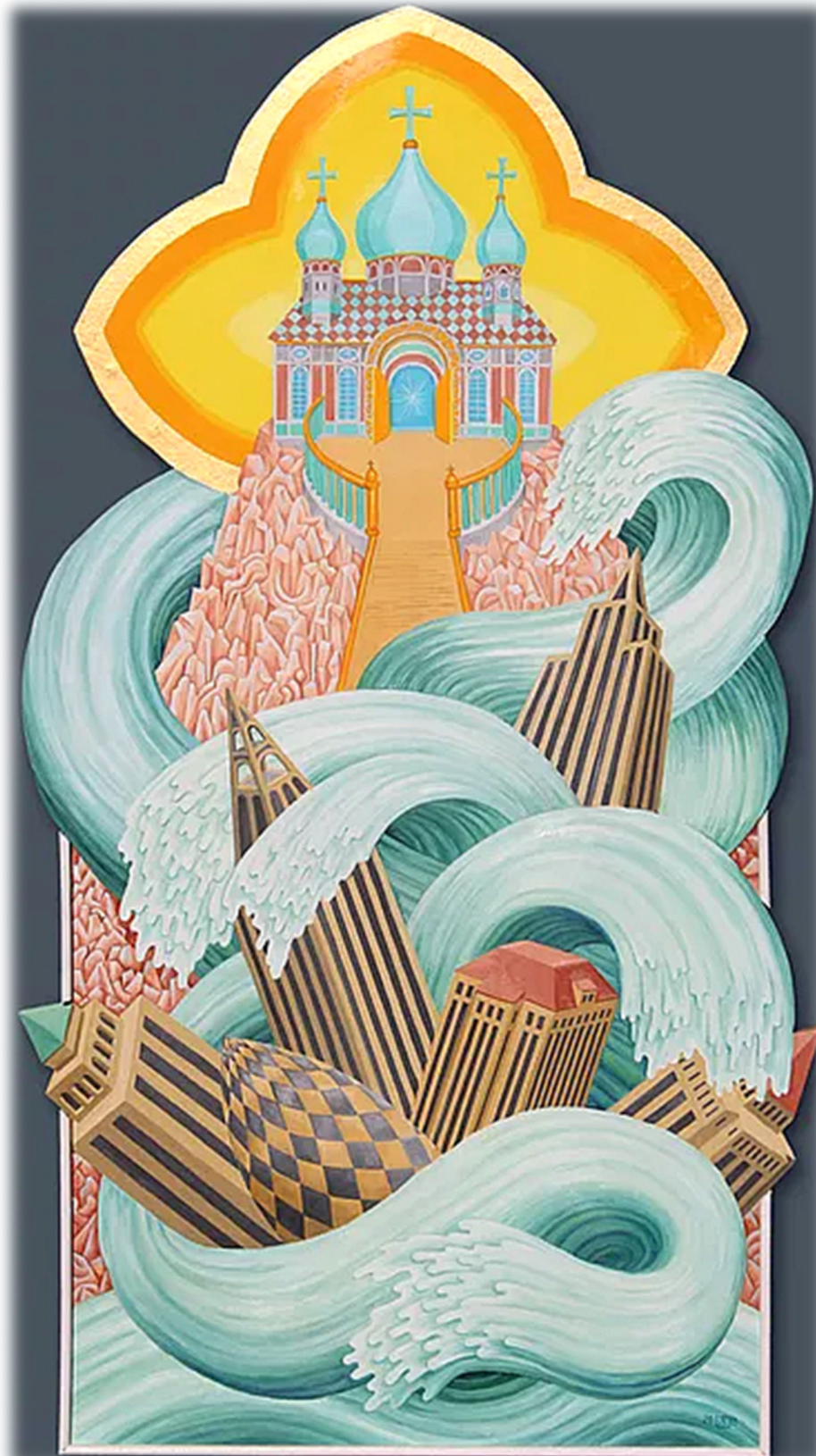


KIRK IN THE HILLS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)  
9:00 & 11:00 A.M. SANCTUARY WORSHIP  
3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | JUNE 14, 2026



**A House Built on Rock** | Peter Koenig, 2018 | from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.



## A Note from Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

### Welcome to the Kirk!

We gather in Christ's name, and whether you are here every week or joining us for the first time, we are grateful for your presence and pray you find a warm welcome in this community of faith.

Summer has certainly arrived. This week brought heat advisories and thunderstorms, while school years came to a close and graduation celebrations filled calendars. Many are looking ahead to vacations, family gatherings, and the welcome gift of rest. Our Garden Service begins next Sunday at 9 a.m. on Father's Day, marking the unofficial start of summer at the Kirk. Amid changing schedules and busy plans, worship offers us an opportunity to be grounded once again in the presence of God.

As our Summer in the Psalms series continues, we turn to Psalm 15, which begins with a profound question: "O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?" The psalm answers by describing a life shaped by God's presence—a life marked by integrity, faithfulness, compassion, and trustworthiness. Psalm 15 reminds us that faith is more than belief; it is a way of living.

That theme comes to life today through discipleship and mission.

We celebrate Christian discipleship by blessing our Vacation Bible School, which begins this week. VBS helps teach our children—and, if we're honest, many adults too—about God's Word and what it means to follow Jesus every day. We will also hear about the upcoming Kirk Pilgrimage experience through Adult Christian Education, an opportunity to deepen faith, grow in understanding, and draw closer to God.

We celebrate mission as we commission our youth and adult leaders traveling to Costa Rica to support ministry there. We also celebrate the annual Bill Robinson Memorial Car Show, which honors a faithful member, teacher, and leader of the Kirk whose legacy continues to bless others. Through this event, we raise funds, friendships, and awareness for our ministry partners in Haiti.

Psalm 15 asks what a life close to God looks like. Today, we catch glimpses of the answer—in children learning Scripture, adults growing in faith, servants being sent into the world, and a congregation using its gifts to bless others.

If you sense God stirring your heart today, to join this community of faith, to follow Jesus more closely, or to serve more faithfully, I encourage you to pray with one of our Stephen Ministers or speak with me (or one of our pastors).

May we encounter Christ in worship, be formed by God's Word, and be sent forth by the Holy Spirit.

Let us worship the living God.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edwin". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

## THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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

ORGAN PRELUDE

**Adagio** (Symphonie V)

*Charles-Marie Widor*

HANDBELL PRELUDE

**Wade in the Water**

*Spiritual, arr. Wheatley*

WELCOME

Rev. Edwin Estevez

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

**2027 Pilgrimage**

Ruth Reading

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

\* INTROIT

**Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty**

*Joachim Neander*

*Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there, where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer; O how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace.*

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

O come, let us sing to the Lord;

Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

**From the rising of the sun to its setting,**

**The name of the Lord is to be praised.**

The Lord is merciful and gracious,

Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**Let us worship God.**

\* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 353

**My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less**

SOLID ROCK

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

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 trusted our own strength more than your mercy,

And have forgotten your faithfulness to us.

Create in us clean hearts, O God,

And renew a right spirit within us;

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Lord, Have Mercy**

*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. Rami Almaqdasi

Hear the good news:  
"The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting."  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**  
**In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!**  
**Alleluia, Amen!**

\* ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE 581

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

WORD

WORD WITH CHILDREN, THE LORD'S PRAYER AND BLESSING ON VBS (9:00 a.m. only)

Sarah Ford & Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

Summer Sunday School begins today! Children grade 3 through grade 8 will go to The Abbey Lounge after The Word With Children.

INVITATION HYMN

Where Children Belong

James Ritchie

Please join in singing.

This, this is where chil-dren be-long, wel-comed as part of the  
wor-ship - ing thron. Wa - ter, God's Word, bread and  
cup, prayer, and song: This is where chil-dren be - long.

**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.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God

Arabic Tune

*Gracious God, you are the source of all light. By your Word you give light to the soul. Pour on us the source of your wisdom that we may hear your Word through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 15 (OT, page 495)

Elder Carol Beggs, 9:00 a.m.

The Word of the Lord.

Elder Ruth Reading, 11:00 a.m.

Thanks be to God.

SOLO

O for the Wings of a Dove!

Felix Mendelssohn

*O for the wings of a Dove! Far away would I rove. In the wilderness build me a nest, and remain there forever at rest.*

SERMON

**Summer in the Psalms: Who Can Stand Before God?**

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

\* HYMN 419

**Lord, Who May Dwell within Your House** (*Psalms 15*)

RIDGEMOOR

## THANKSGIVING

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

*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

**I Give You a New Commandment**

*Peter Aston*

*I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. As I have loved you, so you are to love one another. If there is this love among you, then all will know that you are my disciples.*

\* 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

COMMISSIONING MISSION TRIP YOUTH AND ADULT LEADERS (*9:00 a.m.*) Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez

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

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

**Our Father, who art in heaven...** (*debts and debtors...*)

## SENDING

\* RECESSIONAL HYMN 329

**God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength**

WINCHESTER OLD

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (*seated*)

CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE

**Sonata de primo tono**

*Josè Lidón*

## INFORMATION ON TODAY'S SERVICES

**Musicians:** Rachel Hiatt, soprano; David Enos, organist; Susan Wheatley, handbell choir director; Courtney Jolley, choir director.

**About the music:** Charles-Marie-Jean-Albert Widor (1844 – 1937) was a French organist, composer and teacher of the late Romantic period. As a composer he is known for his ten organ symphonies, especially the toccata of his fifth organ symphony, which is played at the Kirk on Easter Sunday. The Adagio is the slow movement from that same symphony, which immediately precedes the toccata.

Peter Aston (1938 – 2013) was an English composer, academic and conductor best known for his choral works. Born in Birmingham, he studied at Birmingham School of Music and the University of York. In 1964, he became a lecturer in music at the University of York, and in 1974 he was appointed professor of music at the University of East Anglia, where he was named emeritus professor of composition.

José Lidón, or Josef Lidón, or José Lidón Blázquez (1748 – 1827) was a Spanish composer, organist and conductor.

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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.



**Feeling called to join the Kirk Church Family?** Mercy Adams—Kirk Member, Stephen Minister, Usher, and staff support to New Member and Evangelism and Outreach & Mission Committees is here to guide you. Meet Mercy after Sunday Worship, during Coffee Hour.

**The flowers on the altar are presented to the glory of God** in loving memory of her beloved husband, George Meschke, and her father, David Bigelow, Jr., by Diane Meschke.

**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](http://kirkinthehills.org/worship/past-messages).

## WORSHIP NOTES



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