

KIRK IN THE HILLS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)  
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
JULY 3, 2022



*Those who do not hope cannot wait; but if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.*  
— Charles Spurgeon



**The fourth of July.** A weekend filled with cookouts and fireworks, gatherings with friends and family, and in the case of many Michiganders, relaxing days spent on the water. Some look forward to the day simply for a day off work, and some reflect on the cost of human lives that gave this country independence. As I reflect on the place of this celebration in the church this year I can't help but recognize the ways our country is divided and seems to fail so many people. It is no surprise to anyone that we're far from perfect in America.

These words from the Declaration of Independence stand out to me as I reflect: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights." For a document that declares no national religion, it is very clear that God is their ultimate foundation. We have fought and we continue to fight for equality in this country every day. Some days we make progress, and some days we fail significantly. The truth is, when God is at the foundation of something, we can remind ourselves that we can love or hate the place we live and still trust that God is moving us towards a promised future that only God holds.

This holiday is a wonderful time to celebrate our beginnings as a country. But let us not forget how much we must rely on God to continue moving us forward as people. God does not see lines on a map, but God sees a world of beloved children, all longing for love. All longing for freedom that comes in the way our God has provided it: unconditional and eternal, founded on truth of forgiveness and healing. Our God is the ultimate Founding Father. Let us hold tight to the truths written in God's book.

"You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh ; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

-Galatians 5:13-14

Pastor Kelsey  
Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship

*Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord! — Psalm 27:14*

## GARDEN CLUB FOR CHILDREN

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

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

#### Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor

*Irving Berlin*

Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me,  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!

*Chantel Woodard, mezzo-soprano*

### WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PASTORAL CONCERNS

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 100*

May a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!  
Serve the Lord with gladness!  
Come into his presence with singing!  
**Know that the Lord, he is God!**  
**It is he who made us, and we are his;**  
**We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**  
Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
And his courts with praise!  
Give thanks to him; bless his name!  
**For the Lord is good;**  
**His steadfast love endures forever,**  
**And his faithfulness to all generations.**

#### \* HYMN

#### How Firm A Foundation

*Foundation*

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!  
What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?  
"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.  
"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

**\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*adapted from Psalm 130*

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

Lord hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

**If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,**

**Lord, who could stand?**

**But there is forgiveness with you,**

**so that you may be revered.**

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,

and in his word I hope;

**my soul waits for the Lord**

**more than those who watch for the morning.**

*Silence is held.*

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ have mercy.**

Lord, Have mercy.

**\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

People of God, hope in the Lord!

For with the Lord there is steadfast love,

And with him is great power to redeem.

It is he who will redeem us from all our iniquities.

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 27**

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

**SOLO**

**Better Than I**

*John Bucchino*

I thought I did what's right.

I thought I had the answers.

I thought I chose the surest road,

But that road brought me here.  
So I put up a fight,  
And told you how to help me.  
Now, just when I have given up,  
The truth is coming clear.

*You know better than I,  
You know the way.  
I've let go the need to know why,  
For you know better than I.*

If this has been a test,  
I cannot see the reason.  
But maybe knowing I don't know  
Is part of getting through.  
I try to do what's best,  
And faith has made it easy  
To see the best thing I can do  
Is put my trust in you.  
*For you know better...*

I saw one cloud and thought it was the sky.  
I saw a bird and thought that I could follow.  
But it was you who taught that bird to fly.  
If I let you reach me,  
Will you teach me?

*For you know better than I,  
You know the way.  
I've let go the need to know why;  
I'll take what answers you supply...  
You know better than I.*

*Regis Haynes, tenor*

SERMON

Psalms for the Summer: Psalm 27

Rev. Kelsey Sorge

## SENDING

\* HYMN

Be Still My Soul

*Finlandia*

Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;  
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;  
leave to your God to order and provide;  
in ev'ry change he faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'nly friend  
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.  
  
Be still, my soul; your God will undertake  
to guide the future as he has the past;  
your hope, your confidence, let nothing shake;  
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.  
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know  
his voice who ruled them while he lived below.

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

**O Beautiful for Spacious Skies**

*Materna*

**CARILLON RECITAL**

Dennis Curry, Bloomfield Hills, MI

*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.*

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship

*Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord! — Psalm 27:14*

## THE CARILLON

### OPENING VOLUNTARY

**Psalm XX, First movement of Salmo IX**

*Benedetto Marcello, arr. Felix Alexandre Guilmant*

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

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 100*

May a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!  
Serve the Lord with gladness!  
Come into his presence with singing!  
**Know that the Lord, he is God!**  
**It is he who made us, and we are his;**  
**We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**  
Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
And his courts with praise!  
Give thanks to him; bless his name!  
**For the Lord is good;**  
**His steadfast love endures forever,**  
**And his faithfulness to all generations.**

### \* INTROIT

Let music swell the breeze,  
and ring from all the tress  
sweet freedom's song.  
Let mortal tongues awake;  
let all that breathe partake;  
let rocks their silence break,  
the sound prolong.

*America*

### \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 463

**How Firm a Foundation**

*Foundation*

### \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*adapted from Psalm 130*

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.  
Lord hear my voice!  
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!  
**If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,**  
**Lord, who could stand?**  
**But there is forgiveness with you,**  
**so that you may be revered.**  
I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,  
and in his word I hope;  
**my soul waits for the Lord**  
**more than those who watch for the morning.**

*Silence is held.*

\* **KYRIE ELEISON**

*Healey Willan*

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

\* **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

People of God, hope in the Lord!  
For with the Lord there is steadfast love,  
And with him is great power to redeem.  
It is he who will redeem us from all our iniquities.  
  
Friends, believe the Good News:  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

\* **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**

**PRAYER**

**CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER**

**If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee**

*Georg Neumark*

If thou but trust in God to guide thee,  
With hopeful heart through all thy ways,  
God will give strength, whate'er betide thee,  
To bear thee through the evil days.  
Who trusts in God's unchanging love  
Builds on the rock that nought can move.  
  
Only be still, and wait God's leisure  
In cheerful hope, with heart content  
To take whate'er thy Keeper's pleasure  
And all-discerning love hath sent.  
No doubt our inmost wants are clear  
To One who holds us always dear.  
  
Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways,  
But do thine own part faithfully.  
Trust the rich promises of grace;  
So shall they be fulfilled in thee.  
God never yet forsook at need  
The soul secured by trust indeed.



## 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 90

**Wait for the Lord**

*Wait for the Lord*

*Please join the choir in singing the refrain four times.*

**Wait for the Lord,  
Whose day is near.  
Wait for the Lord,  
Be strong, take heart!**

## 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.*

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SOLO

**The Lord is my Light**

*Frances Allitsen*

The Lord is my light, my light and my salvation,  
Whom, then, shall I fear? Whom, then, shall I fear?  
The Lord is the strength of my life,  
The Lord is the strength of my life;  
Of whom, then, shall I be afraid?

Though an host of men were laid against me,  
Yet shall not my heart be afraid;  
And though there rose up war against me.  
Yet will I put my trust in Him.

For, in the time of trouble,  
He shall hide me in His tabernacle,  
Yea, in the secret places of His dwelling shall He hide me,  
And set me up upon a rock of stone.

The Lord is my light, my light and my salvation,  
Whom, then, shall I fear? Whom, then, shall I fear?  
The Lord is the strength of my life,  
The Lord is the strength of my life;  
Of whom, then, shall I be afraid?  
Of whom, then, shall I be afraid?  
~Psalm 27

*Regis Haynes, tenor*

**\* 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*

*(Following the Doxology, the congregation will remain standing  
to sing the last stanza of America in recognition of Independence Day.)*

**Our fathers' God to thee, author of liberty, to thee we sing;  
Long may our land be bright, with freedom's holy light;  
Protect us by thy might, great God, our King. Amen.**

**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 27** (*Pew Bible, OT. page 503*)  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

**Psalms for the Summer: Psalm 27**

Rev. Kelsey Sorge

**SENDING**

**\* RECESSIONAL HYMN 819**

**Be Still My Soul**

*Finlandia*

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** (*Seated*)

**CHORAL ORISON**

*Finlandia*

This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms:  
Thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.  
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,  
And hearts united learn to live as one.  
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations:  
Myself I give thee; let thy will be done.

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY**

**National Hymn "My Country 'tis of thee"** *arr. William Thomas Best*

**CARILLON RECITAL**

Dennis Curry, Bloomfield Hills, MI

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

## Worship/Music Notes

In today's service we are focusing on Psalm 27, as a part of our summer series, Psalms for the Summer. We also recognize and celebrate the Independence Day of our country. In the Garden service, we open with the prelude *Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor*, Irving Berlin's famous setting of text by Emma Lazarus, from her poem "The New Colossus", which is inscribed on the bronze plaque at the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty. These poignant words remind us of the hope that this country would be a refuge for the "homeless, tempest-tossed" and "huddled masses yearning to breathe free."

The psalm says, "The Lord is my light and my salvation," and we sing *How Firm a Foundation* as a reminder that God is our refuge, who will "never, no, never forsake." Before the sermon, we hear the soloist sing *Better than I*, the signature song from the movie "Joseph: King of Dreams" by John Bucchino. In this song addressing God's loving omniscience, Joseph's perseverance through dark times yields great faith, with God's hand of protection and direction for his life. In singing our closing hymn *Be Still, My Soul* we are again reminded that God will "guide the future surely as the past." And as a nod of celebration in the postlude, the pianist plays *America, the Beautiful*.

In the sanctuary, we open with a verse of *My Country, 'Tis of Thee*, "let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song." The Choral call to prayer is a hymn by Georg Neumark, *If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee*, written in 1641. This hymn is a testimony of experience – that God will be the stronghold of our life, and we have nothing to fear, if we but trust in God to guide our path.

Our offertory hymn is a simple prayer from the Taizé community in France, coming directly from the last verses of Psalm 27, *Wait for the Lord*. The tenor soloist sings a setting of the first five verses of Psalm 27, *The Lord is my Light*, one of the most popular songs written by English composer Frances Allitsen, in 1897. This thrilling tenor anthem evokes the assurance and hope of the words of this psalm, ending with the soaring phrase "The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom, then, shall I be afraid!"

After the closing hymn *Be Still, My Soul*, the choir echoes the Finlandia tune singing the third stanza of *This Is My Song*. So, as we wait for the Lord, trust in His strength to guide us, we can go out into the world praying that "Christ will be lifted up till all shall serve him, and hearts united learn to live as one."

**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.

**Join us for coffee and fellowship** on the patio after the 9:00 a.m. worship service!

**The flowers on the altar** are presented to the glory of God by Suzy Heintz Avery in loving memory of her parents, Bert and Wilma VandeVusse, and brother, Kenneth.

## About today's cover art

*Ascension of Christ* | Julia Stankova | Permission granted by artist

Bulgarian artist, Julia Stankova, created the image using oil paint on a wood panel. The many faces gazing upward is reminiscent of the verse from Psalm 27:8, *Seek his face! Your face, Lord, I will seek.*

## Copyright Information

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*Better Than I* from the DreamWorks Animated Film *Joseph* John Bucchino © 2000 SKG Songs.

*The Lord is my Light* Frances Allitsen © 1897, ren. 1925 Boosey & Co, Ltd.



## W orship T im es

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  
ssheak@kirkinthehills.org



### Serve

Julie Walker  
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### Congregational Care

Rev. Edwin Estevez  
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### Choirs and Music Events

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### Baptisms, Memorials, Weddings

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### Small Groups

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### Give

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### Questions/Information

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### Church Leadership

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