



Stewardship 2023

It wasn't raining when Noah Built the Ark. The theme for this years annual giving campaign is very appropriate. It's not raining today at the Kirk but we need to prepare for when it does.

The founders of the Kirk established a substantial endowment which pays for a significant portion of the facilities upkeep. However, the rest of the Kirk's operating costs are funded by the annual pledges. All of the ministers salaries, funds to support our wonderful music program, the outreach done in Pontiac and throughout the world are just a couple of examples of what your annual pledges support.

By now you should have received our program materials and a letter from Dr. McDonald. If you haven't pledged in the past this would be a great time to start and if you have pledged in the past, thank you so much but this year we are asking for you to prayerfully consider at least a 10% increase. Thank you to our members who make consistent financial contributions to Kirk in the Hills.



THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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

GATHERING

THE CARILLON

OPENING VOLUNTARY Poco Andante Op 43 No 3

Edvard Grieg

Merideth Estevez, oboe

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

* INTROIT We Give Thee but Thine Own

Schumann

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee. May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive, and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our first-fruits give.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Kelsey Sorge

God of all creation, in your love for the world

You draw us to you.

In your love for us, you draw us together as your church.

God of grace, we gather to give you our thanks and praise!

In gratitude to you, we sing songs of celebration!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 2

Come, Thou Almighty King

Italian Hymn

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Kelsey Sorge

Almighty God, in love you spread good gifts before us

In greater abundance than we need or deserve.

We confess that we always want more,

And that we never share as freely as you give. We resent what we lack, are jealous of neighbors,

and misuse what you intend for joy.

Help us to take pleasure in your presence

That we may become a people who are always thanking you, Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN 288

Spirit of the Living God

Living God

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Kelsey Sorge

As the apostle Paul says, while we were sinners,

Christ loved us. Therefore there is now no condemnation

For those who are in Christ Jesus. Hear and believe the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 581)

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

Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald

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

Rev. Kelsey Sorge

Greatorex

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.

THANKSGIVING

* HYMN 612 We Praise You, O God

Kremser

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator; in grateful devotion our tribute we bring. We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you; we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing. (stanza 1)

PRESENTATION OF 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.

MUSICAL MOMENT

Cantilena

Frederik Matthison-Hansen

Merideth Estevez, oboe

- * **DOXOLOGY** (Hymn 606)
- * PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Kelsey Sorge

PRAYER

ANTHEM Prayer of the Children

Kurt Bestor

Can you hear the prayer of the children on bended knee, in the shadow of an unknown room? Empty eyes with no more tears to cry, turning heavenward toward the light. Cryin' Jesus help me to see the mornin' light of one more day, but if I should die before I wake, I pray my soul to take. Can you feel the hearts of the children aching for home, for something of their very own? Reaching hands with nothing to hold on to, but hope for a better day. Cryin' Jesus help me to feel the love again in my own land, but if unknown roads lead away from home, give me loving arms away from harm. Can you hear the voice of the children softly pleading for silence in their shattered world? Angry guns preach a gospel full of hate, blood of the innocent on their hands. Cryin' Jesus help me to feel the sun again upon my face? For when darkness clears, I know you're near, bringing peace again.

WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 8:1-3, 13-17, 20-22; 9:8-17(OT, page 6)

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON Under the Rainbow Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald

* HYMN 697 Take My Life Hendon

(stanzas 1-4, 6)

DEDICATION OF PLEDGES Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald

LITANY OF DEDICATION

God of grace, Creator of all good things, You formed us as a people and claimed us as your own. May your Spirit impress your truth on our inmost being. You set us in a world filled with your glory. You have been gracious to us throughout our lives.

We thank you for your loving care,
Which has brought us to this time and place.
You have given us life and reason,
You have comforted us with family, friends,
And the brothers and sisters of this church.
You have healed our brokenness,
And given us your peace.

You have been our light in darkness, Our rock of strength when we were falling. You have been the Spirit of joy in all our joys.

We acknowledge and affirm your covenant with us, and our covenant with you. We dedicate these pledges to you, As a symbol and a response to your call to us To build up the body of Christ in this church, To serve as we have been served, And to love we have been loved in Jesus Christ. Amen.

INVITATION TO BRING PLEDGES FORWARD

THE LORD'S PRAYER (11:00 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.

SENDING

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 620 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven Lauda anima

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Fanfare Jacques Lemmens

Worship/Music Notes

Edvard Hagerup Grieg, pianist and composer, (1843-1907) was born in Bergen, Norway. His use of Norwegian folk music in his compositions brought the music of Norway to the rest of the world. As a young man he studied the piano at the Leipzig Conservatory, where he also studied the organ and composition. The opening voluntary played today was originally a piano piece, arranged for oboe and organ by Marilyn Biery. During the service Merideth will play another piece for oboe and organ by Frederik Hansen (1868-1933), a Danish organist and composer. He came from a musical family, as his father, grandfather, and uncle were all organists and composers. He worked as an organist and singing teacher—most of his music was written for the church.

Have a favorite hymn? Send your ideas to Marilyn Biery at mbiery@kirkinthehills.org

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 in Heritage Hall after the 9:00 a.m. worship service!

The flowers on the altar are presented to the glory of God in loving memory Dr. John H. Libcke.

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The music department is looking for instrumentalists (youth and adults) to offer their gifts of music during worship. If you would like to play your instrument, please contact Merideth Estevez (mestevez@kirkinthehills.org) or Marilyn Biery mbiery@kirkinthehills.org

The Choir is looking for new members, especially tenors and altos. To learn more about the Chancel Choir, contact Marilyn Biery.

Today's Musicians

Merideth Estevez, oboe



Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald • Interim Senior Pastor Rev. Edwin Estevez • Associate Pastor for Mission Rev. Kelsey Sorge • Associate Pastor for Youth Rev. Dr. Keith Provost • Parish Associate for Pastoral Care Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi • Parish Associate

Rev. Dr. Norman Pritchard • Pastor Emeritus



Membership Stephanie Sheak ssheak@kirkinthehills.org



Serve Iulie Walker jwalker@kirkinthehills.org



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Baptisms, Memorials, Weddings Jennifer Morris *jmorris@kirkinthehills.org*



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Church Leadership Bob Heuer/Clerk of Session kithclerk@kirkinthehills.org



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