

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



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 8, 2022

Recognizing
our

Confirmands



Jesus did not leave any written documents as evidence to his identity. He left no sworn statements or winsome apology delineating the Christian life. Instead, Jesus sent witnesses.

— Amanda Drury, *Saying is Believing*

Confirmation Class 2022

In times of need, God has been the person I turn to. Whether it's just talking to him in my head or praying before bed, he's helped me through a lot of things. Because of my faith I've been able to find someone I can always rely on. **-Zoe Depez**

With all the uncertainties that life brings, faith in Jesus Christ is constant. It gives me the foundation to believe in something greater than myself and that he flows through me. **-Sadie Douglass**

I want to join the church to help people. I want to serve the church by going on mission trips to help those that actually need it. I know I can also help people who are close by. I will do my best to brighten their days and put smiles on their faces. **-Lizzie Eriksen**

At the Kirk, I have learned to get closer to God during difficult times, not to stray away from him. That is the valuable lesson that got me where I am with my faith today. I can get through anything with God by my side. **-Ellie Faglie**

[Christianity] is something that grows in people, and even while it may not be strong in an individual at any point in their lives, there is always the church and the community of faithful people to return to. **-Conor Field**

Church to me is the place of worship and community. I think that being a Christian simply means that you should love and help people, no matter who they are. Jesus doesn't discriminate, so we shouldn't either. **-Ryan Gleason**

I do not know what God will ask of me or what my journey will be but I do know that I can always trust him in his doings. His plan may look weird and distorted at first, but believing in him and loving him opens up the full picture. **-Henry Graff**

One of my favorite verses in the Bible is Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." It's a verse that brings me comfort knowing that God is with me. I believe that God lives within us and has a plan for each of us. **-Hannah Jakubiak**

The things Jesus and the Church have taught me is to be a better person in God, help people out like the homeless, and do community service for people who don't have the ability to do things for themselves. **-Sean McGlynn**

I've strengthened my belief that God will always be there for us. He is unconditionally loving and forgiving. He will guide us through life and give us strength. **-Joslyn Phillips**

Now more than ever before I feel confident in saying I believe that God is our guide and the belief in him and Jesus will help me and the church through whatever struggles we may encounter. **-Steven Ragan**

I believe that as I go on to get confirmed, God will guide me through it all being a guiding light. As life goes on, and if I happen to steer down a different path, I believe that God will always be there to help me get back on track. **-Jon Sliwinski**

I have lots of fun and cool memories from the church that I will hopefully keep with me forever. I've loved coming to this church and can't wait for the rest of the time with the church I have. And maybe bringing my family here one day. **-Izzy Smith**

One of the best things about Christianity is that you can always pray your worries out. Jesus and God will also always listen to you and be your best listeners. As time goes on, everybody will need this more and more. As you become an adult, your worries grow, and you need someone to talk to and ask for guidance. Jesus and God are the perfect two beings to hear that. **-Will Smith**

Choir and youth groups have shaped my faith and these fundamentals will carry on with me for the rest of my life. I hope that I will be able to help others find their faith and strengthen their relationship with God in the coming years. However, I still have a great deal of knowledge to gain about Jesus Christ and I hope that my faith will only get stronger. **-Julia Yousif**

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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

"If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house." — **Acts 16:15**

THE GATHERING

THE CARILLON

OPENING VOLUNTARIES **Variations on For the Beauty of the Earth (DIX)** *Rulon Christiansen*

(9:00 a.m.)

Count Your Blessings

Reginald Morgan

Count your blessings one by one,
When dawn appears and day has just begun;
They will light your heart with happiness,
Make each hour bright and bring your gladness,
Count your blessings one by one,
When twilight falls and toil of day is done,
And in sweet dreams they'll come again to you,
If you will count your blessings each day through.

Count your blessings while you may,
For we are here but little time to stay;
All around are hearts sincere and true,
Lovely things abound just waiting for you;
Count your blessings while you may,
The big or small, whichever comes your way,
For then you'll find this world a place of love
If you will count your blessings from above.

Treble Boys' Choir

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

* OPENING SENTENCES

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

And also with you!

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 47:1-2, Psalm 92:1

Clap your hands, all you peoples;

Shout to God with loud songs of joy.

For the Most High is awesome,

A great sovereign over all the earth.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

To sing praises to your name, O Most High.

* INTROIT

Harold Friedell

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.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 14

For the Beauty of the Earth

Dix

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

1 John 1:8, 9

If we say that we have no sin,
we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
But if we confess our sins,
God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

**Almighty God, by water and your Holy Spirit
you baptized us to be your own and called the church into being.
We confess that we hold back the love of your Spirit among us.
We do not listen for your word of grace,
speak the good news of your love,
or live as a people made one in Christ.**

Silence is kept for personal confession.

* KYRIE ELEISON (11:00 a.m.)

Healey Willan

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Ephesians 2:4, 5a, 6a, 8

God, who is rich in mercy,
out of the great love with which God loves us,
even when we were dead through our sin,
made us alive together with Christ and raises us up with him.
For by grace you have been saved through faith,
and this is not your own doing;
it is the gift of God. **Amen.**

* GLORIA PATRI

Greatorex

**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.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION (9:00 a.m.)

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

Reading of Faith Statements

*Ellie Faglie
Joslyn Phillips*

PRESENTATION

Those being confirmed today are...

*Zoe Deprez, Sadie Douglass, Lizzie Eriksen, Ellie Faglie, Conor Field,
Ryan Quinn Gleason, Henry Graff, Hannah Jakubiak, Grace Lilly,
Sean McGlynn, Joslyn Phillips, Steven Ragan, Jon Sliwinski,
Izzy Smith, Will Smith, and Julia Yousif*

QUESTIONS

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Do you trust him?

I do.

Do you intend to be his disciple, to obey his word,

and to show his love? **I do.**

Will you be a faithful member of this congregation,

giving of yourself in every way,

and will you seek the fellowship of the church wherever you may be? **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.

WORD WITH CHILDREN AND PRAYER FOR CONFIRMATION

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 worshipper 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.

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

The Confirmands, mentors, and their parents will come forward as they are called for anointing and prayer.

WELCOME THE NEW MEMBERS

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (9:00 a.m.)

**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.**

Following the Lord's Prayer, children and youth ages 4 through grade 8 will be dismissed for Sunday School.

WORD

CHORAL PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (11:00 a.m.)

Birmingham

**Tell out my soul the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and for evermore!**

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 16:13-15

New Testament, Page 136

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

SERMON

Sent!: Lydia and Priscilla's Gift of Prophecy

Rev. Kelsey Sorge

THANKSGIVING

* HYMN 409

God is Here!

Abbot's Leigh

Stanzas 1 & 3

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. Today's loose offering will support Foster Care and Adoption ministries.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERTORY

For the Beauty of the Earth

John Rutter

For the beauty of the earth,
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies.

*Lord of all to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise.*

For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flower,
Sun and moon and stars of light:

Lord of all...

For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild:

Lord of all...

For each perfect gift of thine
To our race so freely given,
Graces human and divine,
Flowers of earth and buds of heaven:

Lord of all...

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS

Richard Proulx

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (11:00 a.m.)

**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.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

AGNUS DEI

Robert Powell

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Grant us peace.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD, SHARING OF THE CUP

This morning the congregation is served in procession. Those seated in the pews at the rear of the sanctuary begin the procession. For those unable to process forward, stay seated and a server will bring the sacrament to you. Gluten-free bread is available in the center of the bread trays. Empty glasses are placed in the baskets provided near the communion servers.

*We receive the bread with "Amen" after the server says, "This is the body of Christ broken for you."
We receive the cup with "Thanks be to God" after the server says, "This is the blood of Jesus shed for you"*

COMMUNION MUSIC

The Apple Tree

K. Lee Scott

The tree of life my soul hath seen,
Laden with fruit and always green;
The trees of nature fruitless be,
Compared with Christ the Apple Tree.

His beauty doth all things excel,
By faith I know but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see,
In Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have bought;
I missed of all but now I see
'Tis found in Christ the Apple Tree.

I'm weary with my former toil -
Here I will sit and rest awhile,
Under the shadow I will be,
Of Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be
With Jesus Christ the Apple Tree.

At This Table

Allen Pote

In the singing, in the silence,
In the hands expectant, open,
In the blessing, in the breaking,
In the Presence at this table,
Jesus Christ, be the wine of grace:
Jesus Christ, be the bread of peace.

In the question, in the answer,
In the moment of acceptance,
In the heart's cry, in the healing,
In the circle of your people,
Jesus Christ, be the wine of grace:
Jesus Christ, be the bread of peace.

In the singing, in the silence...

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**In your body broken and in your blood shed for all of us,
Lord, we have tasted and seen that you are good.
In this meal, we have experienced again your deep love
for your world. May the sweet taste of this meal strengthen
us for living for you and remind us that we are called to live
according to your will and to love as you love. Help us to
yearn for your coming again, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

SENDING

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

Here I Am

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (*Seated*)

CHORAL AMEN

John Rutter

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Organ Sonata No. 6 in D minor, Op. 65

Felix Mendelssohn

About today's music

On this Fourth Sunday of Easter, as we gather to celebrate our Confirmands, Communion, and Mother's Day, we begin with an exclamation of God's goodness and love surrounding us with Junior Girls singing Hal Hopson's *God's Glory Echoes through the Skies*, based on text from Psalm 19 and 23. The Treble Boys sing a beautiful setting of *Count Your Blessings* by Reginald Morgan, giving thanks for and honoring our moms this Mother's Day, for their continual love and blessings in our lives.

As we sing the opening hymn, *For the Beauty of the Earth*, we give thanks and raise our "hymn of grateful praise" for all that which God has blessed us. After the Rite of Confirmation and hearing the word proclaimed, we sing the familiar hymn *God is Here!*, affirming our Confirmands as "our children who find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold," especially as they prepare to take their first Communion after Confirmation. The offertory anthem is a well-loved setting of *For the Beauty of the Earth* by John Rutter who was inspired by the original use of this hymn for Communion in the High Anglican Church. The original refrain "Christ, our God, to thee we raise; This our sacrifice of praise" was meant to mirror the portrayal of Christ's ultimate sacrifice - just as the host would be lifted during the communion as a token of God's gift to us, a "sacrifice of praise" would be lifted in return.

As we come to the Lord's Table, we see Christ who nourishes and sustains us through the images of "Jesus Christ the Apple Tree," in K. Lee Scott's setting of this 18th century poem. Scott has been recognized, for more than twenty years, as one of America's foremost composers of music for the church, and you can hear the tenderness with which he sets this beautiful text. We celebrate that Christ's healing and peace is open to all in *At This Table*, written by Allen Pote, who, using words by New Zealand's pre-eminent hymn writer Shirley Erena Murray, composed a simple, moving melody that we'll hear accompanied by Merideth Hite Estevez on oboe, which exemplifies the very essence of communion: "Jesus Christ, be the wine of grace and the bread of peace." After Communion we sing *Here I Am, Lord*, affirming and confirming all of our journeys in saying "yes" to Christ and being part of Christ's Church, as we are called to love God's people and "hold them in our hearts".

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.



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.

About today's cover art

Recognizing our Confirmands | Digital Image | created by Cole Pachucki, Kirk in the Hills

Join us for coffee and fellowship in Heritage Hall after the 9:00 a.m. worship service!

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

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The Apple Tree K. Lee Scott © 1983 Hinshaw Music, Inc.

At This Table Allen Pote © 1996 Hope Publishing Company.

Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes

Worship Times

8:00 a.m. - Cedarholm Chapel

9:00 a.m. - Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. - Sanctuary

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



Membership

Stephanie Sheak

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Kirk in the Hills

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