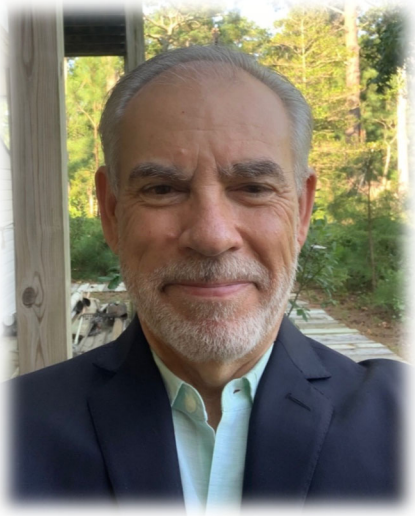


KIRK IN THE HILLS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)  
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
FEBRUARY 23, 2025





## A Note from Pastor Jim

The rural counties of the Eastern Shore are predominantly agricultural. Corn, potatoes, soybeans and other veggie crops cover tens of thousands of acres across Delaware Maryland and Virginia. The growing season of planting and harvest determines the ebb and flow of community life.

In this week's sermon text from Paul's writing to the Corinthians he uses an analogy to help the early church reflect on death and resurrection. He reminds his readers that grains of wheat must be planted into the dark earth, like those who have died are buried in the ground.

The new shoot that emerges is like being resurrected as a new creation.

Such a claim, I suspect, was incredulous for believers and non-believers alike. Yet, certainly it had to stir the hearts of Jesus' followers.

The scriptures also make use of the metaphor of planting seeds to express the experience of faith planted and souls gathered; it is the evangelistic work of the church. Perhaps the best-known example of this is the story of the Sower and the Seed in Matthew 13:1-9.

I would also suggest — on a personal note — the metaphor of “planting the seed” into the earth corresponds to our daily walk with Christ. We are planted, that is, born into the firmament of this world. Day by day we are striving toward maturation into the full measure of the person we are called to be in the likeness of Jesus Christ. Then, at life's end, we enter into that last great experience of death, of our expiration, from which we shall be raised. We shall be perfected in body and soul in the likeness of our Lord Jesus. That is the great mystery of faith; that is the great promise of salvation.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Moseley". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Rev. Jim Moseley  
Transitional Pastor

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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

## PRELUDE

### **Troubled Waters**

*Margaret Bonds*

(9:00 a.m.) **Day by Day**

*Martin How*

*Day by day,  
Dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:  
To see thee more clearly,  
Love thee more dearly,  
Follow thee more nearly,  
Day by day.*

St. Cecilia and Cantamus Choirs

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Edwin Estevez

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

## \* INTROIT

### **Cry Out with Joy**

*Marilyn Biery*

*Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.  
Worship the Lord with gladness.  
Cry out with joy and come into God's presence with singing!*

## \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Jasmine Smart

Give thanks to the Lord, who is good,  
**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 360

### **Christ is Coming!**

*Unser Herrscher*

## \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Jasmine Smart

**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 redeeming grace; forgiving all our sins, and cleansing us from an evil conscience; 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. Jasmine Smart

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!**

\* ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE

**God Fills Our Hearts with Joy**

*Marion*



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.)**

Sarah Ford

*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 throug. 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**

**1 Corinthians 15** *(select verses)*

Elder Bobi Tallinger, 9:00 a.m.; Elder Ruth Reading, 11:00 a.m.  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**SOLO**

**Don't Feel No-Ways Tired**

*arr. Jacqueline B. Hairston*

*I am seeking for a city, Hallelujah. For a city into the Kingdom,  
Hallelujah. There's a better day a-comin', Hallelujah. When I leave this  
world of sorrow, Hallelujah, to join the holy number, Hallelujah. I don'  
feel nowadays tired. Come too far from where I started from; nobody tol'  
me the road would be easy; I don' believe he brought me this far to leave  
me. Oh Lord, I don' feel nowadays tired, Children. Oh, Glory Hallelujah.  
For I hope to shout glory when this worl' is on fire.*

**SERMON**

**Credo: Resurrection of the Body**

Rev. Jim Moseley

\* **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

*See page 35, Glory to God Hymnal.*

\* **HYMN 377**

**I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**

*Houston*

*(Please be seated after the hymn.)*

**THANKSGIVING**

**CALL TO OFFERING AND DEDICATION**

Rev. Edwin Estevez

*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**

**Alleluia**

*Randall Thompson*

\* **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. Edwin Estevez

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 RESPONSE

Peace of God Be with You

*Richard Bruxvoort Colligan*

*Peace of God be with you; As-salaamu lakum.*

## SENDING

### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION *(seated)*

#### \* RECESSIONAL HYMN 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*Hyfrydol*

#### CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Invocation

*George Walker*

## INFORMATION ON TODAY'S SERVICES

**About the Music:** During the month of February we highlight compositions and arrangements by Black composers.

Troubled Waters is a rhapsody on the spiritual 'Wade in the Water' by Margaret Bonds (1913-72). Margaret Allison Bonds was an American composer, pianist, arranger, and teacher. One of the first Black composers and performers to gain recognition in the United States, she is best remembered for her arrangements of African American spirituals and frequent collaborations with Langston Hughes. She was the first Black soloist to perform with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Bonds studied piano and composition with Florence Price and William Dawson. In 1929, at the age of 16, Bonds began her studies at Northwestern University, where she earned Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in piano and composition.

Jacqueline Hairston is a pianist, composer and arranger, who studied at the Juilliard School of Music and Howard University School of Music. She earned a Masters degree in music and music education from Columbia University. Her works have been recorded by the London and Columbia Symphony Orchestras and have been performed by the San Francisco Women's Philharmonic, Kathleen Battle, Metropolitan Opera mezzo soprano Denyce Graves and the Orlando Opera Chorus and Orchestra.

George Theophilus Walker (1922- 2018) was the first African American composer to win the Pulitzer Prize for Music (for *Lilacs* in 1966). Walker was admitted to the Oberlin Conservatory at fourteen, and later to the Curtis Institute of Music to study piano with Rudolf Serkin and composition with Rosario Scalero, teacher of Samuel Barber. He received his doctorate from the Eastman School of Music. Walker taught at Rutgers University for several years, retiring in 1992.

**Musicians:** Susan Wheatley, pianist; Chantel Woodard, soprano; James Biery and Marilyn Biery, organists and directors.

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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.



**On the Cover — John 13 - Resurrection & Life** © 2025 P Solomon Raj | Eyekons

**The flowers on the altar** are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Nancy S. Hall and her parents Hi and Dave Smucker, former active members of the Kirk, by Kristin and David Sliwicki and their children of Madison, Wisconsin.

**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.



**Meet Our Membership Coordinator!** Stop by the Visitor's Table in the Narthex after service to say hello to our Membership Coordinator, Mercy Adams. If this is your first visit to the Kirk, Mercy would love to meet you and answer all your questions about being a member. If you're interested, she can sign you up for one of our upcoming New Member Classes.



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



**Membership**

Mercy Adams  
madams@kirkinthehills.org



**Serve**

Carole Pearl & Amy Davis  
missionoutreach@kirkinthehills.org



**Congregational Care**

Wendy Beck  
wbeck@kirkinthehills.org



**Preschool**

Sandy Jewell  
sjewell@kirkinthehills.org



**Youth**

Sarah Ford  
sford@kirkinthehills.org



**Children & Family**

Sarah Ford  
sford@kirkinthehills.org



**Choirs and Music Events**

Marilyn Biery  
mbiery@kirkinthehills.org



**Baptisms, Memorials, Weddings**

Jennifer Morris  
jmorris@kirkinthehills.org



**Small Groups**

Rev. Edwin Estevez  
revedwin@kirkinthehills.org



**Give**

Jayne Zellers  
jzellers@kirkinthehills.org



**Questions/Information**

Erica Ginter  
eginter@kirkinthehills.org



**Church Leadership**

Linda Juracek Lipa/Clerk of Session  
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