

KIRK IN THE HILLS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

MARCH 8, 2026 | 8:00 A.M. CHAPEL COMMUNION SERVICE  
IN THE WAY OF IONA ABBEY, SCOTLAND



**COMMUNION SERVICE**  
8:00 a.m., Cedarholm Chapel

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

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!**

**\* HYMN 652**

**A Grateful Heart**

ROCKINGHAM

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**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 a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within us,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

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!**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**John 11:38-44** (*NT, page 105*)  
The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Rev. Jasmine Smart

**SERMON**

**Praying with Jesus: Sit**

Rev. Jasmine Smart

**INVITATION**

**THE 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.**

## 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.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE COMMUNION

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

In your body broken and in your blood shed for all of us, Lord, we have tasted and seen that you are good. Thank you for giving us new life and new hope and for preparing us to live as your people. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness of heart. Amen.

## \* HYMN 643

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

## BENEDICTION

## TITHES AND OFFERING

*Your offering for the Kirk's ministry will be received as you leave worship. 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.*

## CLOSING VOLUNTARY

**Stephen Ministers** are available for personal, confidential prayer following the service. You will find them in the front pew, on the pulpit side, near the window.

**Cover Art: Raising of Lazarus** | Duccio, di Buoninsegna | from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library.



## A Note from Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

### Praying with Jesus

Welcome, friends in faith and seekers alike. If you come with gratitude, grief, doubt, or hope, this sanctuary holds space for you.

Lent invites the Church to rediscover the depth of trust that shapes Christian prayer. It is a season of repentance—but also of renewed confidence in God’s mercy.

Today we reflect on Jesus giving thanks before Lazarus emerges from the tomb. Gratitude in advance is a profound declaration of trust. Jesus thanks the Father before the outcome is visible.

To pray with Jesus is to anchor our lives in thanksgiving—even when circumstances feel unresolved. Gratitude does not deny pain; it proclaims confidence in God’s faithfulness.

As we continue this Lenten journey, let us be grounded in God’s presence and prepared to encounter Christ in worship today. We also invite you to look ahead as we continue our series *Praying with Jesus*. Let us prepare for worship.

In Christ,

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

### Forthcoming Sundays:

**March 15 – “Unify”** (John 17:20–26)

**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*

8:45 p.m. – Tenebrae and Stripping of the Paraments

#### **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



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