

KIRK IN THE HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 15, 2022



"It is not so much the case that God has a mission for his church in the world, as that God has a church for his mission in the world. Mission was not made for the church; the church was made for mission – God's mission."

— Christopher J.H. Wright,

The Mission of God's People: A Biblical Theology of the Church's Mission

"...but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him."

—Romans 8:15-17

Every Sunday, a pastor says "welcome to the Kirk, welcome to worship, welcome home" to remind the community that we're more than an interest group or an exclusive club but are a family in Christ. It's worth noting how radical this is: **for** most of world history, groups of people identified as tribes and a connection by shared blood, history, language, culture, and future orientation. The Early Church was unprecedented in its identification as a family, calling one another "brothers and sisters," sharing meals, providing resources to aid those in need. Scholars believe it was shared meals in memory of Christ and aiding those in need that helped bridge the gaps between rich and poor, men and women, slaves and free, and among different cultures and faiths. But why did they view themselves as a family, and why should we?

Through Christ's blood shed for us, we share in this spiritual blood, as baptized members we share in his identity as beloved sons and daughters of God and through Scripture, we share in the language of faith and learn about the history of Israel, the people of God. We are *adopted* into the family of God. In the month of May, loose offerings go to support our **Adoption and Foster Care ministries**, bearing witness, not only to God's gracious adoption of us, but the work of the Early Church in caring for the orphan, especially. The funds will help children in foster care get support and services, such as camping resources for Camp Skyline, family workshops, and crisis intervention. As we continue our sermon series **SENT!**, what are the ways God is sending you to care for the orphan? Go and serve the Lord, in Christ's name!

Pastor Edwin Estevez

Associate Pastor for Mission

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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

"And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him."

— Acts 8:31

GATHERING

THE CARILLON

OPENING VOLUNTARIES

Prayer, from Suite for Organ

Paul Creston

* *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

Douglas Wagner

Surely the Lord is in this place.

This is none other than the house of God,

And this is gate of heaven.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 826

Lift High the Cross

Crucifer

* 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.

* *Please rise in body or spirit.*

* KYRIE ELEISON

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

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

Stewardship

Meg Lentz

WORD WITH THE CHILDREN (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 Word with the Children, children and youth ages 4 through grade 8 will be dismissed
for Sunday School.*

PRAYER

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord

David Evans

Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here,
Come bow before him now with reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground,
Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.

Be still for the glory of the Lord is shining all around,
He burns with holy fire: with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of Light,
Be still for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place,
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace,
No work too hard for him: in faith receive from him,
Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THANKSGIVING

* HYMN 480

Take Me to the Water
Stanza 1

Take Me to the Water

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. (See note on page 7.)

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ANTHEM

Ain'-a That Good News!

William L. Dawson

I got a crown up in-a the Kingdom,
Ain'-a that good news!
I'm a-goin' to lay down this world,
Goin'-a shoulder up my cross,
Goin'-a take it home to my Jesus,
Ain't that good news!

I got a harp up in-a the Kingdom...

I got a robe up in-a the Kingdom...

I got a Saviour in-a the Kingdom...

* DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

**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

CHORAL PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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 8:26-40 (*Pew Bible, NT. page 127*)
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

SENT!: Philip's Gift of Evangelism

Rev. Edwin Estevez

SENDING

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 297

In Christ Called to Baptize

St. Denio

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (*Seated*)

CHORAL ORISON

Junkanoo

Now go in joy to spread the Word
Till all people have heard:
God embraces all!
Follow, then, the disciples' call:
Tend your neighbors with loving care
In daily work and prayer.
God's own grace empower your spirit. Amen!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Rigaudon

André Campra

Worship/Music Notes

On this fourth Sunday of Easter, we are focusing on Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch, and what it means to be SENT! out by Christ into the world. We open with the hymn *Lift High the Cross*, celebrating Christ's sacrifice on the cross, and the invitation to "follow where our Savior trod."

Our choral call to prayer is *Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord*, by David Evans. This lovely hymn setting speaks about the Lord's presence with us in our lives, just as the eunuch longs to be baptized and experience God's presence. In our offertory hymn we echo the eunuch's words as we sing *Take me to the Water*. During the offertory anthem we give thanks for the Good news Philip shared with the eunuch with William Dawson's joyful setting of *Ain-a that Good News!*

After the word is proclaimed, we sing the hymn *In Christ Called to Baptize*, recognizing we are called to go out into the world to share the good news of Jesus, in "teaching God's love" and reflecting Christ's ways." After the benediction we are sent out with *Now Go in Joy*, a Caribbean folk tune with text by Mary Louise Bringle, encouraging us to "tend our neighbors with loving care."

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

The flowers on the altar in Cedarholm Chapel are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. Leslie A. Bechtel and their daughter, Gertrude M. Bechtel by their children and grandchildren. Dr. Bechtel was the Kirk's first pastors and Gertrude was the first director of religious education at the Kirk.

The flowers on the altar are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Anne and Thatcher W. Root by their family.

Loose offerings collected today will support Foster Care and Adoption ministries. You can make note of that on your check, envelope, or online gift to show your support. For text to give information, please refer to the information card in the pew rack in front of you.

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

About today's cover art

Phillip and the Ethiopian Eunuch | Herbert Boeckl | permission granted to use

Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch, Herbert Boeckl (1952 – 1960), fresco of the *Seckau Apocalypse* in the Angel's Chapel at Seckau Abbey, Styria, Austria.

Copyright Information

Be Still, for the presence of the Lord, © 1986, Kingsway's Thankyou Music

Ain'-a That Good News, © 1974, William L. Dawsom, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

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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