text may be found in the hymnal, #525

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

In your body broken and in your blood shed for all of our, Lord, we have tasted and seen that you are good. In this meal, we have experienced again your deep love for your world. May the sweet taste of this meal strengthen us for living for you and remind us that we are called to live according to your will and to love as you love. Help us to yearn for your coming again, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

SENDING

*** RECESSIONAL HYMN 4**

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION *(seated)*

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

CHORAL RESPONSE

Peace of God Be with You

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

Peace of God be with you; as-salaamu lakum.

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Eurydice V. Osterman

INFORMATION ON TODAY'S SERVICES

Musicians: Chantel Woodard, soprano; Adam Lenhart, carillonist; James Biery and Marilyn Biery, organists and directors.

About the music: During Black History Month we highlight compositions and arrangements by Black composers. George Theophilus Walker (1922- 2018) was the first African American composer to win the Pulitzer Prize for Music (for *Lilacs* in 1966). Walker was admitted to the Oberlin Conservatory at fourteen, and later to the Curtis Institute of Music to study piano with Rudolf Serkin and composition with Rosario Scalero, teacher of Samuel Barber. He received his doctorate from the Eastman School of Music. Walker taught at Rutgers University for several years, retiring in 1992.

Moses George Hogan (1957 – 2003) was an American composer, pianist, conductor, and arranger of choral music, including spirituals. His works are celebrated and performed by high school, college, church, community, and professional choirs. Over his lifetime, he published 88 arrangements for voice, including eight solo pieces. He died from a brain tumor at the age of forty-five.

Eurydice V. Osterman, a Fulbright scholar, is an author and composer whose works have been read and performed around the world. A listing of her works is cited in the book, *Music by Black Women Composers: A Bibliography of Available Scores* by Helen Walker-Hill, CBRM Monographs, No.5, 1995. She is also the featured composer in the dissertation of Angelique Clay, "The Life and Music of Eurydice V. Osterman, and the author of two books, *What God Says About Music and Worship: From Praise Him to Praise Hymn*. Formally the Dean of the Greater Huntsville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, she was commissioned by the AGO to compose a piece for the 2024 national convention. Dr. Osterman earned the Bachelors and Masters degrees from Andrews University, and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Composition from The University of Alabama.

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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.



Cover Art: The Prophet Isaiah | Marc Chagall

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.



Are you feeling called to be part of the Kirk Church Family or into servant leadership with our neighbors, community and global partners? Mercy Adams, our Kirk Member, Stephen Minister

(in training), Usher and Ministry staff support for Membership and Outreach & Mission can answer your questions and help guide your next steps into Membership, Ministry, Small Groups, Women of the Kirk or volunteer with upcoming Outreach & Mission events. Meet Mercy in the Narthex after Sunday Worship, during Coffee Hour or call her directly at 248-631-4565. **Scan the QR code to register for the next Membership Class.**