

KIRK IN THE HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JUNE 26, 2022



God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."
— Book of Exodus 3:15



The most read, and probably most preached about Psalm is Psalm 23. It's a beautiful, poetic expression of faith and we usually use it for funerals, small gifts, or to recite in church. But how can it come alive for us, for Kirk in the Hills?

As we look to what the Kirk can be and do, can we truly say: "The LORD is my shepherd; I?" There are many needs in and for our church and surrounding communities like Pontiac. We have said farewell to many people we loved and find ourselves in transition--along with everything else, it seems! There are budgets to deal with, costs to control, ministry to expand, communication to improve, poverty to address—the list goes on. The great paradox of our faith is that we will not even begin to address needs in us and others until we believe and proclaim—I lack nothing, "I shall not want." God has provided everything we need. This congregation has all the people it needs to do ministry in and for this community.

The other important message is that the LORD is the shepherd—our shepherd! The Kirk's vision and mission is not based on any one person's ideology or preferences or on the purview of a select group. It is given by God, empowered by God, and it is God in Christ Jesus who invites us in. In this way, we know that the work is good. It's not about "winning arguments" or seeming noble and righteous. It's about God's good, faithful, righteous work in Christ Jesus.

No matter how exhausted, inadequate, insecure, fearful, lost, and despondent you feel—God will restore your soul. The thing you've been looking for all your life--the ultimate satisfaction from your career, marriage, children, money, power, status, a sense of purpose, a higher meaning—can only be given by God and it's promised to you—only let your self be led by the Shepherd, "beside still waters."

There's so much more to say about this Psalm but I will end where it ends. "I will dwell in the House of the LORD forever!" The journey of faith isn't meant to be one you take alone. There's a community—the house image is about family, welcome, belonging. And this house is unlike any other house—where all are welcome, loved, and have a place at the table. This is a God big enough to welcome all of us in! Every house has a door and so the question for each one of us is: how can we each be doors to the House of the LORD? As we envision Bible Studies, small groups, Sunday worship, youth programming, and service projects Pontiac and Detroit, and as we engage with neighbors--how can we be doorways to the House of the LORD? What does it mean to be in the House of the LORD? It means the place where we are healed of our heart's wounds, the past that haunts us, the future that scares us, the present that weighs down on us and leads us to despair. It's the place where the broken places are put back together again, and we are made whole. It's the place of peace, justice, harmony, love, and never-ending joy. LORD, may it be so, for thy name's sake. Amen!

Pastor Edwin Estevez

Associate Pastor for Outreach and Mission

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. — Psalm 23:3

GARDEN CLUB FOR CHILDREN

(parents may drop their children, ages 3 to grade 5, at the garden upon arrival to outdoor worship.)

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Daniel Iverson

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PASTORAL CONCERNS

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

Church Officer Nominations

Julia Libcke

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 24:7-10

Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is the King of glory?

**The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle.**

Lift up your head, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is the King of glory?

**The Lord of hosts,
He is the King of glory.**

* HYMN

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

St. Columba

**The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.**

**And so through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.**

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
According to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.

**Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

Silence is held.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord, Have mercy.

*** ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, God will not despise.
Friends, believe the Good News:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

PRAYER

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.**

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 23

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

SOLO

Psalm 23: Surely Goodness, Surely Mercy

Shane Barnard

The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want,
In green pastures He makes me lie down.
He restores my soul and leads me on
For His name, for His great name.

Surely goodness, surely mercy,
Right beside me all my days.
And I will dwell in Your house forever,
And bless Your holy name.

You prepare a table right before me,

In the presence of my enemies.
Though the arrow flies and the terror of night
Is at my door, I'll trust You Lord.

And even though I walk through the valley
Of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.
And even though I walk through the valley
Of the shadow of death, You are on my side.

SERMON

Psalms for the Summer: Psalm 23

Rev. Edwin Estevez

SENDING

*** HYMN**

Lead Me, Guide Me

Doris Akers

**I am weak, and I need Thy strength and power
To help me over my weakest hour;
Let me through the darkness Thy face to see,
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

*Lead me, guide me along the way;
For if You lead me, I cannot stray;
Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.*

**I am lost, if you take your hand from me;
I am blind, without Thy Light to see;
Lord, just always let me Thy servant be,
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

*Lead me, guide me along the way;
For if You lead me, I cannot stray;
Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.*

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

CARILLON RECITAL

Richard Giszczak, Saline, Michigan

Carillon programs are available from the ushers or in literature racks.

Garden worshippers are encouraged to drop off donations in the baskets located at the Celtic Cross near the exit as you depart. Please see notes on page 11.

Join us for coffee and fellowship on the patio immediately following service!

WORSHIP NOTES

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. — Psalm 23:3

THE CARILLON

OPENING VOLUNTARIES

Aria

Noel Rawsthorne

Two Versets on 'Brother James's Air'

Noel Rawsthorne

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 24:7-10

Lift up your heads, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is the King of glory?

**The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle.**

Lift up your head, O gates!
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is the King of glory?

**The Lord of hosts,
He is the King of glory.**

* INTROIT

God Be in My Head

John Rutter

God be in my head and in my understanding.
God be in mine eyes and in my looking.
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.
God be in mine heart and in my thinking.
God be at my end and in my departing.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 802

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

St. Columba

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
According to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.

**Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.**

Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.

**Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

Silence is held.

* KYRIE ELEISON

Healey Willan

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

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, God will not despise.
Friends, believe the Good News:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God!

* GLORIA PATRI

**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.

Greatarex

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

Church Officer Nominations

Julia Libcke

PRAYER

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

arr. Mack Wilberg

My Shepherd will supply my need,
Jehovah is his Name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed,
Beside the living stream.
He brings my wand'ring spirit back
When I forsake his ways.
He leads me, for his mercy's sake,
In paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death,
Thy presence is my stay.
One word of thy supporting breath
Drives all my fears away,
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes,
Doth still my table spread.
My cup with blessings overflows,
Thine oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God
Attend me all my days,
O may thy house be my abode,
And all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest,
While others go and come,
No more a stranger or a guest,
But like a child at home.

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.

THANKSGIVING

* HYMN

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
Stanzas 1 & 2

Sicilian Mariners

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 health care ministries. (See note on page 11.)

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ANTHEM

Jubilate Deo in C

Benjamin Britten

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands;
Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence
with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:
It is he that hath made us and not we ourselves;
We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,
And into his courts with praise.
Be thankful unto him and speak good of his name.
For the Lord is gracious, His mercy is everlasting;
And his truth endureth from generation to generation.
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.

* 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.**

Old Hundredth

WORD

CHORAL PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Wylde Green

Thanks to God whose word was written
In the Bible's sacred page,
Record of the revelation
Showing God to every age.
God has spoken:
Praise God for the living Word.

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 23 (*Pew Bible, OT. page 501*)
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Psalms for the Summer: Psalm 23

Rev. Edwin Estevez

SENDING

*** RECESSIONAL HYMN 620**

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Lauda Anima

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (*Seated*)

CHORAL ORISON

Sevenfold Amen

Peter Lutkin

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Psalm 19 – ‘The Heavens Declare’

Benedetto Marcello

CARILLON RECITAL

Richard Giszczak, Saline, Michigan

Carillon programs are available from the ushers or in literature racks.

Worship/Music Notes

This morning we prepare ourselves for worship with the choir singing John Rutter's setting of *God be in my Head*, or the Sarum Prayer. This Old English Prayer, taken from the thirteenth century *Sarum Primer*, succinctly asks the Lord to guide us and mold our perceptions to reflect God's call for each of us.

Throughout the liturgy today we sing and hear of how God leads us – both as a Shepherd and King. These images could not be more stark, the humble Shepherd, but also the ever powerful King. The opening hymn *The King of Love My Shepherd* includes both of these images in the first line. The text, composed by Henry William Baker is a paraphrase of Psalm 23. It is notable that Baker includes several allusions to the New Testament, mentioning the cross in verse four and the chalice in verse five. The words to the beginning of the third verse "Perverse and foolish...." are believed to be the final words spoken by author Henry William Baker before his passing.

The choir continues to ponder the words of the twenty-third psalm with their anthem *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* arranged by Mack Wilberg. This paraphrase of Psalm 23 is authored by Isaac Watts, notable not only for this hymn text, but also for authoring the words to *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* and *Joy to the World*. The words offer an incredibly comforting image of God always providing for us, refreshing us, feeding us, and caring for us. The words poignantly remind us that God's promise is forever, and that some day we will enter into the Lord's house, "no more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home".

Our second hymn, *Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us* comes from a collection of hymn texts compiled for children called *Hymns for the Young* compiled in 1836. The words ask God, like a Shepherd to accept us despite our faults and cleanse and free us.

The choir also sings Benjamin Britten's joyous setting of Psalm 100 or the *Jubilate Deo*. This work, composed for St. George's Chapel, Windsor, at the request of H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, uses frequent meter changes to make the sung rhythm more closely mirror that of how the words would be spoken. The anthem has a very festive, possibly even raucous feel to it. Despite that, Britten does have two moments that the texture changes - the passage that begins "be thankful unto him....", and the passage "world without end...". In these sections, the constant motion of the organ is removed, and the choir sings quietly underneath a stark accompaniment.

Our final hymn, *Praise my soul the King of Heaven* reminds us of the dual nature of God as our King, but also as a loving and gentle Father who "tends and spares us" and is "slow to chide, and swift to bless". This beloved hymn was the processional hymn sung at the wedding of Queen Elizabeth II in 1947. Through our liturgy this morning we celebrate and honor our Lord as King, and also celebrate His loving and care for us as a nurturing shepherd.

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.

Loose offerings collected today will support health care 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.

About today's cover art

Shepherd and Sheep | Anton Mauve | Public domain

This quiet painting by the Dutch, 19th century artist, Anton Mauve, provides an opportunity for reflection upon the promises of Psalm 23 and of the author of the Gospel of Mark—that God's love provides caretaking comfort.

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Now The Green Blade Riseth John Carter © 1989 Hope Publishing Company.



Worship Times

8:00 a.m. - Cedarholm Chapel

9:00 a.m. - Outdoor Worship

11:00 a.m. - Sanctuary

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



Membership

Stephanie Sheak

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Serve

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Baptisms, Memorials, Weddings

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