

KIRK IN THE HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

REFORMATION SUNDAY
OCTOBER 31, 2021



*You think winter will never end, and then, when you don't expect it,
when you have almost forgotten it, warmth comes and a different light.*

— Wendell Berry



After a powerful Pontiac Mission Collaborators Conference, where over 200 faith and nonprofit leaders, entrepreneurs, and educators, it's exciting to pivot to the November Service Challenge. In years past, the Challenge has invited our congregation and some of our partner churches to participate. This year, we're not only inviting our congregation, and a couple of churches, but expanding it to any organization or person who'd like to step up to the challenge. We want to every kind of organization—other churches, school, health, civic, business, or nonprofit organizations—to find opportunities to serve, get involved by praying, participating as a donor, and/or volunteering. Then, share that with us and on social media so we can help people be immersed in mission.

This year's theme is "Let Your Light Shine," from the Gospel of Matthew 5:16. It was a total Holy Spirit moment when we realized it would be the Scripture text for Pastor Nate's sermon on Sunday! And friends, this is a great opportunity to let your light shine. If you've wondered how to invite neighbors, friends, colleagues, and family members to something Kirk related, this is the time, with many opportunities to serve and make a difference. In fact, each week, we have a theme that we want to shed some "light" on. This week it will be on Adoption and Foster Care.

Feeling abandoned or unwanted can really darken our hope, but we can let some light shine by offer comfort and love, in the way of Jesus, to children, even if only for a season, and bear witness to the Great Adopter, God the Father, who adopts us all as children in Christ Jesus. Following worship, you can learn more at Cedarholm Chapel. We will have prayer cards available from the Michigan Adoptive Resource Exchange which highlight a child hoping for a forever family.



There are other opportunities to step up to the Challenge, like the Green Bucket Run on November 6 which you can register for at AccentPontiac.org and many more.

The thing about light is that it's not meant to shine for its own sake—it's meant to share the light with others, lighting dark paths, warming cold hearts, showing us a world we can't always see. Being a light is not about being smug or feeling self-righteous, but rather being of service. So, join us for the November Service Challenge and #LetYourLightShine!

Pastor Edwin



THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

10:30 a.m., Sanctuary Service

...let your light shine before others... — Matthew 5:15

GATHERING

THE CARILLON

OPENING VOLUNTARIES

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Samuel Scheidt

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Helmut Walcha

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

* SONG OF GATHERING

Gathered in God's Name

Michael Burkhardt

Please sing when indicated.

Soloist:

Gathered in God's name 'round the table of grace.

Gathered as one family in the name of love.

All (sing joyfully!):

**Gathered from near and far, gathered in this holy place,
gathered as strangers and friends, gathered and gifted by grace.**

Gathered in God's name 'round the living Word.

Gathered as one fam'ly in the name of love,

in the name of love, in the name of love.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,

a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,

and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

though its waters rage and foam,

and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

The Lord of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come, let us worship God!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 275

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Ein Feste Burg

Stanza 1 – All – melody

Stanza 2 – All – harmony if you wish

Stanza 3 – Chancel Choir (singing original rhythm)

Stanza 4 – All – melody

* CALL TO CONFESSION

from Romans 5:8, Hebrews 4:16

The proof of God's amazing love is this:

While we were sinners Christ died for us.

Because we have faith in him,

we dare to approach God with confidence.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you
with our whole heart and 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,
that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways
to the glory of your holy name.

* KYRIE ELEISON

This response is Hymn 551.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.
I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

* GLORIA PATRI

Greatorrex

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

PRAYER

CALL TO PRAYER

Loving Shepherd of the Sheep
Loving Shepherd of the sheep,
keep your lambs, in safety keep,
nothing can your power withstand
nothing can pluck us from your hand.

Orientis Partibus, ca. 1200
quoting "Sheep May Safely Graze"
BWV 208, J. S. Bach
setting by Michael Burkhardt

Loving Shepherd ever near,
teach your lambs your voice to hear:
suffer not our steps to stray,
from the straight and narrow way.

Where you lead us, we would go,
walking in your steps below,
till before your heavenly throne
we shall know as we are known.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

* HYMN 395

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Liebster Jesu

THANKSGIVING

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Our giving is an offering to God. All offerings, whether made in the worship service or outside of it, are part of our worship of God and are used to support the Kirk's ministry here and in other parts of the world.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ANTHEM

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Johann Sebastian Bach

Jesu, joy of man's desiring,
holy wisdom, love most bright,
Drawn by thee, our souls aspiring,
soar to uncreated light.
Word of God our flesh that fashioned
with its fire of life impassioned.
Striving still to truth unknown,
soaring, dying, round thy throne.

* DOXOLOGY

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

WORD

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

This Congregational Prayer is Hymn 459.

**O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:13-16

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

SERMON

Stay Warm

Dr. Nate Phillips

SENDING

* HYMN 320

The Church of Christ in Every Age

Wareham

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Please take your seats as the pastor gives the congregation a charge to live the life of faith and then speak words of God's blessing on all gathered.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

Randolph

Please sing with the choir. This response is Hymn 541.

**God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Prelude in G Major

Johann Sebastian Bach

Copyright information

Music and texts are reprinted and streamed with permission under One License A-717156. All rights reserved.

Gathered in God's Name; text and music by Michael Burkhardt © 2021 Birnamwood Publications, MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (Stanzas 3-4); arr. Michael Burkhardt © 2006 Birnamwood Publications, MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.

Lord, Have Mercy; music adapt. © 1980, Church Pension Fund, Music Arr. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

Loving Shepherd of the Sheep; arr. Michael Burkhardt © 2021 Birnamwood Publications, MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.

The Church of Christ in Every Age; text by Fred Pratt Green © 1971 Hope Publishing Company

About today's music and worship

Today we celebrate Reformation Day, recognizing what is considered the start of the Reformation in 1517 by Martin Luther and considered a significant day in the history of Lutheran and Calvinist/ Reformed churches, which includes the Presbyterian wing of Christianity. Two hundred years later J. S. Bach (1685-1750) played a major role in the development of music in this tradition, and so we highlight some of his works today.

The text and music for *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* were probably written by Martin Luther about 10 years after the beginning of the Reformation. Printed early as a "song of comfort" based on Psalm 46, the rhythmic nature of the original tune was more in line of a love song or dance than a march. You will hear aspects of this original melody in the voluntaries and when the Chancel Choir sings Stanza 3 for the processional. In later years the even-note version was arranged, which is the rhythm most of us connect with this tune.

We continue with German/Reformation chorales with the congregational hymn *Blessed Jesus, at Your Word* by Tobias Clausnitzer (1619-1684) which was to be sung "before the sermon" as noted in its original printing; the Chancel Choir sings German/Reformation chorales with J. S. Bach's *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* and Michael Burkhardt's arrangement for the offertory anthem, *Loving Shepherd of the Sheep*; and the congregation sings Felix Mendelssohn's harmonization for *O Word of God Incarnate*. Most of our Prayers for Illumination are addressed to the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, but this hymn is addressed to the Incarnate Word, Jesus Christ. From *Glory to God: A Companion*: "These four titles are based on biblical precedents, often multiple, but only one reference is given here: Word of God (John 1:14); Wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:24); Truth (John 14:6); and Light (John 8:12). Although these four attributes are accorded to Christ, only the "light" image continues to be developed and applied to Scripture."

It is with great intentionality for Reformation Day that we close worship with *The Church of Christ in Every Age* by Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000). Originally entitled *The Caring Church*, we recognize on this Reformation Day that "the church's care is not primarily to be directed inward toward itself but outward to the needs of the world. From the beginning this text makes clear that complacency is the enemy of faithfulness, so the church must 'claim and test its heritage' and 'keep on rising from the dead.' Nor can the church limit its care to what is convenient: people 'across the world' as well as 'across the street' are equally our neighbors." (from *Glory to God: A Companion*)

If you are in need of prayer

You may submit prayer requests online at kirkinthehills.org under Connect/Prayer.

Stephen Ministers are available for personal, confidential prayer in Melrose Chapel (to the left, when facing forward in the sanctuary) immediately following Service each Sunday.

If you or someone you know is in need of prayer please contact Nancy Lau at 248-835-6691.



Coffee Hour - Join us for fellowship in Heritage Hall 10:00 -11:00 a.m. each Sunday!

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 10:30 a.m. service. See an usher for direction or further details.

Today's Cover Art

Luther Hammer His 95 Theses to the Door | Ferdinand Pauwels (1830-1904), Public Domain.

Pauwels was a Belgian painter of history who resided in Germany. During the most productive period of his life, he was a professor of painting and produced several works of art depicting the life of Martin Luther.

From left to right: Rev. Kelsey Sorge, Rev. Dr. Nate Phillips, Rev. Angela Ryo, Rev. Edwin Estevez



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



Membership

Stephanie Sheak
ssheak@kirkinthehills.org



Serve

Julie Walker
jwalker@kirkinthehills.org



Congregational Care

Rev. Angela Ryo
revang@kirkinthehills.org



Choirs and Music Events

Nicole Joseph
njoseph@kirkinthehills.org



Baptisms, Memorials, Weddings

Jen Morris
jmorris@kirkinthehills.org



Small Groups

Rev. Angela Ryo
revang@kirkinthehills.org



Give

Karen Bowman
kbowman@kirkinthehills.org



Questions/Information

Erica Ginter
eginter@kirkinthehills.org



Church Leadership

Bob Beck/Clerk of Session
clerk@kirkinthehills.org



Kirk in the Hills

KIRK IN THE HILLS
1340 WEST LONG LAKE ROAD
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICHIGAN 48302
(248) 626-2515 • kirkinthehills.org