

KIRK IN THE HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
9:00 & 11:00 A.M. SANCTUARY WORSHIP
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT | FEBRUARY 22, 2026



Loaves and Fishes | John August Swanson | From *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.



A Note from Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

Welcome to Kirk in the Hills. To families teaching children what faith looks like, to leaders carrying responsibility, to longtime members seeking renewal, and to those quietly wondering whether Jesus might still speak into your life—this season is for you.

Lent is the Church's pilgrimage toward the cross. For forty days we examine our hearts, repent honestly, and rediscover the grace that sustains us. It is a season not of religious performance but of spiritual clarity.

Today we continue **Praying With Jesus** with the theme "*Bless.*" Before multiplying loaves and fish, Jesus lifts his eyes to heaven and blesses the bread. In a moment defined by scarcity, he begins with gratitude. Prayer is not the last resort; it is the first movement. Blessing reorients fear into trust and need into possibility. When we pray with Jesus, we learn to see our lives as gift—even before the miracle unfolds.

Forthcoming Sundays:

March 1 – "Sit" (Mark 1:35–39) – Communion

March 8 – "Thank" (John 11:41–42)

March 15 – "Unify" (John 17:20–26) – Bible Sunday

March 22 – "Enjoy" (John 17:11b–21)

March 29 – "Lament" (Matthew 23:37–39) – Palm Sunday

April 2 – Maundy Thursday

5:30 p. m. Family Communion Service with foot washing

7:30 p.m. – *Journey to Jerusalem*

April 3 – Good Friday

Sanctuary Open for Prayer: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Worship Services: 12:00 p.m. | 3:00 p.m. | 7:30 p.m.

April 5 – Easter Sunday

6:45 a.m. – Sunrise Service (Columbarium)

7:00 a.m. – Sanctuary Worship

9:00 a.m. – Sanctuary Worship

11:00 a. m. – Sanctuary Worship

As we begin this Lenten journey, let us be grounded in God's presence and prepared to encounter Christ in worship today.

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

Oboe and Organ | Song, Opus 12

Clara Schumann

Solo | Mary Wore Three Links of Chain

George Walker

Mary wore three links of chain, every link bearing Jesus' name, all my sins been taken away.

Mary weeped and Martha mourned, Gabriel stood and blowed his horn; all my sins been taken away.

I'm goin' home on de morning train, all don't see me going to hear me sing: All my sins been taken away.

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

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

* SONG OF APPROACH

God of Love, We Lift Up Our Eyes

Marilyn Biery

God of love, we lift up our eyes to the heavens.

From whence does our help come?

Jesus our hope, we lift up our voices, praising your name.

Our help cometh from the Lord.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Jasmine Smart

The Lord is great and greatly to be praised.

His glory is above the heavens.

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it.

Let us worship the Holy One in spirit and in truth!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 166

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIN

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Jasmine Smart

Have mercy on us, O God,

According to your steadfast love.

In your great compassion

blot out our transgressions.

Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity

and cleanse us from our sin.

Create in us clean heart, O God,

and renew a right spirit within us,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

* SONG OF PENITENCE

Jesus, Lamb of God

Franz Schubert

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a melody in G major, 6/8 time, with lyrics 'Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.' The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

Je - sus bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff has lyrics 'Je - sus bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.' The bass staff continues the harmonic support.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

The third system features a more active melody in the treble staff with lyrics 'Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:'. The bass staff continues with chords and moving lines.

grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

The fourth system concludes the piece with a final melody in the treble staff and accompaniment in the bass staff. The lyrics are 'grant us your peace, grant us your peace.'

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Jasmine Smart

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.

Hear the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

In Jesus Christ, we become a new creation!

Praise to you, Lord Jesus!

Je - sus, Lamb of God: grant us your peace.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Jesus, Lamb of God'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff for the vocal line and a bass clef staff for the piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are 'Je - sus, Lamb of God: grant us your peace.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady accompaniment.

WORD

WORD WITH CHILDREN AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (9:00 a.m. only) Rev. Jasmine Smart & 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 Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez (text), M. Biery (music)

Come! Come! We wel - come you here! Come! Come!

The first system of the hymn 'Where Children Belong' features a 4/4 time signature. The vocal line (treble clef) and piano accompaniment (bass clef) are shown. The lyrics are 'Come! Come! We wel - come you here! Come! Come!'.

All God's chil - dren, young and old, we wel - come you here!

The second system continues the hymn with the lyrics 'All God's chil - dren, young and old, we wel - come you here!'.

Wel - come! Wel - come! Come clos - er, draw near!

The third system continues with the lyrics 'Wel - come! Wel - come! Come clos - er, draw near!'.

All God's chil - dren, young and old, you are wel - come here!

The fourth and final system of the hymn concludes with the lyrics 'All God's chil - dren, young and old, you are wel - come here!'.

**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.**

ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS (11:00 a.m.) Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez & Elder Linda Juracek-Lipa
*Cheryl Adams, Jenelle Gentilia, Izaak Gerkis, Anna Wilkes, Shari Robertson,
David Vogel, Lisa Yoo, John Yoo*

WELCOME

Please read along with the leader...

**With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church to
share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, Our Way in the Wilderness *arr. M. Biery*
*Gracious God, our way in the wilderness,
Guide us, by your Word, through these forty days,
So that we may be restored, renewed,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 14:14-21 (NT, page 16)
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Elder Ann Hartzell, 9:00 a.m.
Elder Karen Ludden, 11:00 a.m.

SERMON

Praying with Jesus: Bless

Candidate, Pastor for Congregational Care & Evangelism

* **HYMN 184**

Calm to the Waves

CALM SEAS

THANKSGIVING

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Dr. Philip J. Reed

*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

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

Howard Helvey

*Jesus, the very thought of thee
with sweetness fills the breast;
but sweeter far thy face to see,
and in thy presence rest.*

*No voice can sing, no heart can frame,
nor can the memory find,
a sweeter sound than Jesus' Name,
the Savior of mankind.*

*O hope of every contrite heart,
O joy of all the meek,
to those who fall, how kind thou art!
How good to those who seek!*

*But what to those who find? Ah, this
nor tongue nor pen can show;
the love of Jesus, what it is,
none but who love him know.*

*Jesus, our only joy be thou,
as thou our prize wilt be;
in thee be all our glory now,
and through eternity.*

* DOXOLOGY (*Hymn 606*)

**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. Amen.**

OLD HUNDREDTH

* or *God*

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (*and The Lord's Prayer at 11:00 a.m.*)

Rev. Dr. Philip J. Reed

Our Father, who art in heaven... (*debts and debtors...or see page 4.*)

SENDING

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 165

The Glory of These Forty Days

ERHALT UNS, HERR

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (*seated*)

Candidate, Pastor for Congregational Care & Evangelism

CHORAL RESPONSE

May You Know the Presence of God

arr. Marilyn Biery

(*11:00 a.m.*)

*May you know the presence of God our keeper;
with us by day and with us by night.
With us in our coming and our going;
with us all from this time forth and forever. Amen.*

POSTLUDE

Aus der Tiefe ruf ich, BWV 745

J. S. Bach

INFORMATION ON TODAY'S SERVICES

Musicians: Trinity Green, soprano; Jamie Jurado, soprano; Merideth Estevez, oboe; James Biery and Marilyn Biery, organists and directors.

About the music: As we enter the penitential season of Lent, the music was chosen to aid our experience of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. The responses are based on texts from the Church of Scotland website. The Song of Approach (the Introit), begins our liturgy. The Acolytes, Choir and Pastors will process during the bell toll as the choir sings the Song of Approach. The Prayer for Illumination is set to a Scottish hymn tune named ELGIN. Not much is known about this tune, which was first published in the Scottish Psalter of 1564. The Benediction Response is based on the Scottish tune CULROSS, named for a village and former royal burgh, and parish, in Fife, Scotland. The composer of the tune is not known; it first appeared in the Scottish Psalter.

Clara Josephine Schumann (1819 – 1896) was a German pianist, composer, and piano teacher. She composed solo piano pieces, a Piano Concerto, chamber music, choral pieces, and songs. The prelude is a transcription of one of her songs, arranged for oboe and organ by Marilyn Biery

The closing voluntary is a setting of AUS DER TIEFE (also called HEINLEIN). The tune is attributed to "M. H.," initials that are generally accepted to refer to Martin Herbst (1654-1681). Herbst was educated in theology and philosophy at the universities of Altdorf and Jena in Germany.

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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.



 **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.**

The flowers on the altar are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Nancy S. Hall and her parents Hi and Dave Smucker, former active members of The Kirk, by Kristin and David Sliwicki and their children of Madison, Wisconsin.

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.

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.

Camera and Phone Usage Guidelines: Out of respect for your fellow worshipers and those leading worship, we kindly ask you to silence cellphones and other communication devices and to refrain from taking photos or video during worship. Recordings of past worship services and other sanctuary events are available at kirkinthehills.org/worship/past-messages.