

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

10:30 A.M. SANCTUARY WORSHIP
SEPTEMBER 19, 2021



*Vulnerability is not winning or losing;
it's having the courage to show up and be seen when we have no control over the outcome.
Vulnerability is not weakness; it's our greatest measure of courage.*

— Brene Brown



Did you ever watch Mission Impossible? Viewers are invited to watch as a special mission is carried out. Well, you and I are invited to a mission, the importance of which far exceeds any you've ever heard of. This is God's mission (missio dei) and the whole world is the mission field. In Christ Jesus, God was reconciling the world to God's self because sin had/has separated us from God, from one another, and from creation. As we gather for worship, engage in small group and Bible study, serve as volunteers on committees, at events, or for ongoing service projects, God is transforming our hearts and minds so that we would

love God, neighbor, and self. God's mission is the transformation of the world, not by force, but through love!

You and I are not only God's mission field, but also invited to participate in the mission. And not just watch it happen like some movie. How? One way is to be a witness--that is, to be someone who speaks up about the hurt in our world and the healing found in Christ Jesus. We do this when we raise awareness about food insecurity in Pontiac, Detroit, and around our country, by joining the CROP WALK on Sunday, September 26 and raising money to address hunger. We do this when we beautify a neighborhood in Detroit, like our Life Remodeled project October 8 & 9. We do this when we join Accent Pontiac's Green Bucket Run on our campus to raise money for our own nonprofit, supporting musical enrichment at schools and afterschool programming in Pontiac. We do this when we volunteer for Kirk Tutors, help fund child and adult literacy, foster children, and furnish new homes for the previously homeless. We do this when we bring new linens for Afghani refugees and adopt a refugee family of four. We do this when we pray for and support people recovering from Hurricane Ida or earthquakes in Haiti, or fund a church rebuild in Nineveh (Iraq) or educate children in South Africa. This is mission. It's God working on our hearts as we serve. It's God working on others' hearts through our service. This is the most important mission of all. It seems impossible, doesn't it?



Thankfully, it's God's mission and, friends, God WILL carry it out. What a privilege that God's mission has a Church! Besides the mission opportunities I've listed, I want to highlight two things as we learn more about God's transforming work in the world: Second Serving on the Third Sunday of every month is a great opportunity to learn about one of our mission partners while sharing a pancake breakfast and participating in a family-friendly mission activity—this kicks off today following the 9:00 a.m. Worship service. The other is registering on our website for our all-day Pontiac Mission Collaborators Conference on Friday, October 1, featuring Rev. Becca Stevens, founder of Thistle Farms, a social enterprise. We will talk about innovative collaboration in mission with entrepreneurs, business leaders, nonprofit directors, clergy, educators, and community members. God's mission is your mission, and seemingly an impossible one—will you accept it?

Pastor Edwin

P.S. This bulletin will not self-destruct in 5 seconds.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

10:30a.m. Live Sanctuary Service

Naaman came with his horses and chariots. — 2 Kings 5:9

GATHERING

CARILLON

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Charles Callahan

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

* INTROIT

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Lobe den Herren

* CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 105:1-2; Romans 5:5; Revelation 4:8

The love of God has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us;

we dwell in God and God in us.

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name;

make known the deeds of the Lord among the peoples.

Sing to the Lord, sing praises,

and speak of all God's marvelous works.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty,

who was and is and is to come!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

Nicæa

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Presence, Life, Fire,

God who is Three in One,

we confess that we have turned away from you.

We gaze upon ourselves as if we are worthy of worship.

We take your creation into our hands,

not to love, but to use and then to discard.

We go to the people of the land,

not to serve, but to press them into our service.

We do not deserve that you would even notice us,

but we pray for mercy because you are merciful.

Flame of Love, purify us from sin;

Eternal Now, lead us to your truth;

Risen One, baptize us into union with you.

Transform us into faithful disciples who worship you alone,

God who is Trinity. Amen.

* KYRIE ELEISON

Music for this response is Hymn 551.

Choir:

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

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

Congregation:

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 God who challenges us
is also the God who encourages us.
The God who confronts us
is also the God who accepts us.
Be assured that God is with us even now,
accepting, guiding, and forgiving.
Thanks be to God.

*** 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. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

MINUTE FOR FORMATION

ANTHEM

Cantate Domino

Giuseppe Pitoni

Cantate Domino canticum novum,
Sing to the Lord a new song,
laus ejus in Ecclesia sanctorum.
his praise is in the Church of the saints.
Laetetur Israel in eo, qui fecit eum,
Let Israel rejoice in him who made them,
et filii Sion, exultant in rege suo.
and let the sons of Zion exult in their king.

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The congregation sings the second line:
God of grace in this place, hear now our prayer.
God of grace in this place, hear now our prayer.

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 412 (Stanzas 1-2)**

God, Reveal Your Presence

Arnsberg

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

Sing to the Lord

arr. Alice Parker

Sing to the Lord, ye heavenly hosts, and thou, O earth adore.
Let Death and Hell throughout their coasts
stand trembling at His power.
His sounding chariot shakes the sky;
He makes the clouds His throne;
there all the stores of lightning lie, till vengeance darts them down.
His nostrils breathe out fiery streams, and from His awful tongue
a sovereign voice divides the flames and thunder roars along.
Think, O my soul, the dreadful day, when this incensed God
shall rend the sky and burn the sea and fling His wrath abroad.
Let all that dwell above the sky, and air, and earth, and seas
conspire to lift Thy glories high and speak Thine endless praise.
The whole creation join in one to bless the sacred Name,
of him that sits upon the throne, and to adore the Lamb!

Text by Isaac Watts (1697)

* 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

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Kings 5 (*selected verses*)

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

SERMON

Naaman the Leper

Dr. Nate Phillips

SENDING

* HYMN 643

Now Thank We All Our God

Nun Danket Alle Gott

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

CHORAL RESPONSE

Dresden Amen

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Now Thank We All Our God

Sigfried Karg-Elert

WORSHIP NOTES

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About today's music

As we gather today, we are called to worship by the Triune God, and in response we sing the words from Revelation 4:2-11 and its predecessor, Isaiah 6, in the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!" The language of the Trinity is included in several forms in our spoken and sung liturgy. "God, Reveal Your Presence" is a text by the 18th century hymnist and spiritual leader of the German Reformed Church, Gerhard Tersteegen. Although this text may be unfamiliar to many of us in this form, a different translation with this music has been sung in previous Presbyterian hymnals. It echoes the "Holy, holy, holy!" we have sung earlier in the service. Our recessional hymn, "Now Thank We All Our God," concludes with the Trinitarian third stanza.

The offertory anthem, "Sing to the Lord," focuses on God as our Creator. Using a text by Isaac Watts, considered by many to be the leader of developing hymns in the English language, composer Alice Parker has paired his text with a sturdy, early American folk melody. Watts's text gives a contrasting aspect of God the Creator, the first person of the Trinity, from the other sung and spoken texts this morning.

The congregation is invited to take an active role in our liturgical music today, including the Kyrie Eleison, the Prayers of the People, and the Prayer for Illumination, as well as our hymns.

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.



The flowers on the altar are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of David F. Lau by the Lau family.

Coffee Hour - Fellowship time with coffee takes place after worship on the patio. Please join us!

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 ends. See an usher for direction or further details.

Today's Cover Art

Christ Cleans Leper Man, Byzantine mosaic, artist unknown, public domain

This is a Byzantine mosaic from the Cloister of the Cathedral Monreale in Southern Italy made of glass tesserae executed in the late 12th century. It is part of the series regarding Christ's miracles and includes the inscription "Lord, if you will it, you can heal me."

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.



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Kirk in the Hills

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