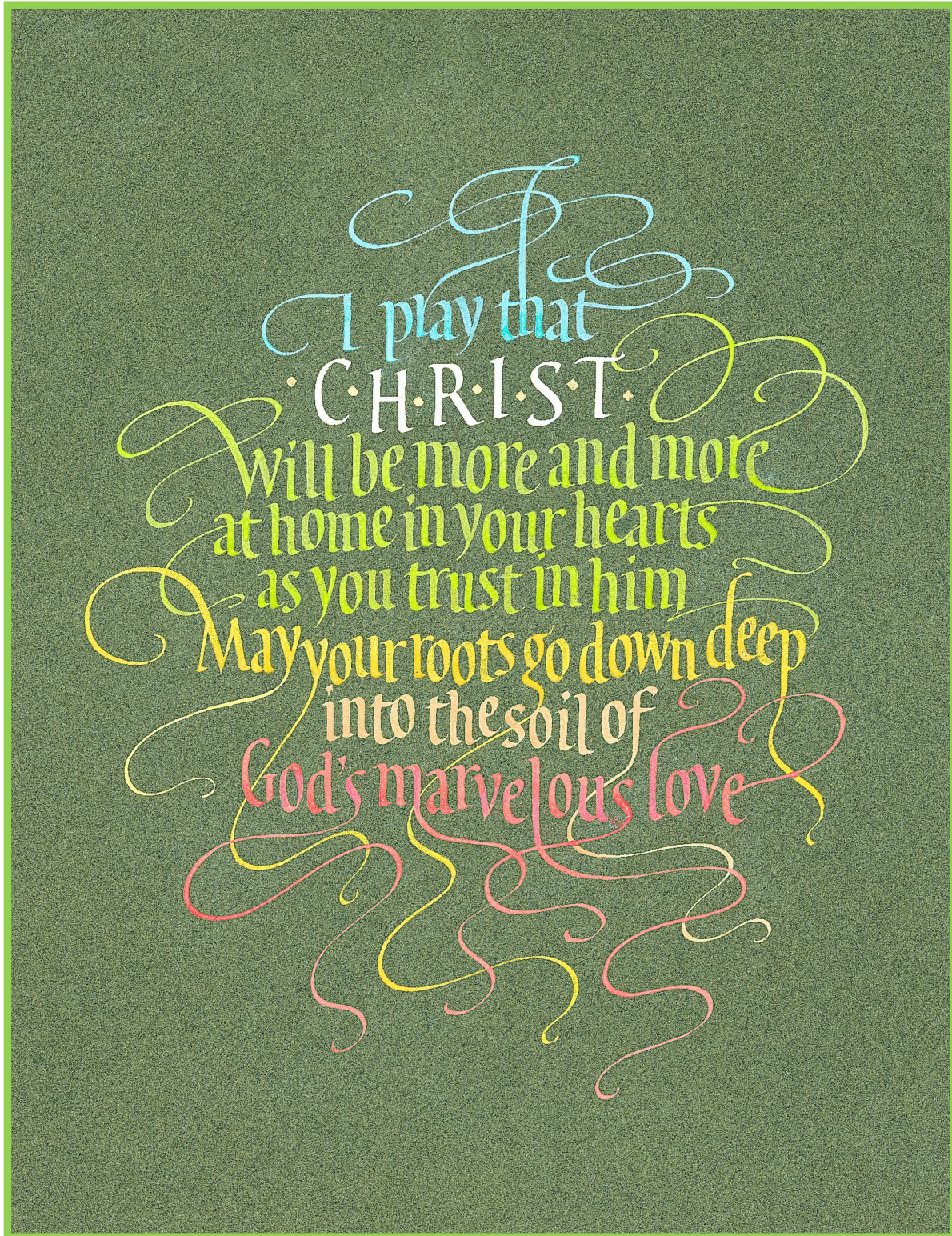


KIRK IN THE HILLS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)  
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
JANUARY 19, 2025







## A Note from Pastor Edwin

I just recently saw *12 Angry Men*, a stage play-based movie released in 1957, and a part of my continued interest in reading and viewing works of art, literature, films and more, which rank highly on many a scholar and critic's lists. The entire film takes place in three locations: the jury room, the adjoining restroom, and the exterior of a courthouse. The cinematography and set production invite the viewer into the sweltering heat of summer as the jury deliberates on a verdict for a young, impoverished boy accused of killing his abusive father. As the camera angles make

the audience feel more claustrophobic as the scenes go on, we are privy to heated conversations, revealing issues of justice and fairness, the prejudices and hopes of each of the jurors as tensions mount, and the life of a boy (whom we never meet) hangs in the balance.

Early in the life of the Church Universal, tradition held that the "Apostles Creed" was named because the 12 Apostles of Jesus Christ (those identified in the Gospels and the Book of Acts sans Judas) each contributed one of its 12 articles of faith and together shared the faith we profess to this day. Whether or not they together created a creed, the earlier Symbol of the Apostles, or each contributed so perfectly a line doesn't change the fact that each did their part in spreading Christianity across the Roman Empire, and beyond. Along and beyond trade routes, the Gospel of Jesus Christ spread and changed the known world. Why? In and through the working of the Spirit, it spread, yes, and there have also been several sociological reasons given, and they all have a place in the conversation. Yet one central one emerges for me: in a world without hope, those in the underbelly and margins of empire found hope in the promise of God's loving justice in Christ Jesus. That is, the loving justice of God would one day set the world aright, would break the chains of oppression, and herald the Peaceable Kingdom, with justice for all.

As we look to Martin Luther King, Jr. Monday, I came upon a list of 12 critical Civil Rights Movement leaders, such as Fannie Lou Hamer, Rosa Parks, and, of course, the Rev. Dr. King. It was remarkable to see how each gave their part, played a role, and changed the world. They highlighted the wrongs, they advocated for fairness and justice, and warned against the prejudices of the human heart that could lead to hurtful and oppressive action. Why? They, too, like the 12 Angry Men, believed in the importance of justice; they, too, like the 12 Apostles, believed that God's loving justice would one day "roll down like the waters and righteousness like a mighty stream." And the reason they could cling to such a hope, and the reason we can do, is because of God, the Father Almighty. And I can't wait to share with you why during the sermon!

Happy Sunday!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edwin".

Rev. Edwin Estevez | Senior Pastor | Head of Staff

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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

**OPENING VOLUNTARIES**      **Two Pieces**      *Edward Grieg*  
**Poco Andante; Elegie**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**      Rev. Edwin Estevez

\* *Please rise in body or spirit at the ringing of the tower 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**      Give thanks to the Lord, who is good,      Rev. Jim Moseley  
**for God's steadfast love endures forever.**  
Give thanks to the God of gods,  
**for God's steadfast love endures forever.**  
Give thanks to the Lord of lords,  
**for God's steadfast love endures forever.**

\* **PROCESSIONAL HYMN 263**      **All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!**      *Coronation*

\* **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**      Rev. Jim Moseley

**Merciful God, who does freely pardon all who repent and turn from  
their ways to the way of Jesus, hear us now, as we confess our personal  
sins in the silence of our hearts:**

*Hold silence*

**Gracious God, now fulfill in every contrite heart the promise of redeem-  
ing grace; forgiving all our sins, and cleansing us from an evil con-  
science; through the perfect sacrifice of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

\* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**Kyrie**      *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. Jim Moseley

Being therefore justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Friends, believe the Good News:

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!**

God fills our hearts with joy; God's grace and love a - bound. God  
 heals all earth - ly bro - ken - ness; Let praise to God re - sound! Re -  
 -joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks and sing!

**WORD**

**WORD WITH THE CHILDREN & PROVERBS 3:5-6 (9:00 a.m.)**

Rev. Jim Moseley

*Following the Word with the Children, children and youth ages 4 through grade 8 will be dismissed for Sunday School.*

**INVITATION HYMN**

*(As the children come forward for the Word with Children the congregation sings while seated)*

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.

**Proverbs 3:5-6**

**Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
 and lean not on your own understanding;  
 In all your ways submit to him,  
 and he will make your paths straight.**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Guide Us, O God**

James Biery

*Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light,  
 in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Jesus  
 Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Ephesians 3:14-21** (*NT, page 193*)

Elder Bobi Tallinger, 9:00 a.m.  
Elder Karen Ludden, 11:00 a.m.

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

**SOLO**

**Precious Lord, Take My Hand**

*Thomas A. Dorsey*

*The text may be found in the hymnal, #834*

**SERMON**

**Credo: God the Father Almighty**

Rev. Edwin Estevez

**\* THE APOSTLES' CREED**

*See page 17, Glory to God Hymnal.*

**\* HYMN 481**

**I Believe in God the Father**

*Genevan 42*

*(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**

**This is My Father's World**

*Elaine Hagenberg*

<p>This is my Father's world, And to my listening ears All nature sings, and round me rings The music of the spheres. This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas-- His hand the wonders wrought.</p>	<p>This is my Father's world: The birds their carols raise, The morning light, the flowers bright, Declare their Maker's praise. This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair; In the rustling grass I hear him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.</p>
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This is my Father's world:  
O let me ne'er forget  
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the Ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world:  
Why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is King: let the heavens ring!  
God reigns; let earth be glad!

**\* 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. Amen.**  
\* or *God*

## PRAYER

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Jasmine Smart

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.

### CHORAL AMEN

## SENDING

- \* RECESSIONAL HYMN 733      **We Are All One in Mission**      *Es flog, ein kleins Waldvögelein*
- \* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION
- \* CLOSING VOLUNTARY      **Improvisation on All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name**      *W. Patrick Alston*

## INFORMATION ON TODAY'S SERVICES

**Musicians:** Chantel Woodard, soprano; Merideth Estevez, oboe; James Biery and Marilyn Biery, organists and directors

**Music Notes:** On April 4, 1968, at 6:01 p.m., Dr. Martin Luther King was shot while standing on the second floor balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, surrounded by friends and associates. As he lay dying, he spoke these last words to his friend and musician Ben Branch, who was to perform at the event King was scheduled to attend that night: "Ben, make sure you play 'Take My Hand, Precious Lord' in the meeting to-night. Play it real pretty." King's funeral took place on April 9, 1968, at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, the church where both King and his father had served as co-pastors. His good friend Mahalia Jackson sang "Precious Lord" at the funeral.

“I Believe in God the Father” is a metrical hymn adaptation of the Apostles’ Creed created by David Gambrell. From the earliest days of the Protestant Reformation, hymn writers have created poetic versions of psalms and other worship texts. These hymns are called “metrical” because the poetry is written in meter, with a regular number of syllables in each line. This enables them to be organized into several stanzas that can all be sung to the same tune. One of Martin Luther’s innovations was the creation of metrical hymn versions of each part of the service, so that the people could sing and fully participate in the liturgy. Gambrell’s hymn, written in 2009, is a modern English language example of this tradition. David Gambrell is Associate for Worship in the Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The tune that he chose for his hymn comes from the 1551 *Genevan Psalter*, a book of metrical psalms for congregational singing written at the request of John Calvin. Originally used for Psalm 42, we sing it to the Advent hymn “Comfort, Comfort Now My People.”

Elaine Hagenberg was educated at Drake University. Her music “soars with eloquence and ingenuity” (*ACDA Choral Journal*). Her compositions have been performed by universities, community choirs, schools, and church choirs throughout the United States and abroad. Her music has been featured at all-state festivals, national and regional American Choral Directors Association Conferences, the National Youth Choir at Carnegie Hall, the Melbourne International Choral Festival in Australia, and the International Children’s Choir Festivals in Canterbury and London.

A native of Baltimore, W. Patrick Alston serves as worship music consultant for New Shiloh Baptist Church in Baltimore and staff organist at the Sligo Seventh Day Adventist Church. He earned an MM from the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University in music education, a BA in piano performance from the University of Maryland Baltimore County and was awarded an honorary doctorate in sacred music from the Eastern Theological Seminary. He teaches keyboard and international baccalaureate music theory at Baltimore City College High School. He also teaches The Gospel Music Tradition of Baltimore at the Peabody Institute as an adjunct professor.

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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.

**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.

**On the Cover** — **Ephesians 3:17-18** © 2025 Timothy R. Botts | Eyekons

**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.





*We envision a world where every heart experiences God's transforming love.*



**Membership**

Mercy Adams  
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**Serve**

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**Congregational Care**

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**Preschool**

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**Baptisms, Memorials, Weddings**

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**Give**

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**Questions/Information**

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