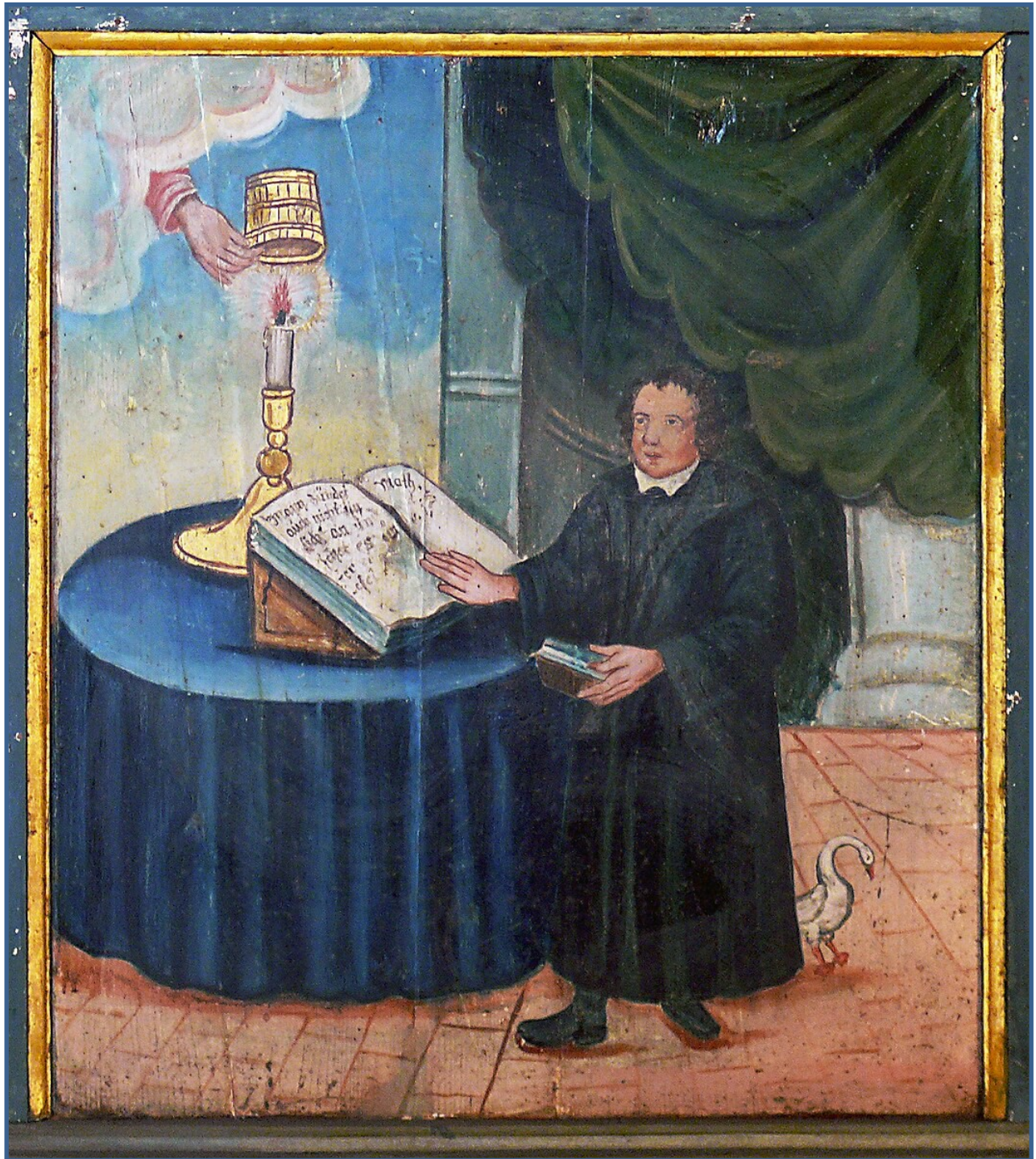


KIRK IN THE HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
REFORMATION SUNDAY
OCTOBER 27, 2024





Sunday, October 27, 2024

Reformation Sunday is both an acknowledgement of an historic movement where the imagination of God's Church worldwide was both challenged and broadened, and a recognition that the Church is always called to the act of reforming toward the likeness of Christ. It sadly led to the disunity of the Church—today, there are thousands of denominations and we are separated as Catholics, Protestant, Orthodox, and still further as Episcopal, Presbyterian, Congregational, and more. While we must recognize the violence that tragically accompanied some of the legitimate and impassioned differences of opinion, there is still good news. **First**, the Reformation led to the diversified expressions of faith that we see today. Some denominations are more ritualistic and contemplative, others much more charismatic; some have beautiful buildings attracting pilgrims, spiritual seekers, and refugees the world over, while others meet in homes, parks, and riversides; some are known for their beautiful liturgy and music, others for their preaching and teaching; still others are known for their mission work in the most difficult of spaces. This has made the Christian faith a “big tent” movement that has reached billions of people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. **Second**, it led to a deeper reflection on the Holy Bible, fueled both by the earnest desire of Reformers to learn the original languages of the Bible and to translate the official language of the Church, the Latin Vulgate, into the varied languages of the people—French, German, English, Spanish, and more—and by the advancement in technology of things like the Gutenberg Press. This allowed for a more robust study, a richer tradition of interpretation, and led to an incredible rise in literacy wherever the Reformation made an impact. In fact, some scholars argue that, without the Reformation, you never get the Scottish Enlightenment, nor Enlightenment at all, without which you do not get the present United States nor world-based systems of governance, with concepts such as a higher law, human rights endowed by the Creator, pluralism allowing for difference, and a government based on checks and balances. **Third**, the Reformation is not meant to serve as a moment frozen in time, it is to recognize the movement of the Holy Spirit in our midst and that we must always be reforming into the shape of the Body of Christ. What are we to change now, how are we to grow, where does our imagination need to be challenged and broadened so that all might experience God's transforming love in Christ Jesus?

In honor of Reformation Sunday, we will hear from Themis Sirinides, who will share his testimony of faith at our 8:00 a.m. Communion Service in Cedarholm Chapel, and a briefer version during the Faith in Action moment at the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. He will share how he came to make a dramatic change to move to Greece and support the ministry of Second Evangelical Church in Athens. You will be able to hear more of his story at the Lunch and Learn hosted by the Adult Education Committee following the 11Am Worship Service. Please make sure to thank Jill O'Hara and her committee for making this possible.

We had the privilege of meeting Themis during the Kirk's Pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey, co-led by Ruth Reading and Rev. Dr. Chip Hardwick. Themis is a powerful speaker and will no doubt bless us today with his message that speaks perfectly to the theme of Reformation Sunday—what are we willing to change for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ? Let us worship God.

In Christ,

Rev. Edwin Estevez

Sr. Pastor | Head of Staff

8:55 & 10:55 a.m., Sanctuary

O gracious and holy God, give us diligence to seek you,
wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you.
Grant us, O God, a mind to meditate on you; eyes to behold you;
ears to listen for your word;
a heart to love you; and a life to proclaim you;
through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen. Attributed to Benedict of Nursia (c. 480-574)

J. S. Bach

Rev. Edwin Estevez.

Joachim Neander

Rev. Jim Moseley

Ein' Feste Burg

Merbeck



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us; Christ, have mer-cy up-on us; Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

*** ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Hear this: the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore
our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and
alive to all that is good.

Friends, believe the Good News:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

*** GLORIA PATRI**

Greatorex (Hymn 581)

**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. Amen.**

WORD

WORD WITH THE CHILDREN & PSALM 117 (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.*

Psalm 117

Praise the Lord, all you nations.
Extol him, all you peoples.
For great is his love towards us,
And the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.
Praise the Lord!

As the children recess to Sunday School, all will sing...

HYMN 188 (seated)

Jesus Loves Me!

Jesus Loves Me

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Living God

Arabic Tune

*Living God, help us to hear your Word that we may therefore truly understand.
Give us guidance that we would truly follow, seeking to honor and glorify you.
Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Gospel of Mark 10:35-45 (NT, page 47)

Elder Carole Pearl

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Peter Niedmann

*I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise.
That spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at God's command and all the stars obey.*

*I sing the goodness of the Lord that filled the earth with food
That formed creation with a word and then pronounced it good.
Lord, how your wonders are displayed wher'er I turn my eye,*

*If I survey the ground I tread or gaze upon the sky!
There's not a plant or flower below but makes your glories known
And clouds arise and tempests blow by order from your throne.
While all that borrows life from you is ever in your care
And everywhere that I may be, O God, you are present there.*
The Kirk Singers

SERMON

Profiles in Leadership: Jesus, The Servant Leader

Rev. Edwin Estevez

*** HYMN 320**

The Church of Christ in Every Age

Wareham

(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

Verleih uns Frieden

Felix Mendelssohn

*Grant us peace graciously, Lord God, in our time;
there is indeed no other who could fight for us
than you, our God, alone. (Martin Luther, sung in German)*

*** DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)**

Old Hundredth

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him/God all creatures here below;
Praise him/God above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

FAITH IN ACTION

Themis Sirinides

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.**

SENDING

*** RECESSIONAL HYMN 694**

Great God of Every Blessing

Aurelia

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (seated)

CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

P. C. Lutkin

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Wir glauben all an einen Gott, BWV 680

J. S. Bach

WORSHIP NOTES

INFORMATION ON TODAY'S SERVICES

Music Notes

Anita Pinson, Kirk Singers director, James Biery, Marilyn Biery, organists and Chancel Choir directors.

The music sung today by the Kirk Singers is a memorial gift from Joan Cheng, in memory of her mother.

About the Music: The Prayer for Illumination sung today is based on an Arabic tune found in the *Book of Spiritual Hymns for Evangelical Churches*, published in Beirut, Lebanon, in 1965. The source of the tune is unknown. Marilyn Biery set the tune to a traditional Prayer for Illumination found in the *Book of Common Worship* published by the Presbyterian Church USA (1993).

Peter Niedmann (b. 1960 in New London, Connecticut) is an American composer of predominantly choral and organ music. Niedmann studied at the University of Hartford's Hartt School of Music and University of Connecticut, and held a conducting fellowship with Sir David Willcocks. He formerly served on the faculty of the Hartt School, University of Hartford.

Martin Luther made a significant contribution to church music with his hymns in the language of the people, and the text of today's anthem, "Verleih uns Frieden" in the original German, comes from his writings. These words have been set to music by various composers over the centuries, and Mendelssohn's composition is one of the most sublime.

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.



The flowers on the altar are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Lisa Marquardt by her mother, Diana Marquardt and Jerry Craig.

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— The *Luther and Hus* painting of Martin Luther symbolizes the Reformation as the revelation of the true Gospel, with the uncovered candle representing the light of truth. Art used from the public domain.



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
kithclerk@kirkinthehills.org



1340 West Long Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302
(248) 626-2515
kirkinthehills.org
facebook.com/kirkinthehills

