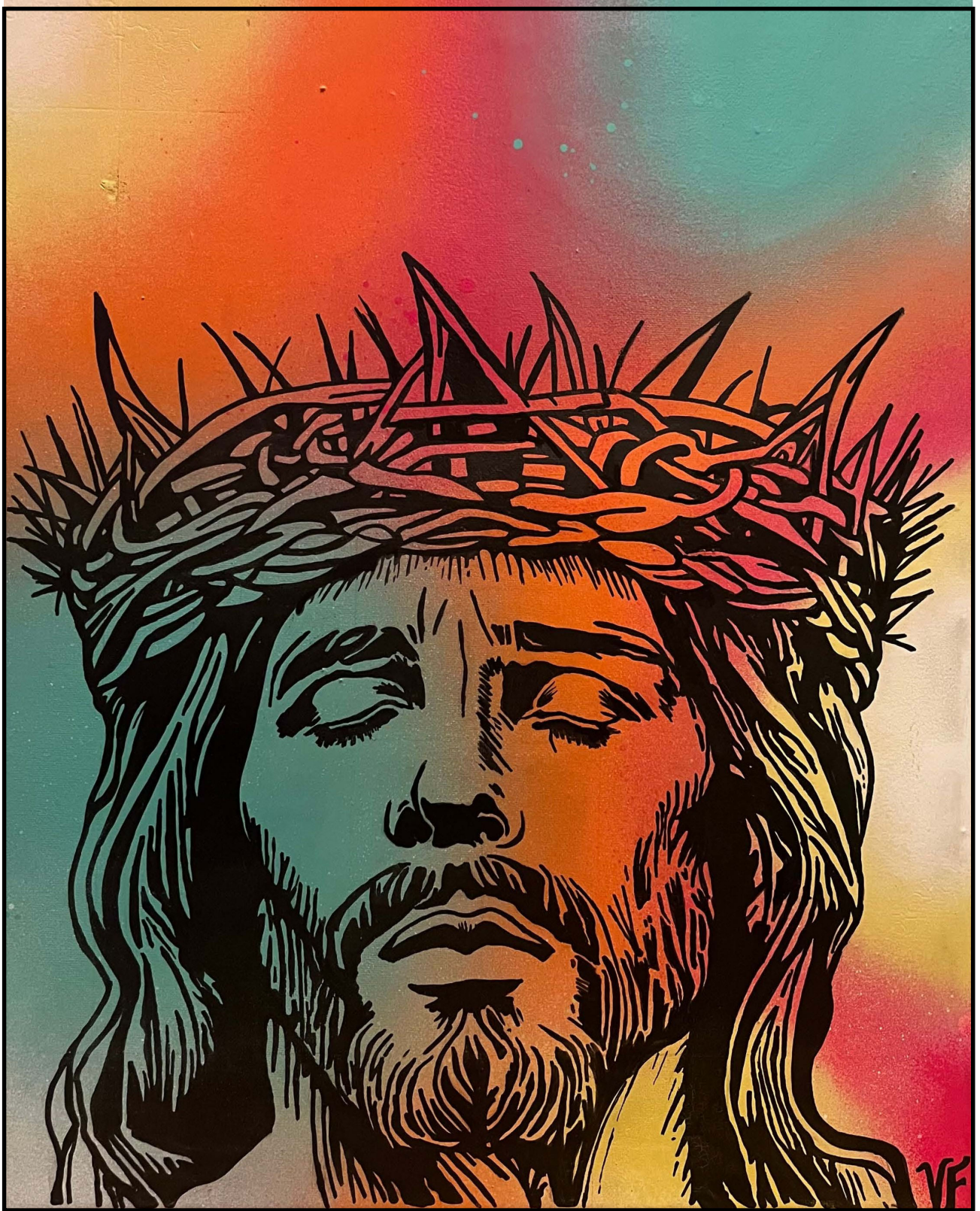


KIRK IN THE HILLS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)  
YOUTH & CONFIRMATION SUNDAY | 9:00 A.M. WORSHIP  
MAY 11, 2025



*Infinite Beauty Unlocked by Christ* | Vivian Flowers, Artist & Kirk Confirmand





This is **Brett Coburn**, I am an 8th grader at West Bloomfield Middle School. I am in the confirmation class of 2025. I have been thinking about what I want to share with you regarding God and his love. Romans 8:28 says “ We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” I feel that the verse resonates with me because it helps me with my daily life, reminding me that God is loving, works and keeps people safe for those who believe in him.

On this Youth Sunday, I have reflected on what the Kirk means to me as I am transitioning to become a member in the final step of the confirmation process. I have attended this church since I was born. It is a safe space. It feels like a second home and not just a place my mom and dad make me go on Sunday mornings like I thought when I was younger. As I get older and mature more I realize that church is more than just a sacred place to sit there in the pews. It is the singing voice I found in the young children's choir. It is a place where I learned how to talk to God myself. I found friendships through Sunday school, youth group, and confirmation class. I have strengthened my faith. My church family shows kindness and respect by helping me through their actions and words guiding me to learn about inner peace, act more Christ-like, and live my faith in everything I do every day.

As a youth within the Kirk, there are many opportunities for kids of all ages to get involved. Some opportunities for middle and high schoolers are attending youth groups on Sunday nights, becoming an Acolyte, singing in the choir, weekend retreats, helping with vacation bible school, and yearly mission trips to use our time and talents to bless others. We have many kids that come regularly, but many don't. To those that don't attend the things...YOU are welcome. Come. Bring a friend if that's easier for you to get involved. As for the younger kids (grade 5 and under) there are places for you too. There is Sunday School, youth choirs, and outside activities like the Trunk-or-Treat.

What can a parent, grandparent or Kirk member do to support us kids in a life at The Kirk? Be present. Talk to us. Ask us things without prejudging us. (We might even ask questions back). Pray for and with us. Teach us how God's word applies to our daily lives. Please drive us to the things. Stay after service so we can sing in the choir or talk with our friends for a few more minutes. Volunteer your time and talents. Teach Sunday School. Chaperone a youth group lock-in. Bring snacks (we are always hungry! ). We need you. YOU are wanted. Share your love of God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit because “God works for the good of those who love him”.



**About the art:** Bryce Coburn, artist. Title: Jesus Comforting. Medium: Pencil. My work was inspired by how I think Jesus would comfort and love a child.

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9:00 a.m., Sanctuary

## PRELUDE

*Drums*, played by Henry Mason, piano

Kristen Allred

*Dance*, played by Oliver Mason, piano

Kristen Allred

Chorus from "**Judas Maccabaeus**"

*G. F. Handel*

*Daniel Litkouhi, violin*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pierce Kupelian

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

## \* INTROIT

**This is the Day**

*Fijian Traditional Melody*

*This is the day that the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.*

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP** *from Isaiah 66:13, Ruth 1:16, John 4:7, 1 Cor. 13:13*

Confirmation Class of 2025

*Sung by Nora Mason:*

*God speaks through the Prophet Isaiah*

Read by Confirmands:

as a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you.

**Congregation:**

**Thanks be to God.**

*Sung by Nora Mason:*

*A child's love has no boundaries says Ruth,*

Read by Confirmands:

where you go, I go; where you live, I live

**Congregation:**

**your people are my people; your God is my God.**

*Sung by Nora Mason:*

*Let us love one another, for love comes from God.*

Read by Confirmands:

The Apostle Paul instructs us that these characteristics remain:  
faith, hope, and love...

**Congregation:**

**and the greatest of these is love.**

\* **PROCESSIONAL HYMN 299**

**You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim**

HANOVER

\* **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Hannah Jakubiak

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you**

**In thought, word, and deed,**

**By what we have done,**

**And what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart, mind, and strength.**

**We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**In your mercy, forgive what we have been,**

**Help us amend what we are,**

**And direct what we shall be,**

**So that we may delight in your ways,**

**To the glory of your holy name.**

\* **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**

Joseph Ashoo

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He has not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. As the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Believe the good news:

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

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

**\* ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE 581**

**Glory Be to the Father**

GLORIA PATRI

**ANTHEM**

**He Has Made Me Glad**

*Leona Von Brethorst*

*I will enter his gates with thanksgiving in my heart,*

*I will enter his courts with praise.*

*I will say, "This is the day that the Lord has made!"*

*I will rejoice, for he has made me glad.*

*He has made me glad, he has made me glad,*

*I will rejoice, for he has made me glad.*

*He has made me glad, he has made me glad,*

*I will rejoice, for he has made me glad.*

The Joyful Noise Choir

**WORD**

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Rev. Jasmine Smart & Elder Jim Devlin

*Charlize Justine Jones*

**THE SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION**

Rev. Jasmine Smart, Jim Devlin & Sarah Ford

**PRESENTATION**

*Those being confirmed today are:*

Joseph Ashoo, Brett Coburn, Bryce Coburn, Lila Costello,

Caroline Eriksen, Vivian Flowers, Collin Graff,

Victoria Guettler, Charlize Jones, Nora Mason,

Lyla Sheard, Twydr Skilton, Annie Way, Tyler Webb

**THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION**

*The Confirmands, mentors, and their parents will come forward and face the congregation as they are called.*

**QUESTIONS OF MEMBERSHIP**

Sarah Ford

Do you turn to Jesus Christ, and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love? (I do.)

Trusting in the grace of God, do you turn from the ways of sin that separate us from the love God? (I do.)

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying Christ's Word and showing Christ's love? (**I will.**)

Will you be a faithful member of this congregation,  
Sharing in our worship and work, through your prayers and gifts,  
your study and service, and so fulfill your calling  
to be a disciple of Jesus Christ? . . . **I will**

*(to the congregation)*

Do we, members of this congregation, promise to support, nurture,  
and sustain these newest members in the Christian journey?

**We do.**

## PRAYER FOR THE CONFIRMANDS

Jim Devlin

*During the prayer, please offer a virtual "laying of hands" on the youth by extending your arm forward as a symbol of touch.*

**Almighty God, we thank you that in your Son Jesus Christ you have brought us to yourself, and that by the seal of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. As you bind these young people to yourself through faith, renew in every worshiper here a commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Send forth these young people in the power of your Spirit to perform the service you have set before them. Amen.**

*Following the prayer, the confirmands will be called one by one to the kneeler in the chancel.*

## WELCOME THE NEW MEMBERS

Rev. Jim Moseley

**With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's Church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.**

## WORD WITH CHILDREN AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Priyanca Skilton

*Following the Word with the Children, children and youth will remain in worship with their family.*

### INVITATION HYMN

### Come as You Are

Rev. Jim Moseley (text); *traditional*

Who - ev - er you are, we wel - come you.

Wher - ev - er you're from, there's a place for you.

Dear Child of God, we wel - come you!

Come down, come as you are.

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**    **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.*

**ANTHEM**    **Lord Jesus, Be My Song**    *Kenneth T. Kosche*

*Lord Jesus, be my song today in all I do or think or say  
 At home or school, at work or play:  
 Lord Jesus, be my song...  
 Oh, come at dawn's first morning, stay when the sun at noon is bright,  
 And when I go to sleep at night:  
 Lord Jesus, be my song...  
 Your love surrounds me when I'm sad,  
 It heals the hurt, forgives the bad,  
 It gives me all that makes me glad:  
 Lord Jesus, be my song...  
 No melody within my mind, no better tune could be designed,  
 No sweeter music can I find  
 Than "Jesus, be my song..."*

St. Cecilia and Cantamus Choirs

**SCRIPTURE READING**    **Romans 8:5-6, 14**    Bryce Coburn

**LESSON**    **Next Chapter**    Sadie Douglass

**SCRIPTURE READING**    **Psalms 32:3-5**    Declan Field

**LESSON**    **The Weight We Carry**    Henry Graff

**SCRIPTURE READING**    **Romans 8:26-27**    Tyler Webb

**LESSON**    **When You Don't Have the Words**    Ellie Faglie

**FAITH SUMMARY**    Rev. Jasmine Smart and Sarah Ford

\* **HYMN 802**    **The King of Love My Shepherd Is**    ST. COLUMBA

*(Please be seated after the hymn.)*

# THANKSGIVING

## CALL TO OFFERING AND DEDICATION

R. J. Belt

*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

#### **Siyahamba**

*South African Folk Song arr. By Victor C. Johnson*

*Siyahamba ekukhanyen' kwenkos,  
We are marching in the light of God.*

St. Cecilia and Cantamus Choirs

### \* 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

Lizzie Eriksen

## SENDING

### \* RECESSIONAL HYMN 324

#### **For All the Faithful Women**

NYLAND

### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (*seated*)

Davis Belt

### CHORAL BENEDICTION

#### **God Be With You**

*Marilyn Biery*

*God be with you till we meet again.*

### POSTLUDE

#### **Paraphrase on a Handel Chorus** *(Thine Is the Glory)*

*Alexandre Guilmant*

## INFORMATION ON TODAY'S SERVICES

**Musicians:** Carol Beth Litkouhi, Joyful Noise Choir Director; Bobby DeLisle, Children and Youth Choir Director; Marilyn and James Biery, organists.

**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— *Infinite Beauty Unlocked by Christ*** | Vivian Flowers, Artist & Kirk Member

The portrait of Jesus wearing the crown of thorns represents the suffering and the ultimate sacrifice he made for us. The boldness of his face is meant to be the first thing that captures your attention, but as your eyes move across the piece, they are drawn to the colors in the background. I chose to use mystical types of colors to portray abstractness and the mysterious nature of God.. The background is my way of depicting that idea. It shows that something beautiful can come from suffering, which is what my faith builds from. This piece is my best attempt at visually representing the beauty, wonder, and transcendence of my faith.

**Acolytes:** Chris Graff, Jeff Jones, Adam Devlin, Ryan Webb

**The flowers on the altar** are presented to the glory of God in loving remembrance of her husband, James W. Clark, parents, Ray D. and Wayne Louise Eichler and sister, Marilyn Eichler Dewar by Barbara Eichler Clark and family.

**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. *Note: These flowers should not be placed in the columbarium. The vases are glass and can fall over and break creating a hazard on the pathway.*

**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.



**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).

**Thank you** to Jim Devlin for hosting and teaching confirmation classes for our youth this year.

**Thank you** to Dom Skilton for hosting and teaching the confirmand's parent class throughout the year.