

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

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD  
FEBRUARY 14, 2021



*The place God calls you to is the place  
where your deep gladness  
and the world's deep hunger meet.*  
— Frederick Buechner

## Welcome to worship. Welcome to the Kirk. Welcome home.

Here at the Kirk, our vision statement is *We envision a world where every heart experiences God's transforming love*. This statement was born from months of congregation-wide listening sessions and years of prayer and discernment. We are already seeing it take root.

**We envision a world.** In one of Jesus' most famous moments, he feeds the multitudes with five loaves and two fish. In another story, Jesus helps his frustrated disciples to secure a net full of fish by inviting them to cast their nets on the other side of the boat. They catch so many fish that there are too many to eat on their own! Ours is a church that hopes to look beyond our own needs to do what Jesus and the disciples did—share our **fish** with the world.



**Where every heart experiences.** Jesus reminds us in his birth, his ministry, and in his promise of the Holy Spirit, that God is near! Throughout the pages of the gospels, we see people following him to shorelines and meeting him there. Jesus was standing on the shore when he called his first disciples, Peter and Andrew. The **shore** is where the crowd listened to him preach and where the disciples met him after the resurrection. We hope to be a church that comes to shore to meet the living Christ! For us, this starts in **worship**. We hope through our worship, mission, and formation, we will have your eyes lighting up with the reminder of how you and how our community are made well (created), are being made well (healed), and will be made well (saved) into eternity.



### Service schedule:

**8:00 a.m.** - Cedarholm Chapel, with organ, congregational humming/light singing (masked), and sermon (25% capacity, 15 people)

**9:00 a.m.** - Pre-recorded online broadcast on our website and facebook

**10:00 am** - Sanctuary, with organ, staff singers, congregational humming/ light singing (masked), and sermon (25% capacity, 132 people) Registration is required. Go to [kirkinthehills.org](http://kirkinthehills.org).

*This service will also be simulcast in refectory, congregational humming/ light singing (25% capacity, 50 people) and live-streamed on the website and facebook.*

**11:00 a.m.** - Radio broadcast 92.7 FM Faith talk

**11:00 a.m.** - Kirk West (Fox Run) broadcast

**God's transforming love.** *The Lord is my shepherd*, says the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm and the 100<sup>th</sup> Psalm reminds us that we are his flock. Jesus uses similar imagery in the New Testament when he assures us that the shepherd will find the lost sheep. Our **Christian formation** ministries are meant to gather us as a **flock** and to be led by the shepherd. Small groups, Bible studies and special events continue over Zoom—you can find all of the links and materials for our groups in our weekly e-newsletter or at [kirkinthehills.org](http://kirkinthehills.org) on the Worship From Home website page.



Stay warm!  
Pastor Nate

## THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9:00 a.m., Stream from Home Service | 10:00 a.m. Live Sanctuary Service

*But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. — Luke 15:9b*

### THE GATHERING

#### THE CARILLON

#### OPENING VOLUNTARIES

*(10:00 a.m. Sanctuary Service)*

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *(9:00 a.m. Livestream)*

Rev. Dr. Nate Phillips

\* *Those who are able are invited to stand at the ringing of the tower bell.*

#### \* INTROIT

Christ be with me,  
Christ within me,  
Christ be with me evermore.  
Christ beside me,  
Christ who loves me,  
Christ to strengthen evermore.  
Christ beneath me,  
Christ above me,  
Christ within me evermore.  
Christ in quiet,  
Christ in danger,  
Be my guide forevermore.

*Welsh folk song, arr. George Guest*

#### \* OPENING PRAYER

I arise today  
Through a mighty strength:  
God's power to guide me,  
God's might to uphold me,  
God's eyes to watch over me;  
God's ear to hear me,  
God's word to give me speech,  
God's hand to guard me,  
God's way to lie before me,  
God's shield to shelter me,  
God's host to secure me.

Rev. Kelsey Sorge *(9:00 a.m. Livestream)*

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi

*(10:00 a.m. Sanctuary)*

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Kelsey Sorge *(9:00 a.m. Livestream)*

Let light shine out of darkness,  
Creator God who spoke light  
into primordial darkness,  
Who speaks and summons the  
earth from the rising of the sun to its setting,  
We gather to You, your faithful yet fragile ones.

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi

*(10:00 a.m. Sanctuary)*

With the light of the knowledge of God in the face of Jesus Christ:

**Give us eyes to see and ears to hear.**

*The congregation is invited to hum or sing very lightly and quietly the hymns, with masks on.*

<b>Come sing, O Church, in joy!</b>	<b>Long years have come and gone,</b>
<b>Come join, O Church, in song!</b>	<b>And still God reigns supreme,</b>
<b>For Christ the Lord has led us</b>	<b>Empowering us to catch the vision,</b>
<b>Through the ages long!</b>	<b>Dream the dream!</b>
<b>In bold accord,</b>	<b>In bold accord,</b>
<b>Come celebrate the journey now</b>	<b>Come celebrate the journey now</b>
<b>And praise the Lord!</b>	<b>And praise the Lord!</b>

**Come sing, O Church, in joy!**  
**Come sing, O Church, in song!**  
**For Christ the Lord has triumphed**  
**Through the ages long!**  
**In bold accord,**  
**Come celebrate the journey now**  
**And praise the Lord!**

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Kelsey Sorge (9:00 a.m. Livestream)

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi (10:00 a.m. Sanctuary)

**We confess that the light of the gospel,**  
**Your divine image in Christ and His people,**  
**is veiled to us when we pursue the empty promises of our idols.**  
**Our daily preoccupations obscure the sacred bonds**  
**You created between us the church, the one household of God;**  
**while our projects of self-advancement cause injury**  
**to the body of Christ.**  
**We know that we fall short of our calling every day**  
**and name in our hearts those ways in which we have sinned**  
**in thought, word, deed and in what we have failed to do.**

*Silence is kept for personal confession*

**Confident in the righteousness of our Lord**  
**and Redeemer Jesus Christ, lift up our heads**  
**in the life-giving knowledge of Your forgiveness.**

\* KYRIE ELEISON

<b>Lord, have mercy upon us;</b>	<i>Christopher Pardini</i>
<b>Christ, have mercy upon us;</b>	
<b>Lord have mercy upon us.</b>	

\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Kelsey Sorge (9:00 a.m. Livestream)

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi (10:00 a.m. Sanctuary)

**Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.**  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

\* GLORIA PATRI

<b>To God the Father, God the Son,</b>	<i>Puer nobis</i>
<b>And Holy Spirit, Three in One,</b>	
<b>May every tongue and nation raise</b>	
<b>An endless song of thankful praise.</b>	

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** (10:00 a.m. Sanctuary Service)

Rev. Angela Ryo

**OUR FAITH IN ACTION**

Walk in Love Weekend

Jim Tully

(10:00 a.m. Sanctuary)

**WORD WITH THE CHILDREN** (9:00 a.m. Livestream)

Rev. Angela Ryo

*You'll find resources for children on our Worship from Home webpage at [kirkinthehills.org](http://kirkinthehills.org).*

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

**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 WORD**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Rev. Dr. Andrew Pomerville, Alma College

**1 Samuel 9:2-6, 11-17; Luke 15:11-32**

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

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Rev. Dr. Andrew Pomerville, Alma College

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (10:00 a.m. Sanctuary Service)

## **THE THANKSGIVING**

**ANTHEM** (9:00 a.m. Livestream)

**Jubilate Deo**

*Malcolm Archer*

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.

**ANTHEM (10:00 a.m. Sanctuary) From All That Dwell Below the Skies**

Gordon Young

From all that dwell below the skies	Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;
Let the Creator's praise arise:	Eternal truth attends Thy word:
Let the Redeemer's Name be sung	Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore,
Through every land, by every tongue.	Till suns shall rise and set no more.

From all that dwell below the skies...

**INTRODUCTION**

Andrew Ludden (9:00 a.m. Livestream)  
Rev. Dr. Andrew Pomerville (10:00 a.m. Sanctuary)

**SERMON**

**Coming Home**

Dr. Jeff Abernathy, President, Alma College

**THE SENDING**

**\* HYMN 295**

**Go to the World**

*Sine Nomine*

**Go to the world! Go into all the earth.  
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth.  
Baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Go to the world! Go into every place.  
Go live the Word of God's redeeming grace.  
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,  
For I am with you till the age shall end,  
When all the hosts of glory cry, "Amen!"  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Dr. Jeff Abernathy, President, Alma College

*In the interest of everyone's health, please remain seated until your row is dismissed by an usher.*

**CHORAL AMEN**

**TITHES AND OFFERING (10:00 a.m. Sanctuary Service)**

*Your offering for the Kirk's ministry will be received as you leave worship.*

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY (10:00 a.m. Sanctuary Service)**

**THE CARILLON**



### About today's hymns

**Come Sing, O Church, in Joy** was written by the Rev. Brian Dill in 1989 for the bicentennial for the Presbyterian Church. Dill was well-known as an engaging preacher and pastor, and served congregations in Illinois, Kentucky, Virginia, and Florida.

**Go to the World** was written in 1985 for the Convocation of Emmanuel College, Toronto, the largest theological school of the United Church of Canada and is based on the theme of the Great Commission found in Matthew 28: 19-20. The author, Sylvia Dunstan, was an ordained pastor in the United Church of Canada, served in her brief life (she died at the age of 38 from cancer) as a prison chaplain as well as in parish ministry, and was also a prolific hymn writer.

### About today's choral music

**Jubilate Deo** is a setting of Psalm 100. The composer, Malcolm Archer, is an English composer, conductor, and organist, who served as Director of Music and Organist at Wells Cathedral, St. Paul's Cathedral (London), and Winchester College. The title, "Jubilate Deo," is Latin for "sing joyfully to God."

**From All That Dwell Below the Skies** is a setting of a metrical paraphrase of Psalm 117. The composer, Gordon Young, was Director of Music and Organist at First Presbyterian Church, Detroit for decades during the second half of the twentieth century, and also served on the faculty of Wayne State University, where he was professor of organ.

### If you are in need of prayer

You may submit prayer requests online at [kirkinthehills.org](http://kirkinthehills.org) under Connect/Prayer.

**The flowers are on altar** are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Robert Gustafson, her wonderful husband, by his loving wife, Sheri Gustafson.

**Stephen Ministers** are available for personal, confidential prayer.



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

**Today's Cover Art** - *The Prodigal Son* © 2016 | John August Swanson | Used with permission, *Eyekons*  
John August Swanson writes, "The parable of the Prodigal Son has inspired many artists, musicians, writers, and poets. The story has many levels for interpretation and insight into the human experience, especially family life and forgiveness." This art is a serigraph. It is a complex work, with miniatures bordering a central group of larger images. He returned to the story and painted a second version twenty years later.



**Art at the Kirk - The Return of the Prodigal**, by N. C. Wyeth (1882-1945) is one of the six paintings by Wyeth which hang in the Kirk Refectory. Wyeth was a prominent American artist and illustrator; he created more than 3,000 paintings and illustrated 112 books. The Kirk paintings date from 1923, and were originally painted for the Unitarian Laymen's League. In 1931 they were included in the book, *The Parables of Jesus*, by S. Parker Cadman. Wyeth was a realist painter at a time when photography began to compete with his craft. His goal was to create works where feelings and emotions would be readily understood, as exemplified in this painting. He is the father of Andrew Wyeth and the grandfather of Jamie Wyeth, both well-known American painters.



Rev. Angela Ryo, Rev. Dr. Nathaniel D. Phillips, Rev. Kelsey Sorge



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



#### **Membership**

*Julie Walker*  
jwalker@kirkinthehills.org



#### **Serve**

*Julie Walker*  
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#### **Congregational Care**

*Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi*  
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#### **Choirs and Music Events**

*Glenn Miller*  
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#### **Baptisms, Memorials, Weddings**

*Jen Morris*  
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#### **Small Groups**

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#### **Give**

*Karen Bowman*  
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#### **Questions/Information**

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#### **Church Leadership**

*Bob Beck/Clerk of Session*  
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