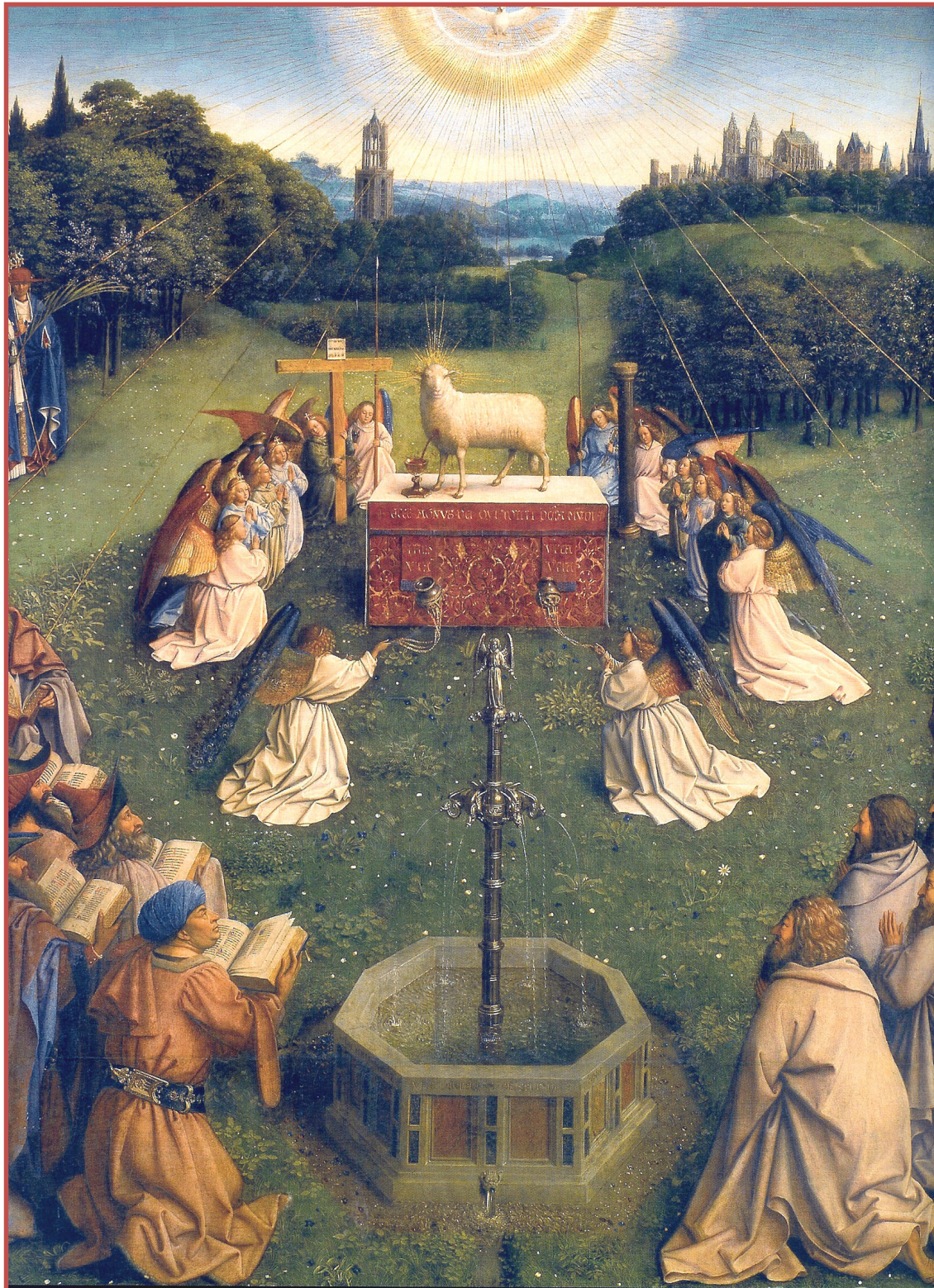


KIRK IN THE HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
9:00 A.M. GARDEN | 11:00 A.M. SANCTUARY WORSHIP
9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | JULY 26, 2026



Adoration of the Lamb, Ghent Altarpiece | Jan van Eyck (1432) | from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.



A Note from Pastor Edwin!

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 37** and **Summer in the Psalms: Do Not Fret!**

Let us worship God!

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



A Note from Rev. Dr. Annemarie Kidder!

Parish Associate, Kirk West

One of the regional specialties of Cincinnati is *Skyline Chili*. "Taste and see," I was told repeatedly by natives as they were urging me to try the spaghetti dish slathered in chili with a hint of chocolate. Somebody was doing the coaxing to convert the unbeliever. The poet of Psalm 34 has something similar in mind. "Taste and see that the Lord is good," he says. But this may take a little more than an open mind and a willing heart. To taste God's goodness requires preparation. It's not an automatic sensation or experience leading to a new insight or conviction.

For many centuries, the church has incorporated the Psalmist's urging words to "come and see" into the liturgy of the Lord's Supper. But concrete steps are needed from our end, not just on days when the Lord's Supper is celebrated, to truly come away with a taste of God's goodness in our mouth and on our tongue.

For me, no visit to Cincinnati can be without a meal of Skyline Chili. For us, no visit to worship should be without us being able to taste here the goodness of the Lord. Let's explore together how to enhance the experience.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9:00 a.m. Garden Worship

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Philip J. Reed

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Matthew Means

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 445

The Church's One Foundation (See page 10.)

AURELIA

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Rev. Matthew Means

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. Matthew Means

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

Sarah Ford

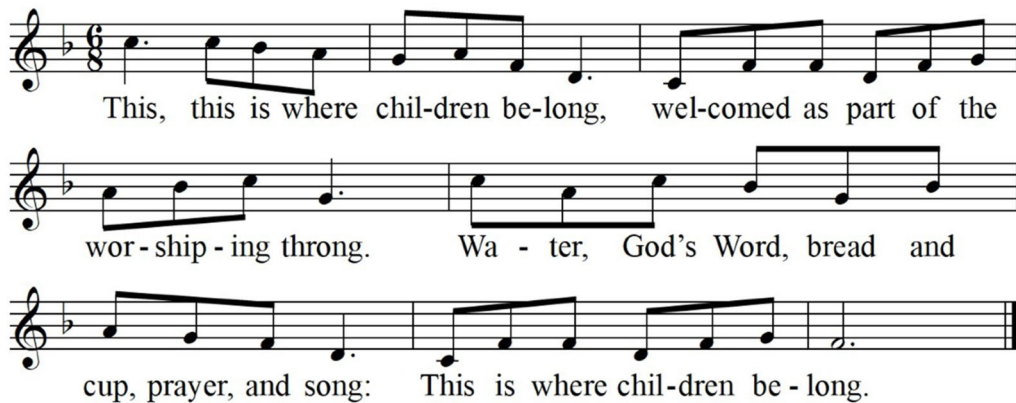
Children grade 3 through grade 8 will go to The Abbey Lounge after The Word With Children.

INVITATION HYMN

Where Children Belong

James Ritchie

Please join in singing.



**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. Dr. Philip J. Reed

WORD

SOLO

Jesus Is Lord of All

words and music: William & Gloria Gaither

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 34

Elder Henry Hoot

**The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Summer in the Psalms: Taste and See

Rev. Dr. Annemarie S. Kidder

SENDING

*** HYMN 522**

I Am the Bread of Life
(See page 11.)

I AM THE BREAD

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION *(seated)*

THE CARILLON

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: Todd Galloway, soloist; David Enos, organist; Adam Lenhart, carillonneur

About the Music: Franciscus Florentinus Peeters (1903 – 1986) was a Belgian composer, organist and academic teacher. He was director of the Conservatorium in Antwerp, Belgium, and organist at Mechelen Cathedral from 1923 to his death in 1986. *Aria* is his most famous organ piece.

Annie Sherwood Hawks (1835-1918) was born in Hoosick, N. Y. and lived in Brooklyn. Her hymns appeared in many popular Sunday School hymnbooks.

Robert Lowry (1826 – 1899) was an American preacher who wrote gospel music. His best-known hymns include "Shall We Gather at the River," "Christ Arose!" "How Can I Keep from Singing?" and "Nothing but the Blood of Jesus." Born in Philadelphia, Lowry studied at the University at Lewisburg and entered the Baptist ministry in 1854. During the following 45 years he held a number of pastorates in New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Charles John Stanley (1712-1786) was an English composer and organist. When he was two, he fell on a marble hearth with a china basin in his hand, an accident which left him nearly blind. He began studying music at the age of seven. At the age of nine he played the organ, probably as an occasional deputy, at All Hallows, Bread Street. When he was eleven years old, Stanley was appointed organist to the church.

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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.

A garden memorial is presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Frank and Janet Garland by their daughters, Sharon and Patricia and their families.

A garden memorial is presented to the glory of God in loving memory of June Alexis Jacobson by her husband, Al, and her children, James, Mark, and Jennifer.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

PRELUDE

Aria

Flor Peeters

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Philip J. Reed

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Matthew Means

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.
Bless are those who take refuge in him.
Let us worship the living God.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 321

The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Matthew Means

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 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. Matthew Means

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

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 34 (*OT, page 506*)
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Elder Lynda Wilds

SOLO

Jesus Is Lord of All

words and music: William & Gloria Gaither

SERMON

Summer in the Psalms: Taste and See

Rev. Dr. Annemarie S. Kidder

* **HYMN 522**

I Am the Bread of Life

I AM THE BREAD

(Please be seated after the hymn.)

THANKSGIVING

CALL TO OFFERING AND DEDICATION

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

I Need Thee Every Hour

Robert Lowry, arr. Kurt Kaiser

I need thee every hour, most gracious Lord;
no tender voice like thine can peace afford.

Refrain

I need thee, oh, I need thee;
Every hour I need thee;
Oh, bless me now, my Savior,
I come to thee.

I need thee every hour, in joy or pain;
Come quickly and abide, or life is vain.

Refrain

I need thee every hour most Holy One,
Oh make me thine indeed, most blessed Son.

Refrain (Words by Annie S. Hawks)

* **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. Dr. Philip J. Reed

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

SENDING

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 305 **Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!**

DARWALL'S 148TH

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (*seated*)

POSTLUDE **Trumpet Voluntary**

John Stanley

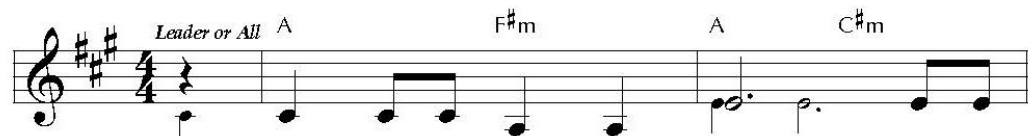
The Church's One Foundation 321

1 The chur-ch's one foun-da-tion is Je-sus Christ her Lord.
 2 E-lect from ev-ery na-tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn-ful won-der this world sees her op-pressed,
 4 Mid toil and trib-u-la-tion, and tu-mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has un-ion with God, the Three in One,

She is his new cre-a-tion by wa-ter and the word.
 her char-ter of sal-va-tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
 by schis-ms rent a-sun-der, by her-e-sies dis-tressed,
 she waits the con-sum-ma-tion of peace for-ev-er-more:
 and mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion with those whose rest is won:

From heaven he came and sought her to be his ho-ly bride.
 One ho-ly name she bless-es, par-takes one ho-ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep-ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi-sion glo-rious her long-ing eyes are blest,
 O hap-py ones and ho-ly! Lord, give us grace that we,

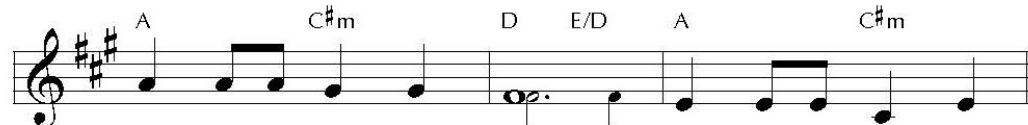
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press-es, with ev-ery grace en-dued.
 And soon the night of weep-ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic-to-rious shall be the church at rest.
 like them, the meek and low-ly, may live e-ter-nal-ly.



1 "I am the bread of life. You who
 2 "The bread that I will give is my
 3 "Un - less you eat of the
 4 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion;
 5 Yes, Lord, I be - lieve that



come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man and
 I am the life. If you be -
 you are the Christ, the



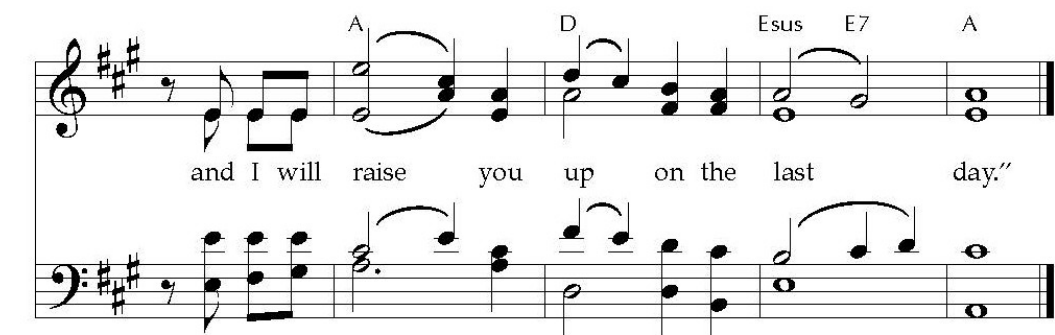
lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 eat of this bread, you shall live for -
 drink of his blood, and drink of his
 lieve in me, e - ven though you
 Son of God, who has



me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."
 ev - er; you shall live for - ev - er."
 blood, you shall not have life with - in you."
 die, you shall live for - ev - er."
 come in - to the world.



"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,



and I will raise you up on the last day."



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