

KIRK IN THE HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
9:00 A.M. GARDEN | 11:00 A.M. SANCTUARY WORSHIP
7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | JULY 12, 2026



THE
LORD
IS MY
LIGHT
*and my
salvation*
so why
should I be
afraid?



A Note from Pastor Edwin!

Welcome to the Kirk!

Welcome to worship at the Kirk in the Hills. Whether you are a long-time member, a returning friend, or a first-time visitor, we are grateful that you are here. Summer offers a unique opportunity to slow down, reconnect, and enjoy many of the gifts God has given us—time with family and friends, travel and recreation, evenings on the lake, walks through beautiful gardens, and moments of rest and renewal.

This year, as our nation commemorates the 250th anniversary of American Independence, we give thanks for the blessings of freedom while recommitting ourselves to working toward *a more perfect union, with liberty and justice for all*. As Christians, we remember that our highest allegiance is to God, whose kingdom calls us to seek the common good and love our neighbors.

Throughout the summer, our worship series, **Summer in the Psalms: Songs from the Heart of David**, invites us to pray, sing, reflect, and grow through the Bible's ancient songbook. The Psalms speak honestly about joy and sorrow, gratitude and struggle, worship and wonder, helping us discover God's presence in every season of life.

As you worship today, take in the beauty around you, the sunlight hitting the stained-glass windows just so, the gardens in bloom, the music that lifts our hearts, the prayers we offer, and the community gathered beside you. May this be a time to connect more deeply with God, with your own soul, and with the people God has placed in your life.

May you experience the Holy God today through worship and fellowship.

Join us next Sunday for **Psalm 32** and **Summer in the Psalms: The Joy of Forgiveness!**

Let us worship God.

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

Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez
Sr. Pastor | Head of Staff | Kirk in the Hills

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9:00 a.m. Garden Worship

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Jasmine Smart

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Philip J. Reed

The Lord is our refuge and strength,
A very present help in trouble.

**Therefore, we will not fear,
Though the earth should change.**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Blessed are those who take refuge in him.

Let us worship the living God!

* HYMN 275

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (*See pages 10 & 11.*)

EIN' FESTE BURG

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Philip J. Reed

Faithful and loving God,
You know us completely and still you call us your own.
Yet we confess that we wander from your ways.

**Our hearts are anxious,
Our speech is careless,
And our love for neighbor grows thin.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation,
And lead us again in the paths of righteousness;
Through Jesus Christ, our Shepherd and Savior. 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. Dr. Philip J. Reed

Hear and believe the good news:

“The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding
in steadfast love.”

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

**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.**

WORD

WORD WITH CHILDREN AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Katelyn Haan

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.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in 6/8 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics: "This, this is where chil-dren be-long, wel-comed as part of the". The second staff contains: "wor-ship - ing thron-g. Wa - ter, God's Word, bread and". The third staff contains: "cup, prayer, and song: This is where chil-dren be - long." The music consists of simple eighth and quarter notes.

**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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Jasmine Smart

WORD

QUARTET

A Gaelic Blessing

John Rutter

*Deep peace of the running wave to you,
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,
Deep peace of the shining stars to you,
Deep peace of the gentle night to you,
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you,
Deep peace of Christ, the light of the world to you,
Deep peace of Christ to you. (William Sharp, 1855-1905)*

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 27
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Elder Henry Hoot

SERMON

Summer in the Psalms: One Thing

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

SENDING

* **HYMN 353**

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less (*See page 12.*)

SOLID ROCK

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (*seated*)

THE CARILLON

Free Variations on "America"

Adam Lenhart

*Garden worshippers are encouraged to drop off donations in the baskets located at the Celtic Cross near ramp or at the door to the cloister as you exit to the front patio as you depart. Please see notes on page 6.
Join us for coffee and fellowship on the patio immediately following service!*

INFORMATION ON TODAY'S SERVICES

Musicians: Marilyn Biery and James Biery, organists; Jamie Jurado and Courtney Jolley, sopranos; Katherine Faddol and Trinity Green, mezzo-sopranos; Adam Lenhart, carillonneur

About the Music: The instrumental music for today's services was all written by American composers, including our carillonneur, Adam Lenhart, who composed the "Free Variations on America" which he will play at the end of both services.

William Selby (1738–1798) was an organist, harpsichordist, choirmaster and composer who was born in England and emigrated to the United States. Selby emigrated to Boston, Massachusetts in 1773, following his brother John, also an organist, who emigrated in 1771. In 1774, Selby became the organist at Trinity Church in Newport, Rhode Island. Three years later, Selby became organist at King's Chapel in Boston.

Horatio William Parker (1863 – 1919) was an American composer, organist and teacher. He was a central figure in musical life in New Haven, Connecticut in the late 19th century, and was an undergraduate teacher of Charles Ives while the composer attended Yale University. From 1888 to 1893, he was organist of Trinity Church, New York City, and from 1893 to 1901 organist of Trinity Church, Boston. In 1893, Parker became Battell Professor of the theory of music at Yale University. He was appointed Dean of Music at that school in 1904, a position which he held for the rest of his life.

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Stephen Ministers are available for personal, confidential prayer in the Garden after the 9:00 a.m. outdoor worship and 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.



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.

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.

* **ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE 581**

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

WORD

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 27 (OT, page 503)

Elder Lynda Wilds

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

QUARTET

A Gaelic Blessing

John Rutter

*Deep peace of the running wave to you,
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,
Deep peace of the shining stars to you,
Deep peace of the gentle night to you,
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you,
Deep peace of Christ, the light of the world to you,
Deep peace of Christ to you. (William Sharp, 1855-1905)*

SERMON

Summer in the Psalms: One Thing

Rev. Rami Almaqdasi

* **HYMN 463**

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

(Please be seated after the hymn.)

THANKSGIVING

CALL TO OFFERING AND DEDICATION

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

I Am Always with You

James Biery

*I am always with you, will never leave you;
I am present always within your heart.
Morning after morning my love comes dawning:
I am within you, within your heart.*

*I am always with you, my love will guard you;
I will keep you always within my heart.
Moment after moment my love surrounds you;
I am within you, within your heart.*

*Through all days unending I will be with you;
I will hold you closely within my heart.
Timeless and forever, my love enfolds you;
I am within you, within your heart. (Marilyn Biery)*

* DOXOLOGY (*Hymn 606*)

OLD HUNDREDTH

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.
* or *God*

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Jasmine Smart

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

SENDING

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 353

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

SOLID ROCK

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (*seated*)

POSTLUDE

Risoluto

Horatio W. Parker

275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul-wark nev - er
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

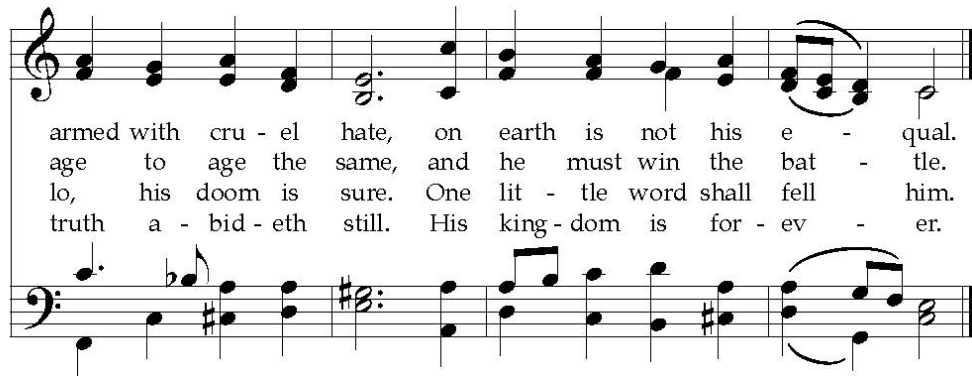
fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of
 los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the
 do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
 bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
 truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and
 Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from
 trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for
 mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's

Long before Isaac Watts began to Christianize the Psalms, Martin Luther had already done so when he created the text and tune for this, his most famous hymn, which is based on Psalm 46. Luther encouraged metrical versions of psalms as well as chanted psalms and new hymns.

JESUS CHRIST: ASCENSION AND REIGN



armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.
truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less 353

1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and
 2 When dark-ness seems to hide his face, I rest on his un-
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me in the
 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in

righteous-ness; I dare not trust the sweet-est frame, but
 chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
 whelm-ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, he
 him be found, dressed in his right - teous - ness a - lone, fault -

Refrain

whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; all
 then is all my hope and stay.
 less to stand be - fore the throne.

oth-er ground is sink-ing sand; all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

This hymn develops the imagery of Jesus' remark (Matthew 7:24-27/ Luke 6:47-49) that those who believe in him and act on that belief are like someone who builds a house on a rock. The text is set to a tune created for it by a prolific 19th-century American composer and editor.